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Families and Social Policy

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Handbook of Income Distribution


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Paid Parental Leave

Family Leave Policy: The Political Economy of Work and Family in America

Societal and Economic Impacts of Paid Family Leave

The Effect of Changes in Maternity Leave Policies on Child Health and Development in Canada

Labour Market Effects of Parental Leave Policies in OECD Countries

Maternity Leave Doing Better for Children

The Palgrave Handbook of Family Sociology in Europe

The World Bank Legal Review, Volume 5

### Families and Social Policy

This compelling book examines parental leave policies in Nordic countries, looking at how these laws encourage men towards life courses with greater care responsibilities. It considers the impact that these policies have had on gender equality and how they have led to a re-gendering of men by promoting 'caring masculinities'.

### Contemporary Parenting and Parenthood: From News Headlines to New Research

This volume will explore the potentially transformative role of effective laws and legal institutions in providing people with more opportunity that is both inclusive and equitable. Laws, legal frameworks and judicial institutions can create opportunity by providing the space to build human capital and assets, create jobs, and encourage individuals and organizations to make productive investments based on a greater sense of stability. They can also promote inclusion by advancing access to jobs and expanding the reach and quality of services including access to justice as well as promote equity by supporting equal opportunities, promoting open and accountable governance, and effective judicial and legal institutions. The objective is to shift focus to laws, legal frameworks and judicial institutions. To this end, submissions will explore the potentially transformative role of effective laws and legal institutions in providing people with more opportunity that is both inclusive and equitable.

### The Politics of Parental Leave Policies

Parents around the world grapple with the common challenge of balancing work and child care. Despite common problems, the industrialized nations have developed
dramatically different social and labor market policies—policies that vary widely in the
level of support they provide for parents and the extent to which they encourage an equal
division of labor between parents as they balance work and care. In Families That Work,
Janet Gornick and Marcia Meyers take a close look at the work-family policies in the
United States and abroad and call for a new and expanded role for the U.S. government
in order to bring this country up to the standards taken for granted in many other
Western nations. In many countries in Europe and in Canada, family leave policies grant
parents paid time off to care for their young children, and labor market regulations go a
long way toward ensuring that work does not overwhelm family obligations. In addition,
early childhood education and care programs guarantee access to high-quality care for
their children. In most of these countries, policies encourage gender equality by
strengthening mothers' ties to employment and encouraging fathers to spend more time
caregiving at home. In sharp contrast, Gornick and Meyers show how in the United
States—an economy with high labor force participation among both fathers and
mothers—parents are left to craft private solutions to the society-wide dilemma of "who
will care for the children?" Parents—overwhelmingly mothers—must loosen their ties to
the workplace to care for their children; workers are forced to negotiate with their
employers, often unsuccessfully, for family leave and reduced work schedules; and
parents must purchase care of dubious quality, at high prices, from consumer markets.
By leaving child care solutions up to hard-pressed working parents, these private
solutions exact a high price in terms of gender inequality in the workplace and at home,
family stress and economic insecurity, and—not least—child well-being. Gornick and
Meyers show that it is possible—based on the experiences of other countries—to enhance
child well-being and to increase gender equality by promoting more extensive and
egalitarian family leave, work-time, and child care policies. Families That Work
demonstrates convincingly that the United States has much to learn from policies in
Europe and in Canada, and that the often-repeated claim that the United States is simply
"too different" to draw lessons from other countries is based largely on misperceptions
about policies in other countries and about the possibility of policy expansion in the
United States.

**Parental Leave and Beyond**

This aim of this open access book is to launch an international, cross-disciplinary
conversation on fatherhood engagement. By integrating perspective from three sectors --
Health, Social Policy, and Work in Organizations -- the book offers a novel perspective on
the benefits of engaged fatherhood for men, for families, and for gender equality. The
chapters are crafted to engaged broad audiences, including policy makers and
organizational leaders, healthcare practitioners and fellow scholars, as well as families
and their loved ones.

**Effects of Parental Leave Policies on Female Career and Fertility Choices**

During the past several decades, paid family leave has emerged as a policy issue at the
intersection of work and life, which is affecting many working families, particularly
during the period of childbirth. According to U.S. Census Bureau data, 56 percent of
women worked full-time during pregnancy from 2006 to 2008, and among women who
worked during pregnancy, 64 percent were actively working less than one month before
childbirth and 59 percent returned to work less than three months after childbirth. As the
number of single parent households and the number of women participating in the labor
force increased over the last three decades, the demand for paid family leave from
employers or government has grown. Researchers have found that paid family leave has a
number of health and economic benefits. This dissertation builds upon on an existing
body of research by examining whether paid family leave improves two measures related to quality of life: child health and mothers' employment and work schedules. Further, this study examines a potential political precursor to the passage of paid family leave laws, namely the proportion of female legislative representation. Together, these studies enhance our understanding of how paid family leave affects the well-being of working families and the factors that predict its passage into law. One of the unique aspects of this research is that the effects of paid paternity leave are examined, which has not received adequate attention in the existing literature. The overarching theme and motivation of this dissertation is the availability of paid family leave and is introduced in Chapter 1. Chapter 2 examines the effects of the availability of paid family leave on the health outcomes of children. This study uses country-level balanced panel data from the 35 OECD countries from 1990 to 2016. Using an event study design, the study finds an approximately 1.9 to 5.2 percent decrease in country-level infant, neonatal, and under-five mortality rates following the adoption of paid maternity leave. However, the impact of the implementation of paid paternity leave was not as apparent as that of paid maternity leave, which may be attributed to its recency and amount that is much smaller than that of the more common maternity leave. An increase in the length of paid paternity leave was found to have a measurable impact on the health outcomes of children. An important finding of this study is that it takes at least two years for paid family leave to have an effect on the health outcomes of children, indicating that there is a delayed impact after the enactment of paid family leave legislation. Chapter 3 examines the impact of the paid family leave on female labor market outcomes, including being employed, working full-time, number of hours worked, and whether mothers actually utilized the paid family leave program. The study uses individual-level, cross-sectional data in the United States from the 2000 to 2019 waves of the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) and a triple difference-in-difference estimator. The results show that the adoption of state paid family leave improves the labor market outcomes for mothers with an infant. Mothers with infants in states with paid family leave are 0.6 percent more likely to be employed, 0.6 percent more likely to work full-time, and work 0.8 more hours compared to mothers with infants in states without paid family leave. However, the results also show that the adoption of state paid family leave decreases the labor market outcomes for mothers with both an infant and child. When mothers with both an infant and a child live in states with paid family leave, they are 3 percent less likely to be employed, 2.2 percent less likely to work full-time, and work 1.3 fewer hours compared to mothers with both an infant and a child in states without paid family leave. This may suggest that paid family leave is inadvertently worsening the labor market outcomes for mothers with multiple children. From the results on the utilization of paid family leave, it appears that some mothers may be hesitant to use such leave, which may be attributed to fears associated with taking paid family leave. Chapter 4 examines whether the female legislative representation has a measurable effect on the likelihood of whether a U.S. state adopts friendly work-family policies. The study examines 50 U.S. states from 2000 to 2016 using a linear probability model with data from the Michigan State University's Correlates of State Policy Project. The study finds that when states have more than 25 percent females in the state legislature and the governor is a female, they do not experience a statistically significant increase in the likelihood of passing friendly work-family laws. The results may suggest that an increase in the passive representation of women does not always result in active representation. According to representation theories in the literature, passive representation leading to active representation only occurs when three conditions are met: 1) the policy area needs to be salient for women; 2) women need to be the direct beneficiary of the policy; and 3) policy area needs to be gender-related. Two of these three conditions were not met in this study, which may explain the null findings. Another explanation is the extremely partisan political culture in the United States where even women-related issues are supported or opposed on party lines, regardless of the number of female legislators in any party. A number of common and interrelated policy
implications emerge from the studies included in chapters 2 through 4, which are presented in Chapter 5, Summary and Conclusion. The lagged impact of paid family leave suggests that both the employees and employers need to be educated with the availability of and access to paid family leave and both should be aware of their rights and responsibilities. Compliance of the employers with paid family leave has been an issue with the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which is on a non-paid basis, and it can be expected to be even worse for paid family leave. Thus, the government would need to come up with better and effective enforcement mechanisms. Fears associated with the utilization of paid family leave, which include impediment to career advancement or even losing job, would need to be mitigated in order to realize the benefits of paid family leave. Finally, the lack of a linkage between female legislative representation and the adoption of friendly work-family legislation may indicate that merely large female legislative representation is not sufficient and the success of such legislation may depend on the buy-in of the public. It needs to be better communicated that paid family leave is beneficial to both employees and employer alike, and paid family leave is a value proposition to businesses and employers. Overall, the findings of this research can be used to educate stakeholders on the need, justification, challenges, benefits, and a general framework for the development and implementation of paid family leave.

**Designing Parental Leave Policy**

"Eleven fully updated chapters include entries on the links between health and discrimination, income inequality, social networks and emotion, while four all-new chapters examine the role of policies in shaping health, including how to translate evidence into action with multi-level interventions."

**Parental Leave Policies in Europe and North America**

**Engaged Fatherhood for Men, Families and Gender Equality**

Numerous challenges exist in respect to integrating work and family institutions and there is remarkable cross-national variation in the ways that societies respond to these concerns with policy. This volume examines these concerns by focusing on cross-national variation in structural/cultural arrangements. Consistent support is found in respect to the prospects of expanding resources for working families both in the opportunity to provide care, as well as to remain integrated in the workforce. However, the studies in this volume offer qualifiers, explaining why some effects are not as strong as might be hoped and why effects are sometimes restricted to particular classifications of workers or families. It is apparent that, when different societies implement similar policies, they do not necessarily do so with the same intended outcomes, and usage is mediated by how policies are received by employers and workers. The chapters in this book speak to the merits of international comparative analysis in identifying the strategies, challenges and benefits of providing resources to workers and their families. This book was originally published as a special issue of Community, Work & Family.

**Handbook of Income Distribution**

Meeting the needs of gender science today, The Psychology of Sex and Gender provides students with balanced coverage of men and women that is grounded in psychological science. The dynamic author team of Jennifer K. Bosson, Camille E. Buckner, and Joseph A. Vandello paints a complete, vibrant picture of the field through the presentation of classic and cutting-edge research, historical contexts, examples from pop culture, cross-cultural universality and variation, and coverage of nonbinary identities. In keeping with
the growing scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL), the text encourages students to identify and evaluate their own myths and misconceptions, participate in real-world debates, and pause to think critically along the way. The thoroughly revised Second Edition integrates an expanded focus on diversity and inclusion, enhances pedagogy based on SOTL, and provides the most up-to-date scientific findings in the field.

**Designing Parental Leave Policy**

A real-world solution for parental leave that promotes gender equality at work and at home What do Papua New Guinea, Suriname, and the United States have in common? These three nations are the only ones that do not offer some form of parental leave to new parents. The US lags far behind the rest of the world on this important issue, raising questions about our commitment to gender equality and the welfare of our families. In Fixing Parental Leave, Gayle Kaufman takes an in-depth look at parental leave policies in the US, the UK, and Sweden, and evaluates the benefits and drawbacks of leave policies in each country. She finds that there is more to parental leave policies than whether a country provides time off around the birth or adoption of a child. While most policies are designed to help women return to work, this is only half of the puzzle. The second half requires men to be meaningful partners by encouraging them to take equal time at home. Ultimately, Kaufman arrives at a rational solution that will promote gender equity through a policy that enables parents at companies of all sizes to spend six months with their new child.

**Parental Leave Policies and Child Development: A Review of Empirical Findings**

Empirical research that describes ways to best handle social problems concerning families Leading authorities’ studies show that from the effects of globalization many social and family problems and their solutions tend to be similar in nations world-wide. Families and Social Policy: National and International Perspectives explores...

**Families That Work**

Headlines from news sources are combined with the latest and best social science research to offer scholars, practitioners, and parents a much-needed source for understanding contemporary American parenthood. • Includes up-to-date research on parenting topics covered in news stories • Incorporates the expertise of editor Michelle Janning, an award-winning teacher and leader in national organizations dedicated to family studies • Helps to clarify parenting debates through sociological inquiry, instead of giving advice on how to parent • Serves multiple audiences, including students and practitioners in professions working with parent-child relationships, scholars looking for the best new research in the field of parenting and parenthood, and parents who want to understand the larger context in which they operate on a daily basis • Offers a range of viewpoints on parenting issues in a clearly organized format

**What Children Need**

What new theories, evidence, explanations, and policies have shaped our studies of income distribution in the 21st century? Editors Tony Atkinson and Francois Bourguignon assemble the expertise of leading authorities in this survey of substantive issues. In two volumes they address subjects that were not covered in Volume 1 (2000), such as education, health and experimental economics; and subjects that were covered but where there have been substantial new developments, such as the historical study of income inequality and globalization. Some chapters discuss future growth areas, such as
The Impact of Parental Leave Policies on Upper Level Employees

Maternity leave is a complex issue, both personally and professionally. And, more often than not, policy differs from practice. Based on interviews that highlight the perspectives and perceptions of new mothers, Maternity Leave: Policy and Practice examines the disconnect between maternity leave policy and practice. It presents the history and development of maternity leave policies and related legislation, and then provides a fresh perspective for understanding through individual interviews of women who recently utilized maternity leave. The book also examines themes and patterns developed from the interviews, such as inconsistencies in administration of maternity leave policies, timing, transition back to work, child care, breastfeeding and pumping, and unmet needs and professional concerns. It also gives a voice to those who are absent from the core interviews—women who have children at a young age, men who utilize paternity leave, women in same-sex relationships who start families, and women who choose not to have children. The book highlights why some colleagues may be unsupportive of the utilization of maternity leave. A single-source guide to understanding maternity leave, the book contains a wealth of information, including an overview of legislation related to pregnancy and maternity leave; trends in birth rates, fertility rates, employment patterns, and the relationship to the types of maternity leave offered and taken; issues related to maternal health; an international comparison of policies; and practical recommendations for policy and organizational change. It not only offers a comprehensive and complete understanding of the complexities of maternity leave, both in policy and in practice, but also practical recommendations for policy and organizational change.

Maternity Leave

Written in an accessible, case study format, this groundbreaking work explores the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of family leave policy in the United States, from its beginnings at the state level in the early 1980s, through the adoption of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and beyond to the present day. With a political economy perspective, the book identifies the major economic and social forces affecting both the family and the workplace. And drawing on original primary research, it examines how the political system has responded to this evolving issue with various policy initiatives.

Fixing Parental Leave
This volume provides an international perspective on parental leave policies in different countries, goes beyond this to examine a range of issues in depth, and aims to stimulate thinking about possible futures and how policy might underpin them.

**Work, Family, Health, and Well-Being**

What does it mean to be a successful working parent? And how do working parents cope in the United States, the only developed nation with no paid parental leave requirement? Despite some positive advancement in the voluntary adoption of paid parental leave, many organizations over the past 25 years have instead decreased paid leave benefits offered to employees in the United States, choosing instead to let unpaid leave under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) serve in its place. This regression in practice is perhaps the greatest unintended consequence of FMLA and surely was not the intent of Congress. Maternity Leave: Policy and Practice, Second Edition approaches parental leave from a variety of perspectives: legal, political, social, institutional, organizational, and, most importantly, from the personal perspectives of the women and men interviewed expressly for the book. This second edition offers two new chapters: the first puts the issue of maternity leave within the context of work–life balance issues, and the second explores case studies from states, cities, and private organizations. Incorporating new census data, related reports, and academic studies, authors Victoria Gordon and Beth M. Rauhaus utilize relevant and cutting-edge research in their exploration of parental leave, and they enrich this research with the individual stories of ordinary working parents as well as those who choose not to have children. Assuming no prior specialized knowledge, this book can be assigned on a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in politics, public policy, public administration, gender studies, and human resource management, and will equally be of interest to parents, policy makers, and C-suite managers.

**Child Care, Parental Leave, and the Under 3s**

Nordic countries lead the way in facilitating better work-family integration through their design of parental leave policies that encourage men towards life courses with greater care responsibilities. Based on original research, this compelling book offers a novel analysis of the everyday parental practices on fathers and parents in Norway as a way of understanding the workings of labour market and welfare policies, whilst considering how migrant fathers might relate to the expectations such laws generate. The authors showcase how this style of men’s care work constitutes a re-gendering of men by promoting ‘caring masculinities’.

**The Psychology of Sex and Gender**

What do children need to grow and develop? And how can their needs be met when parents work? Emphasizing the importance of parental choice, quality of care, and work opportunities, economist Jane Waldfogel guides readers through the maze of social science research evidence to offer comprehensive answers and a vision for change. Drawing on the evidence, Waldfogel proposes a bold new plan to better meet the needs of children in working families, from birth through adolescence, while respecting the core values of choice, quality, and work: Allow parents more flexibility to take time off work for family responsibilities; Break the link between employment and essential family benefits; Give mothers and fathers more options to stay home in the first year of life; Improve quality of care from infancy through the preschool years; Increase access to high-quality out-of-school programs for school-aged children and teenagers.

**The Oxford Handbook of Work and Family**
Over 15 million children live in families subsisting below the federal poverty level, and there are nearly 4 million more children living in poverty today than in the turn of the 21st century. When compared to their more affluent counterparts, children living in fragile circumstances—including homeless children, children in foster care, and children living in families affected by chronic physical or mental health problems—are more likely to have low academic achievement, to drop out of school, and to have health and behavioral problems. The Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Child Development provides a comprehensive analysis of the mechanisms through which socioeconomic, cultural, familial, and community-level factors impact the early and long-term cognitive, neurobiological, socio-emotional, and physical development of children living in poverty. Leading contributors from various disciplines review basic and applied multidisciplinary research and propose questions and answers regarding the short and long-term impact of poverty, contexts and policies on child developmental trajectories. In addition, the book features analyses involving diverse children of all ages, particularly those from understudied groups (e.g. Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, immigrants) and those from understudied geographic areas (e.g., the rural U.S; international humanitarian settings). Each of the 7 sections begins with an overview of basic biological and behavioral research on child development and poverty, followed by applied analyses of contemporary issues that are currently at the heart of public debates on child health and well-being, and concluded with suggestions for policy reform. Through collaborative, interdisciplinary research, this book identifies the most pressing scientific issues involving poverty and child development, and offers new ideas and research questions that could lead us to develop a new science of research that is multidisciplinary, longitudinal, and that embraces an ecological approach to the study of child development.

**Parental Leave and "woman's Place"**

This handbook provides a meaningful overview of topical themes within family sociology as an academic field as well as empirical realities in various societal contexts across Europe. More than sixty prominent European scholars’ original texts present the field’s main theoretical and methodological approaches in addition to issues such as families as relationships, parental arrangements, parenting practices and child well-being, family policies in welfare state regimes, family lives in migration, and family trajectories. Presenting cutting-edge research on findings, theoretical interpretations, and solutions to methodological challenges, it is a timely tool for researchers, teachers, students, and family practitioners who wish to familiarise themselves with the state of family sociology in Europe.

**Social Epidemiology**

The Cambridge Handbook of the Global Work-Family Interface is a response to growing interest in understanding how people manage their work and family lives across the globe. Given global and regional differences in cultural values, economies, and policies and practices, research on work-family management is not always easily transportable to different contexts. Researchers have begun to acknowledge this, conducting research in various national settings, but the literature lacks a comprehensive source that aims to synthesize the state of knowledge, theoretical progression, and identification of the most compelling future research ideas within field. The Cambridge Handbook of the Global Work-Family Interface aims to fill this gap by providing a single source where readers can find not only information about the general state of global work-family research, but also comprehensive reviews of region-specific research. It will be of value to researchers, graduate students, and practitioners of applied and organizational psychology, management, and family studies.
The Impact of Parental Employment

The Oxford Handbook of Work and Family examines contemporary work-family issues from a variety of important viewpoints. By thoroughly examining where the field has been and where it is heading, this important volume offers razor-sharp reviews of long-standing topics and fresh ideas to move work-family research and practice in new and necessary directions. In providing comprehensive, interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and cross-national perspectives, Tammy D. Allen and Lillian T. Eby have assembled a world-class team of scholars and practitioners to offer readers cutting-edge information on this rapidly growing area of scientific inquiry. The Handbook also includes reviews of historically under-studied groups and highlights the important role that technology plays in shaping the work-family interface, the potential contribution of neuroscience to better understanding work-family issues, the ways in which work-family scholarship and practice can be enhanced through theoretical perspectives, and the use of social media to translate important research findings to the public. The Oxford Handbook of Work and Family is a roadmap for moving work-family scholarship forward, while also providing rich descriptive accounts of how major organizations have been able to turn research findings into effective evidence-based policies and practices to help adults better manage both work and family responsibilities.

The Oxford Handbook of Women and the Economy

The United States is at a crossroads in its policies towards the family and gender equality. Currently America provides basic support for children, fathers, and mothers in the form of unpaid parental leave, child-related tax breaks, and limited public childcare. Alternatively, the United States' OECD peers empower families through paid parental leave and comprehensive investments in infants and children. The potential gains from strengthening these policies are enormous. Paid parental leave and subsidised childcare help get and keep more women in the workforce, contribute to economic growth, offer cognitive and health benefits to children, and extend choice for parents in finding their preferred work-life strategy. Indeed, the United States has been falling behind the rest of the OECD in many social and economic indicators by not adequately investing in children, fathers and mothers.

Work and Family Policy

The Cambridge Handbook of the Global Work–Family Interface

Work, Family, Health, and Well-Being grew out of a conference held in Washington, D.C. in June 2003 on "Workforce/Workplace Mismatch: Work, Family, Health, and Well-Being" sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The text considers multiple dimensions of health and well-being for workers and their families, children, and communities. Investigations into the socioeconomic gradient in health within broad occupational categories have raised important questions about the role of specific working conditions versus the role of conditions of employment such as wages and level of job security afforded a worker and his/her family in affecting health outcomes. Organized into seven parts, this text: *provides an overview of changes in work and family time and time use; *dedicates a section focusing specifically on employers and workplaces; *explores disciplinary perspectives on work, family, health, and well-being; *focuses on the most studied work and family nexus, the interrelationship between parental employment, especially maternal employment and the child’s well-being; *examines gender differences in the division of labor, the effect of marriage on health, the shifting nature of care-giving throughout life, and the role of work on various health
Get Free Effects Of Parental Leave Policies On Female Career And and well-being outcomes; *explores occupational health literature; and *focuses on the unique work-family issues faced by low-income families and workers in low-wage jobs. This book appeals to anyone in the fields of psychology, sociology, family studies, demographics, economics, anthropology, and social work.

**Labour Market Effects of Parental Leave Policies in OECD Countries**

The Handbook of Family Policy examines how state and workplace policies support parents and their children in developing, earning and caring. With original contributions from 44 leading scholars, this Handbook provides readers with up-to-date knowledge on family policies and family policy research, taking stock of current literature as well as providing analyses of present-day policies, and where they should head in the future.

**Handbook of Family Policy**

**The Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Child Development**

**Paid Parental Leave**

The transformation of women's lives over the past century is among the most significant and far-reaching of social and economic phenomena, affecting not only women but also their partners, children, and indeed nearly every person on the planet. In developed and developing countries alike, women are acquiring more education, marrying later, having fewer children, and spending a far greater amount of their adult lives in the labor force. Yet, because women remain the primary caregivers of children, issues such as work-life balance and the glass ceiling have given rise to critical policy discussions in the developed world. In developing countries, many women lack access to reproductive technology and are often relegated to jobs in the informal sector, where pay is variable and job security is weak. Considerable occupational segregation and stubborn gender pay gaps persist around the world. The Oxford Handbook of Women and the Economy is the first comprehensive collection of scholarly essays to address these issues using the powerful framework of economics. Each chapter, written by an acknowledged expert or team of experts, reviews the key trends, surveys the relevant economic theory, and summarizes and critiques the empirical research literature. By providing a clear-eyed view of what we know, what we do not know, and what the critical unanswered questions are, this Handbook provides an invaluable and wide-ranging examination of the many changes that have occurred in women's economic lives.

**Family Leave Policy: The Political Economy of Work and Family in America**

Despite widespread international implementation, limited information is currently available on the economic impact of mandated family leave policies. This paper increases our understanding of the nature and effects of parental leave entitlements in several ways. First, we provide a brief history of family leave legislation in Europe and North America and summarize arguments relating to the efficiency and incidence of mandated leave. Second, we have constructed a longitudinal data set detailing durations of job-protected leave in 17 countries, during the 1960-89 period, and use this information to examine recent trends in the regulations. The data indicate that family leave durations grew rapidly during the decade of the 1970s, with more modest increases since that time. Third, we provide an exploratory investigation of the relationship between mandated
leave policies and macroeconomic outcomes. The econometric estimates provide little support for the view that moderate periods of parental leave reduce economic efficiency but rather hint at a modest beneficial impact, particularly when considering paid time off work.

**Societal and Economic Impacts of Paid Family Leave**

The true wealth of a nation can be measured by the health of its youngest citizens and in the twenty-first century, children’s health and well-being is largely determined by social, environmental and economic influences. This book explores how factors such as parent-child relationships, family networks and social support, housing, poverty and the safety of the environment impact on children’s early experiences and have consequences for their later health and well-being. Topics include: Promoting infant mental health Family transitions Poverty, relative poverty and health inequalities Growth and nutrition Young children under stress Child public health Young children’s involvement in health Research with young children and families Underpinned by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and an ecological systems framework, this book takes difference and diversity into account to celebrate the rights of every individual child. Young Children’s Health and Well-Being is a comprehensive health text for students of early childhood. It is also important reading for student teachers, community practitioner nurses, social work students and others who work with young children and their families.

**The Effect of Changes in Maternity Leave Policies on Child Health and Development in Canada**

In this groundbreaking study, Linda Cusworth explores the impact of parental employment or unemployment on the educational and emotional well-being of their children. Using theoretical apparatus from Bourdieu and data from the youth survey of the British Household Panel Study, the research in this book analyzes the impact of parental employment on those born between 1978 and 1990. This study is unique in going beyond the educational achievement and later patterns of employment of the young people studied to look at the whole of children’s lives, including their attitudes and aspirations, relationships and emotional well-being. The changed norms of maternal employment and the substantial increase in lone parenthood over the last few decades make this an especially important study both for academics in social and public policy and sociology, and for policy makers.

**Labour Market Effects of Parental Leave Policies in OECD Countries**

**Maternity Leave**

The politics of parental leave policies addresses how and why, and by whom, particular policies are created and subsequently developed in particular countries. It examines the factors that bring about variations in leave policy, covering fifteen countries in Europe and beyond, and the European Union.

**Doing Better for Children**

The issue of child care policy for children under three is the focus of this work. Leading native scholars examine the child care policies of Germany, Sweden, France, Hungary, Austria, and Finland. Among the questions raised are whether the government should
make it financially easier for parents to remain at home, what the relationships between such assistance and the broader economic policy of child care would be, and what the consequences of such policies might be on parents and children. Kamerman and Kahn conclude with suggestions for modifying U.S. family and child care policy direction based on lessons from Europe.

**The Palgrave Handbook of Family Sociology in Europe**

**The World Bank Legal Review, Volume 5**

Parental leave policies are a major policy tool used across OECD countries to support families before and after child birth. There are large differences across countries in the amount and the duration of benefit payments as well as leave entitlement periods. Despite these differences, the shared goal of parental leave policies is to reconcile family life and work, and support child development. While much research attention has been paid to the effects of parental leave policies on maternal labor supply, much less is known about their effects on child development and health. This DIW Roundup summarizes the international literature on parental leave policies and their impact on child outcomes. The literature suggests that the effects are small. However, research in this area is still relatively new and it is too early to draw conclusions about how the design of parental leave policies impacts on child development.

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