Families and policies

Invited talk

François Héran

“Taking stock and looking to the future”

Population change and Lifecourse

Strategic Knowledge Cluster

Ottawa, 18-20 March 2015

Session 6: Families
Total fertility rate, 1965-2012
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Family benefits in cash, services and tax measures
Public spending in % of GDP in OECD countries, 2009

Tax breaks
Services
Cash

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3 types of public spending on family benefits (OECD harmonization)

- Child-related cash transfers to families with children
  - Child allowances (sometimes income-tested),
  - Public income support payments during periods of parental leave
  - Income support for sole parents families
  - Child tax credits that are paid out in cash to recipients

- Public spending on services for families with children
  - Direct subsidising of providers of childcare and early education facilities
  - Childcare support through earmarked payments to parents
  - Assistance for young people and residential facilities
  - Family services, including centre-based facilities and home help for families in need

- Tax expenditures towards families
  - Tax exemptions
  - Child tax allowances (not included in taxable income)
  - Child tax credits
  - Amounts deducted from the tax liability
Enrolment of children aged under 3 in childcare (OECD)
Enrolment of children in childcare (under age 3) and pre-school (3-5 years) in 2010 (source: OECD)
Enrolment of children in childcare (under age 3) and pre-school (3-5 years) in 2010 (source: OECD)
EICT (US, Korea)
Earned Income Tax Credit

“Quotient familial” (France)
Tax-splitting system for family according to the nature and number of consumption units (concerns tax-payers only)

- Data: 18 OECD countries, 1980-2007
- Develops and discusses, among others:
  - Gauthier & Hazius (1997)
  - D’Addio & Mira d’Ercole (2005)
  - Gauthier (2007)
  - Myrskylä, Kohler & Billari (2009)
  - Kalwij (2010)
  - Sobotka, Skirbekk & Philipov (2011)

- Paid leave
- Childcare services
- Financial transfers

  Distinction between services and cash benefits...
  
  - Around childbirth
  - In the 2nd and 3rd year after birth
  - Ties with the following stage (3-5 years)

See also:
The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility

![Graph showing the relationship between female employment rate and TFR from 1980 to 2010 across different countries. The graph indicates a trend where countries with higher female employment rates tend to have lower total fertility rates.](image-url)
The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility

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Employment rates of men and women with tertiary education

(ELFS and OECD, 2012)
Obstacles to fertility: rigidity in family structures and labor law

- Contradiction between *female superiority* (in education) and *male domination* (in the workplace)

- The duality in partnership status (marriage vs. cohabitation)

- The duality of the labor market
  - Formal sector, protected
  - Informal sector, less protected
Fertility and perception of the well-being of children in pre-school

Fertility and perception of the well-being of children in pre-school

« Le familialisme est antinataliste »
Flexibility of family structures and fertility (2009)

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On fertility and gender equity

- McDONALD Peter (2000)
  “Gender equity in theories of fertility transition”, 

- McDONALD Peter, MOYLE H. (2010)
  “Why do English-speaking countries have relatively high fertility?”

- NEYER Gerda, LAPPEGARD Trude, VIGNOLI Daniele (2011)
  “Gender equality and fertility: Which equality matters?”,
  WP 2011/07, Università degli Studi di Firenze
GDP growth rates: % change over the previous quarter
(Eurostat, Aug. 2013, seasonally adjusted data, 3Q-centered moving average)
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Total fertility rate by ethnicity, USA 1980-2011
ANNEX
France 2003: social protection benefits linked to the functions "Maternity" and "Family“ (Billions of €)

- Parental allowance "APE"
- Health care during pregnancy
- Per diem for parental leave (per diem)
- "Short" child allowance (pregn.+ infancy)
- Other compensations
- Family allowances
- Social support in kind non-MT
- Family supplement
- Support to hiring "maternal assistant"
- Family support allowance "ASF"
- Other benefits in kind non-MT
- Other compensations
- Lump-sum compensation non-MT
- Studentship allowance
- "Long" child allowance
- Family complement (civil servants)
- Schooling allowance
- One-parent allowance
- Lump-sum compensation MT
- Social support in kind MT (child care)
- Other benefits in kind MT

Temporary compensation of charges or income losses
Periodic compensation, non means-tested
Periodic compensation, means-tested
Lump-sum compensation
Social support in kind