

Fertility postponement in the Czech republic and selected European countries in the period 1990–2015

Abstract

We have been able to observe the trend of shifting of maternity to later periods of life in European countries since the second half of the 20th century. However crucial for this thesis is to determine whether there have been disparity in delaying of maternity between selected Eastern European (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland) and Western European (Germany and Austria) countries since 1990 till present. The goal of this work is to find the relationship among setting of family policies, fertility rate of older women and respondents' views. In the first part of this thesis are outlined basic theories explaining postponing of maternity. There are also listed consequences related to the late maternity. The thesis touches a topic of family policies which influence the phenomenon of late maternity. It presents several fundamental tools of family policies and compares them among selected countries. The second part focuses on a description of demographic indicators that demonstrate the shift in timing of maternity. The main analysis in this thesis is a logistic regression, which explains respondent's views on issues related to a harmonization of family and employment by selected explanatory variables from ISSP survey 2012. It turns out that in countries with appropriately implemented family policies focused on harmonization of family and work life shows higher fertility rate of older women. However relationship among setting of family policies, fertility rate of older women, respondents' views on delaying maternity and women employment rate wasn't confirmed.

Keywords: older women fertility, fertility postponement, reconciliation of work and family life, family policy, survey, logistic regression, European countries