Changing Families

trends and support

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Contraceptive use among women age 20-44 in France (%)

- Pill + IUD
- Natural

1970 1990 2010
Changing families

Diversity

Instability

Postponement

Diversity

- Small & large families
- One- & two-parent families
- Intact & recomposed families
- Single- & dual-earner families
- Married & cohabiting couples
- Heterosexual & homosexual families

“Increasing diversity between- and within-countries”
Diversity in Canadian families

16% of children live with common-law parents (38% in Quebec)

1 in 5 in lone-parent family
1 in 10 in stepfamily

Postponement

- Transition to adulthood
- First marriage
- First birth

Mean age of women at first birth

- Spain
- UK
- Bulgaria

Graph showing trend from 1980 to 2010.
Instability

- Divorce & union dissolution
- Re-partnering
- Sequences of family formation and dissolution

Changing families

“the people behind the demographic trends”
Changing families

- Vulnerability
- Barriers
- Gender inequality

“the people behind the demographic trends”

Financial support
Work-family reconciliation
Early childhood education and care
Legal rights
Data needs

• Life course perspective
• Multi-country & large sample
• GGP (Generation and Gender Programme)

Towards a family agenda!

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