

# It's about time! Gender, parenthood, and household divisions of labor under different welfare regimes <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

- Full journal article available by subscription only <sup>[2]</sup>, or check your local or university library.
- Powerpoint presentation <sup>[3]</sup> based on this research.

## Abstract:

Having young children generally intensifies gendered patterns of time use. During the 1990s, this pattern changed in several Nordic countries, where welfare state arrangements support gender equality and work-family balance more comprehensively than elsewhere. We investigate the impact of parenthood on men's and women's time use across welfare state regimes, performing ordinary least squares regressions using data from the Multinational Time Use Study for Germany, Italy, and Canada (N = 57,367 weekdays/53,292 weekends). We find convergence of men's and women's time use over the 1990s but uncover no strong evidence of the Nordic pattern emerging elsewhere. Instead, in countries with less comprehensive family policies and less support for gender equality, parenthood continued to reinforce traditional patterns of behavior on weekdays. There is evidence of change on weekends in Germany and Canada, where fathers became more involved domestically, but not in Italy, suggesting certain welfare state regimes may preserve gendered behavior more than others.

**Region:** Europe <sup>[4]</sup>

**Tags:** gender <sup>[5]</sup>

mother's labour force participation <sup>[6]</sup>

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**Source URL (modified on 27 Jan 2022):** <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/14/08/it%E2%80%99s-about-time-gender-parenthood-and-household-divisions>

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