

How does equal parenting look today? The current reality of mothers based on the MMM survey "State of motherhood in Europe 2024"

UN Commission on Social Development 63rd Session - Side event Sharing is caring: equal parenting, a path to social cohesion?



The theory

Equal parenting:

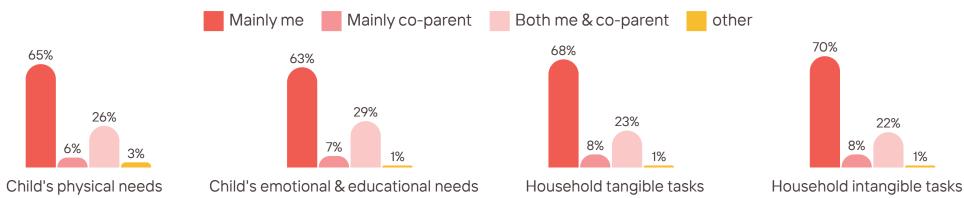
parenting approach where both parents <u>share responsibilities</u> for childcare, household tasks, and decision-making in a balanced and equitable way.



The reality

Data nr. 1: at least **63**% of household tasks are done by mothers <u>alone</u> and only **44**% of mothers are fully satisfied about the way parenting responsibilities are shared



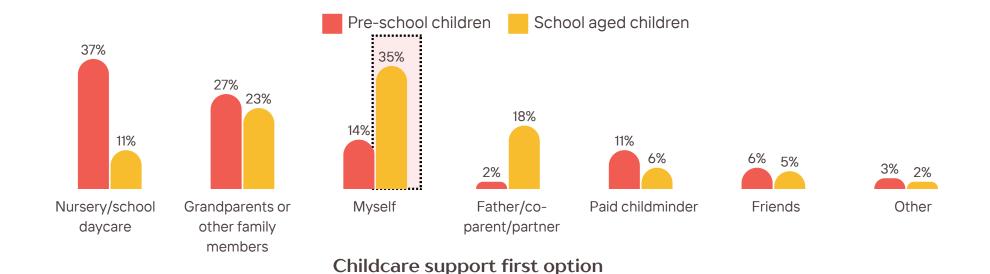


Household & Childcare work division

The reality

Data nr. 2: only 1 in 3 fathers take the paternity leave they are entitled to (or more)

Data nr. 3: As children reach school age, parental involvement becomes more prominent, with **mothers continuing to take on the primary caregiving role**.



Who adapts? Mothers.



They adjust their professional journey to align with their family's needs

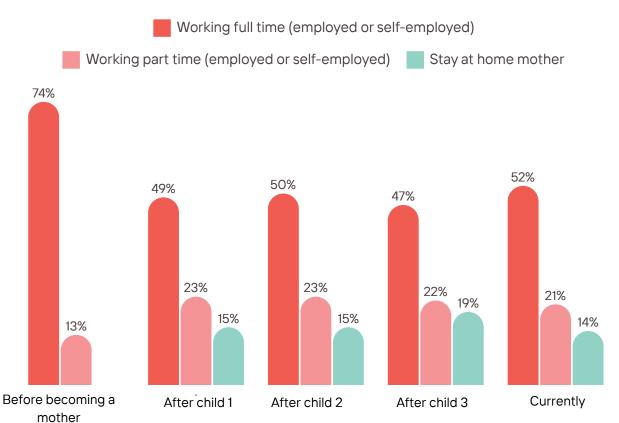
23%

reduced their working hours after having a child

55%

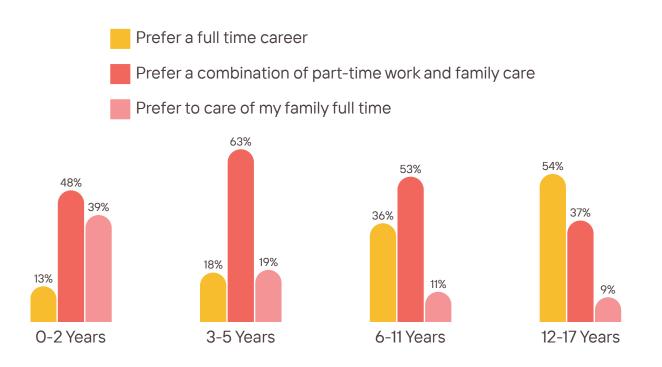
changed their working
status after having a child

Working status at various life stages





They have integrated that THEY are the ones that should adapt..



How would you prefer to balance work and family life for these periods of your children's lives?

The cost for mothers is high...

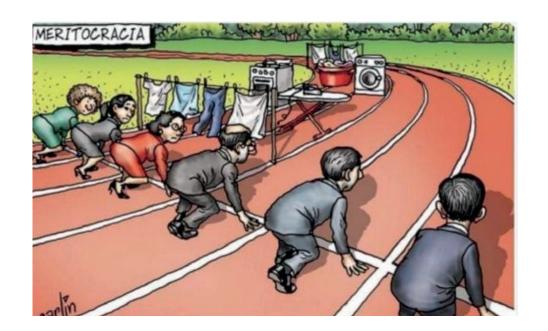
The "motherhood penalty"



of mothers state motherhood negatively impacted their careers



- **Career stagnation:**
- 30% of surveyed mothers felt that their learning opportunities or progress had been restricted.
- 22% lost their position



Financial impact:

39% of mothers reported a decrease in their regular income



A majority of mothers experience mental health challenges

67% of mothers report feeling overloaded

50%

of mothers stated that they suffer from mental issues

(depression, anxiety, burnout, peripartum depression, or other)





Don't add to her mental load. Carry your share.

A majority of mothers experience mental health challenges

The good news is...

Mothers who report **sharing** tasks with the father or co-parent—regardless of the specific task— are **significantly less likely to experience a mental health problem or feel "mentally overloaded"**



Conclusion

"Let's build a world where caregiving isn't based on sacrifice. Let's create a future where parenthood doesn't rely on supermothers—but on mothers and fathers supported by the social and economic structures they need to raise their children with dignity and freedom."

Eduard Sola Winner of the Goya Award for Best Original Screenplay for "Casa en flames"

Thank you!

