ABSTRACT

POSTER PRESENTATION

Júlia GALÁNTAI, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary

CHANGING FAMILY FORMATIONS IN HUNGARIAN FAMILIES - NEW FATHER ROLES

Theoretical Framework

In Hungary, recently there are an increasing number of studies dealing with gender roles within family, and its effects on the labour market. Although the father's role and his participation in child-care tasks is not often mentioned in Hungarian literature.

The traditional type of family model is often said to be in connection with the traditional women and men roles within families (Dupcsik-Tóth 2007, Spéder 2011). So could we also say that following the traditional type of norms would be visible in fathers’ child bearing practices as well? According to Blaskó (Blaskó 2005) the division of home work within families in Hungary is very weak and comparing it with European data we are tail-enders in Europe regarding that. Child care allowance can be divided into GYES and GYED in Hungary. The second one is dependent upon on the basis of time worked and it is about the 70% of a normal wage the first one is about 25% of a normal wage in Hungary. (Thomson 2002, Adamik 1991)

Research Hypotheses

If we compare data regarding the hours that fathers spend with child bearing in Hungary is in the midfield. Can this forecast that the time spent with children is more and more important for both sexes and that there is a changing in the Hungarian family patterns?

Child care allowance for fathers is only available since some years ahead, in 2006 there were 9 000 fathers, while in 2012 there were 10 000 fathers who stayed at home and applied for child care allowance. We can also say that the number of fathers who took the child care allowance is not increasing at all and they are only 5-6 % of the whole population of those who applied for such an allowance.
Child care allowance for fathers is only a rational decision analysing the net income of the family, is it the voluntary escaping of fathers from the labour market, or is it the signs of the change of Hungarian family patterns?

**Methods:** 100 pieces of questionnaires filled out with fathers who stayed at home with their child and applied for child-care allowance. I would ask about their attitude towards child bearing, labour market, and gender roles. With 40 interviewee I would conduct an in-depth interview as well. I would compare the result with international data from the European Social Survey.

**Most important findings:** To find new answers to changing family configuration and patterns in Hungary and have insights look to new fathers role in a changing society. Also look at the changing and precarious economic, labour market related and relationship targeted patterns through father’s biographies. The changing role of fathers and its prejudice of a post-socialist society can show interesting opportunities for further studies of families in Hungary and Europe.

**The stage of the research carried out:** The research is in an initial stage. I will conduct interviews in spring which will support my deeper insight of my research topic.

**Timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
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<tr>
<td>Processing relevant literature</td>
<td>2014. 04.01 – 2014. 06. 30.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reach possible interviewees</td>
<td>2014.07.01 – 2014.07.30</td>
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<td>Conduct the interviews and questionnaires</td>
<td>2014.08.01 – 2014.10.30</td>
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<td>Analysing data</td>
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<td>Prepare the paper</td>
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**The relevance of the issue discussed:** The changing role of fathers and its prejudice of a post-socialist society can show interesting opportunities for further studies of families in Hungary and Europe. The results can be compared with other European countries which can show a very actual picture of position of families in Post-Socialist, Western-European or Nordic countries.

**Keywords:** father-role, post-socialist families, changing family patterns, gender equality within families

**References**


