

# The re-emergence of childcare as a women's issue? Analyzing gender in Australian and Canadian COVID-19 childcare policymaking <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

Access online <sup>[2]</sup>

## Abstract

Canada and Australia, two liberal welfare states whose market-based ECEC systems consistently rank poorly on international measures, embraced similar short-term childcare policy responses to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic: widespread closures, reduced capacity of centers, establishment of publicly funded emergency childcare programs for essential workers, and short-term wage subsidies for essential workers (sometimes including educators). Rooted in a feminist political economy (FPE) theoretical framework and using a what-is-the-problem-represented-to-be (WPR) methodological approach, this article explores the extent to which the first and second "waves" of the COVID-19 pandemic policy responses in Canada and Australia framed childcare as a concern about gendered, reproductive labor within political representations of the policy problems to be solved.

**Region:** Canada <sup>[3]</sup>

**Tags:** gender equity <sup>[4]</sup>

policy <sup>[5]</sup>

women <sup>[6]</sup>

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**Source URL (modified on 20 Jun 2023):** <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/23/06/re-emergence-childcare-women%E2%80%99s-issue-analyzing-gender>

## Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/23/06/re-emergence-childcare-women%E2%80%99s-issue-analyzing-gender> <sup>[2]</sup>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1554477X.2023.2201916?journalCode=wwap20> <sup>[3]</sup> <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7864> <sup>[4]</sup>

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