

# Social Exclusion and the Changing Demographic Portrait of Europe

The Fourth International Conference of the EAPS Working Group "Second Demographic Transition"  
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Union dissolution: divorce and lone parenthood

## Homogeneity or heterogeneity of one-parent families in Spain

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**1 Theoretical framework**

**2 Main research interests**

**3 Data and methods**

**4 Summary of results**

**5 Discussion**

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## Theoretical framework

Reviewing the role of one-parenthood in the demographic transition  
Reviewing the emergency and critics of one-parenthood as a sociological category links to the question of homogeneity / heterogeneity

1950-1960s

1. Demographic context: golden age of family (few divorces)
2. Socio-political discourse is a moral one (one-parent-families threaten the social order)



- \* Plurality of terms
- \* approach: heterogeneity
- \* Discipline: Political sciences

From 1970s...

1. Increase of divorces
2. One-parenthood seen as a social problem
3. Academic approach: Femenization of poverty / asymmetry in citizen rights

- \*Taxonomic category
- \*approach: homogeneity
- \* Cross sectional /descriptive analysis
- \* Disciplines: Political sciences, sociology, demography

Half 1990s...

1. Diversification of family forms / life courses
  2. Socio-political discourse: individual choices
  3. Academic approach: 2nd Demographic Transition
- \*Family transition
  - \*Approach: heterogeneity
  - \*Needs of biographic surveys, dynamic analysis, causality...

## 2 Main research interests

- a) Cross-sectional sociodemographic profile of women and men in lone-parenthood and two-parent-families
- b) Cross-sectional sociodemographic profile is compared to the profile at the entry and at the exit (dynamic analysis)
- c) The heterogeneity and homogeneity of lone-parenthood (historical time & birth cohorts)
- d) Whether the likelihood of exit from lone-parenthood depends on the type of entry & whether the determinant factors are the same for all types.
- e) Trying to discern what is gender effect and what is lone-parenthood status effect

**Data:**

1. Microdata from census sample (5% of households), 1991 and 2001 ,
2. Microdata from 1991 Sociodemographic Survey (retrospective information on 156.000 individuals)

**Technical framework****A) lone-parenthood as a state**

Family relationship among family members

- Nuclei reconstruction
- Household reconstruction

-Couple without children

-Couple with children < 18 years

-Mother with children < 18 years

-Father with children <18 years

**B. Lone-parenthood as a family transition**

Transition to lone-parenthood

Type of entry: by childbirth (never in union), by union disruption, by widowhood, by childbirth (previously married, or widowhood)

Exit from lone-parenthood

-Type of exit: union formation, the minor child reaches 18 years.

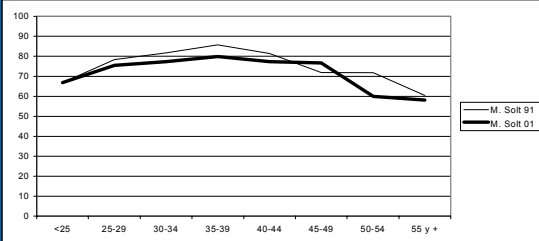
**Discrete time logistic regression**

Table 1. Distribution of mothers in one parent families by civil status (with almost one children under 18 years old) and distribution of fathers in one parent families by civil Status (with almost one children under 18 years old). Spain, 1991 & 2001.

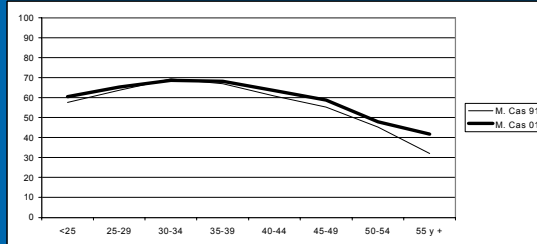
	Mothers		Fathers		Total		% Fathers	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
Single	81.640	117.460	7.486	31.460	89.126	148.920	8,4	21,1
Married	73.194	140.280	24.986	71.780	98.181	212.060	25,4	33,8
Widowed	101.258	66.340	22.702	14.880	123.960	81.220	18,3	18,3
Legally separated	88.398	139.520	9.187	15.700	97.585	155.220	9,4	10,1
Divorced	38.016	68.580	4.165	7.840	42.181	76.420	9,9	10,3
Total one parent	382.507	<b>532.180</b>	<b>68.527</b>	141.660	451.034	673.840	15,2	21,2
Total in Couple					4.885.909	3.924.940		
% One parent/ Tot unit	7,2	11,6	1,3	3,1	8,5	14,7		
	100							
Single	21	22	11	22	20	22		
Married	19	26	36	51	22	31		
Widowed	26	12	33	11	27	12		
Legally separated	23	26	13	11	22	23		
Divorced	10	13	6	6	9	11		
Total one parent	100	100	100	100	100	100		

Source: Population census of 1991 and population census of 2001

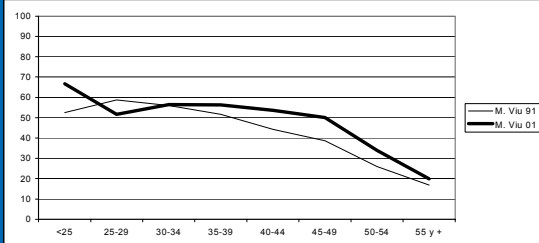
single mothers in one parent family units



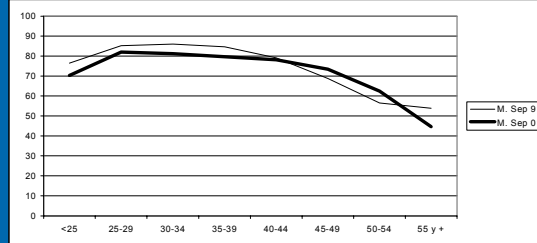
married mothers in one parent family units



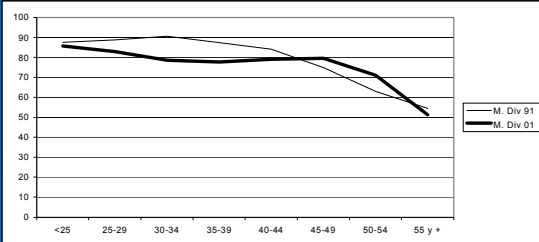
widowed mothers in one parent family units



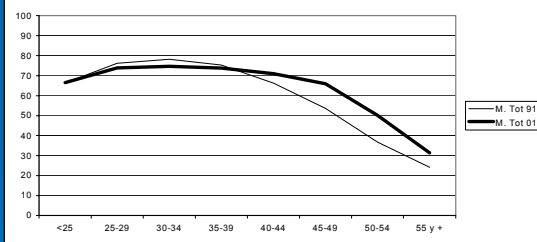
legally separated mothers in one parent family units



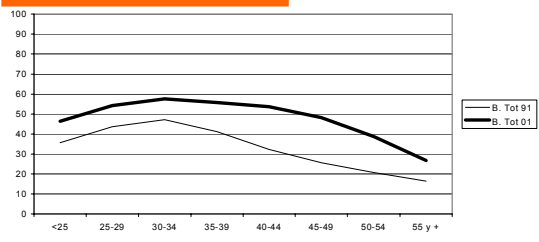
divorced mothers in one parent family units



mothers in one parent family unit



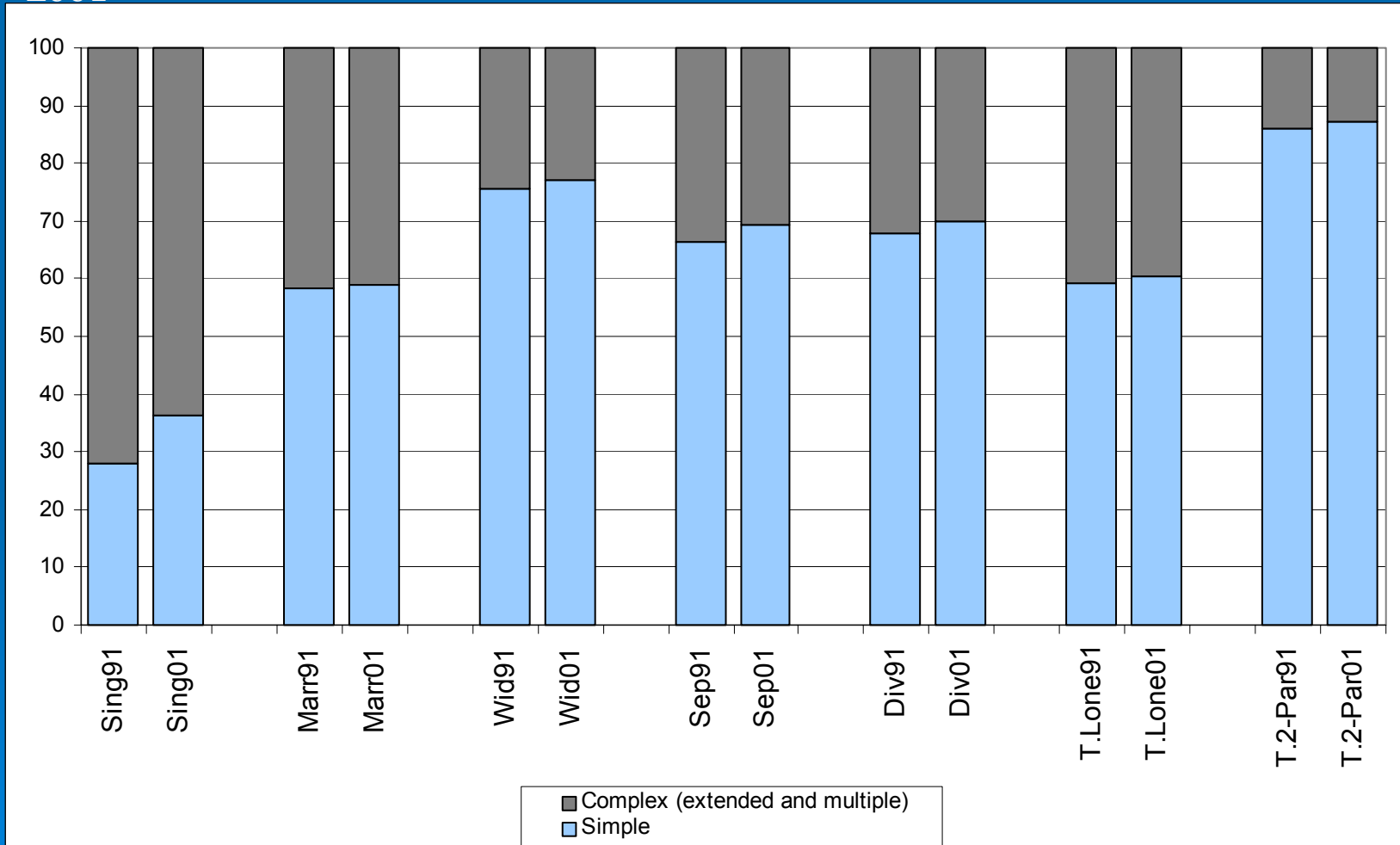
mothers in couple family units



Graphic 1. Activity rates of mothers in one parent families (with almost one children under 18 years old) by civil status and age and activity rates of mothers in couple family units by age (with almost one children under 18 years old). Spain 1991-2001

Source: Population census of 1991 and population census of 2001

Graph 2. Household complexity of **lone-mothers** (with almost one children under 18 years old) by civil status and household complexity, **and of mothers in couple family units** (with almost one children under 18 years old). Spain 1991-2001

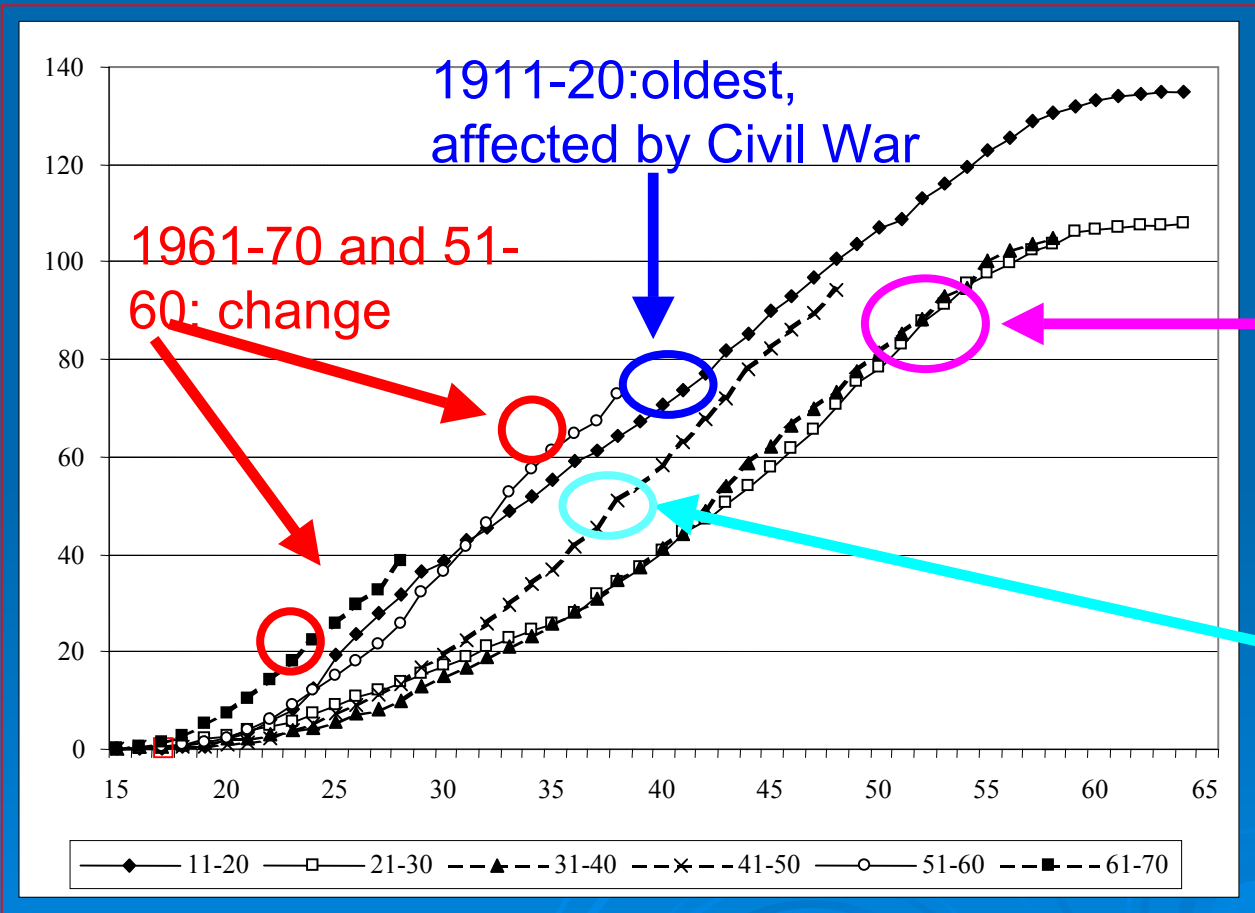


Source: Population census of 1991 and population census of 2001

# 4 Summary of results

Homogeneity or heterogeneity of one parent families in Sp

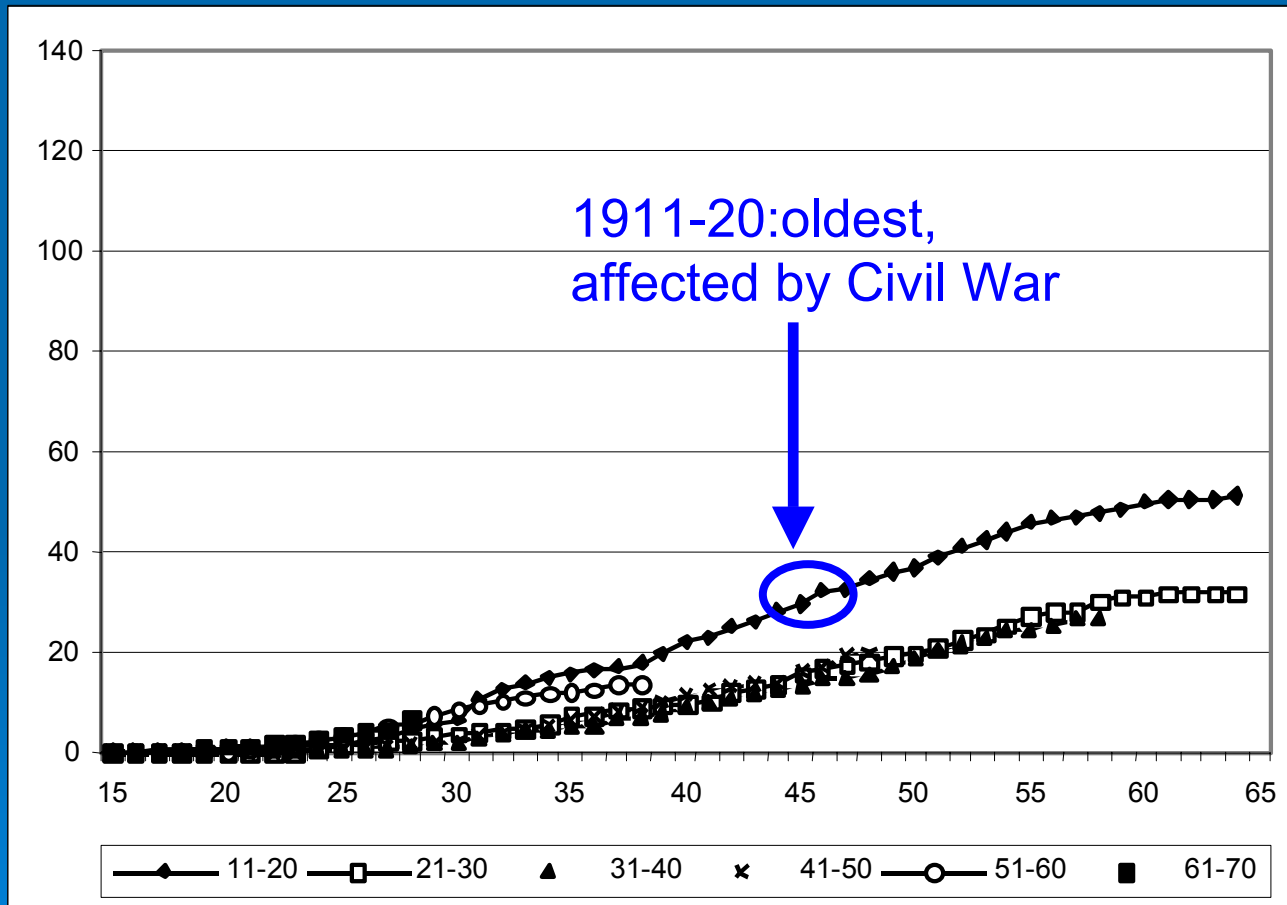
Graphic 3. Annual accumulated probabilities of entry into lone-motherhood family units (per 1000)  
Generations 1911-20 to 1961-70.



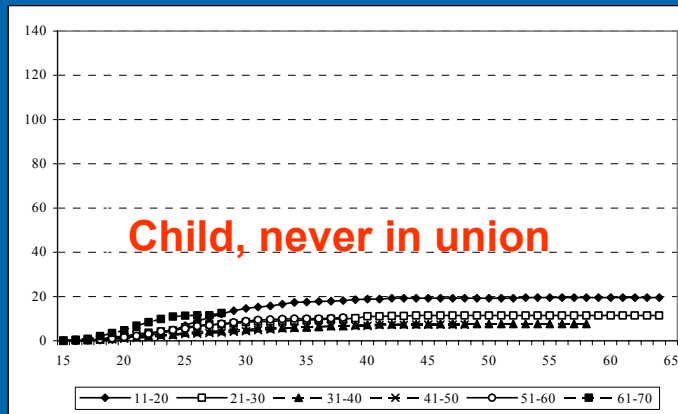
Source: Sociodemographic survey of 1991

# 4 Summary of results

Graphic 4. Annual accumulated probabilities of entry into **lone-fatherhood family units** (per 1000)  
Generations 1911-20 to 1961-70.

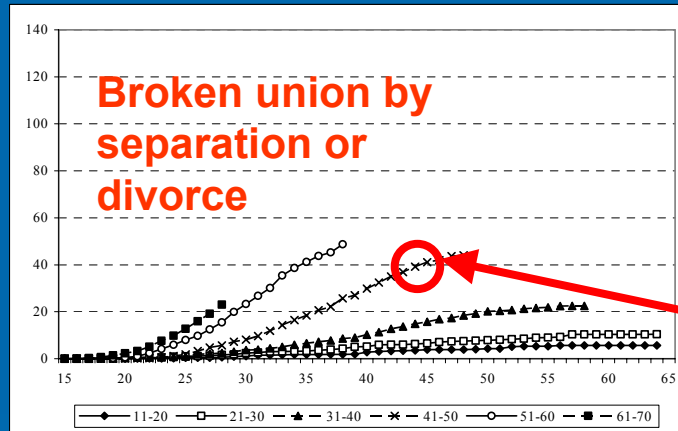


Source: Sociodemographic survey of 1991



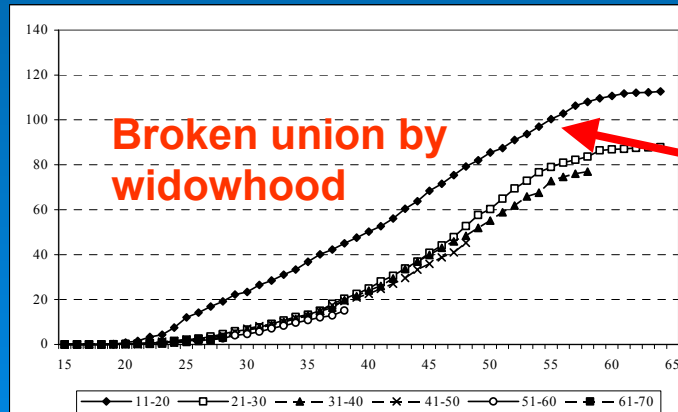
Graphic 5. Annual accumulated probabilities to entry in lone-motherhood family units (first time) by type of entry. Generation 1911-20 to 1961-70. (Per 1000)

RUPTURA DE LA UNION POR SEPARACION O DIVORCIO



G.41-50:transition

POR VIUEZAD



G.11-20: oldest birth cohort, affected by Civil War

**Table 2. Sociodemographic determinants of entry in lone motherhood by type of entry (only by childbirth-never in union and by union rupture). Spain**

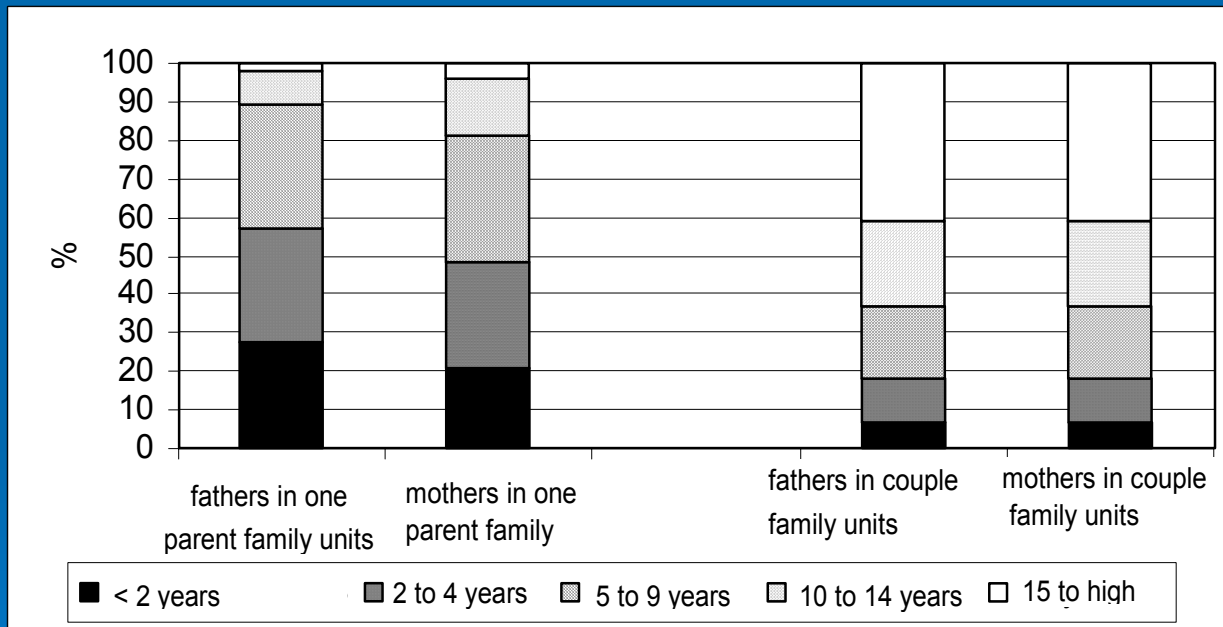
		<u>Never in union (by childbirth)</u>		<u>In Union (by broken union) <sup>1</sup></u>		<u>In Union (by broken union) <sup>2</sup></u>	
		EXP (b)	Level Sig.	EXP (b)	Level Sig.	EXP (b)	Level Sig.
Generation	1941-50		1		1		1
	1951-60	2,14	***	1,67	***	1,71	***
	1961-70	4,91	***	3,59	***	3,76	***
Level of studies	Without Studies		1		1		1
	First Level	0,62	***	1,25	***	1,22	***
	Second Level_university	0,45	***	1,99	***	1,99	***
Employment	not in employment		1		1		1
	in employment	1,28	***	2,54	***	2,52	***
<b>Number of childre and age</b>							
	one child, 0 years old					1	
	one child, 1 years old					1,97	***
	one child, 2-5 years old					1,87	***
	one child, 6-12 years old					3,81	***
	one child, 13-17 years old					2,06	***
	two or more children, the minor 0 years					1,71	***
	two or more children, the minor 1 years					1,64	***
	two or more children, the minor 2-5 years					1,71	***
	two or more children, the minor 6-12 years					2,04	***
	two or more children, the minor 13-17 years					2,00	**

\*\*\*signification at 0.01; \*\*signification at 0,05; \* signification at 0,1.

1. Population reference: all women

2. Population reference: women in union with one minor child at least

Graphic 6. Time being under one parent family units. Parents and mothers in one parent family units (with almost one children under 18 years old) at the time of the survey (1991).

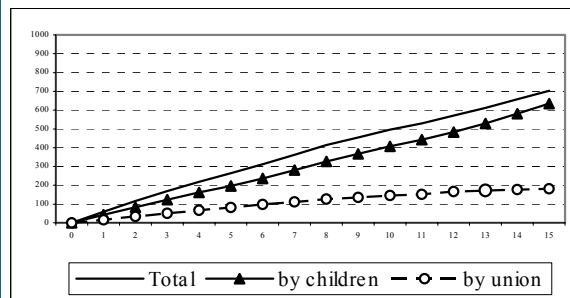


Source: Sociodemographic survey of 1991

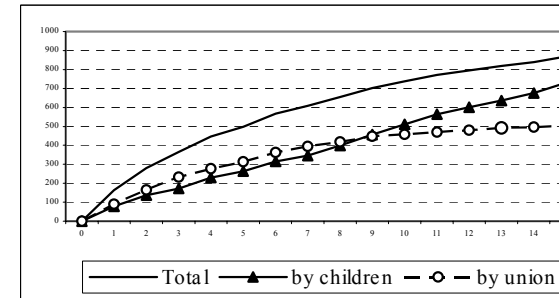
# Summary of results

Graphic 7. Annual accumulated probabilities of exit from **lone-parenthood family units** by duration, type of entry and type of exit. Generation 1911-20 to 1961-70. (Per 1000).

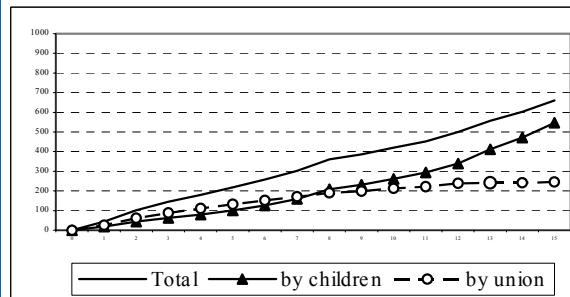
All in one parent



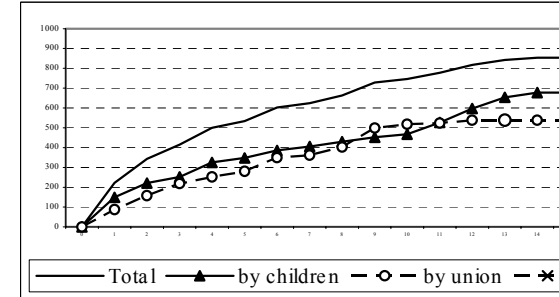
All in one parent



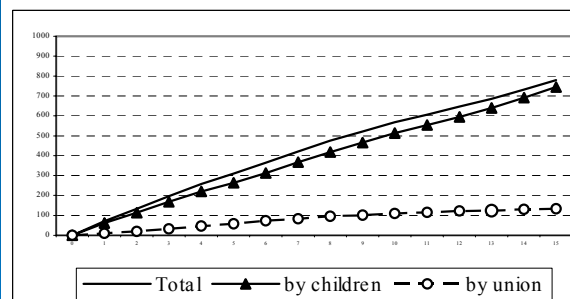
Boken union by separation or divorce



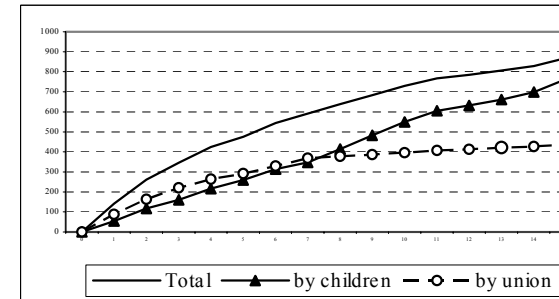
Boken union by separation or divorce



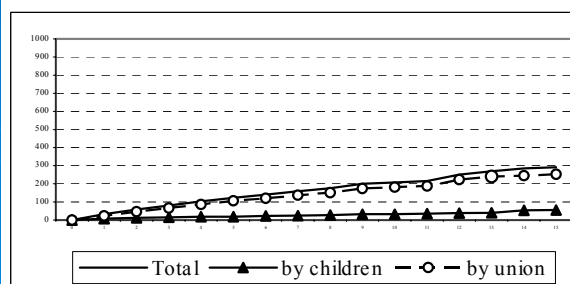
Boken union by widowhood



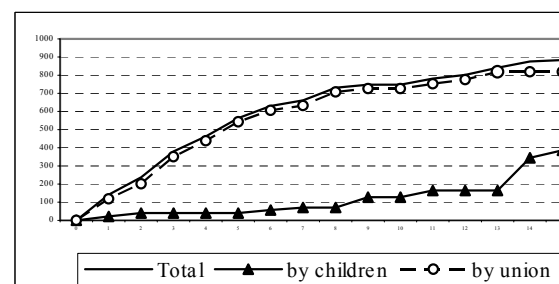
Boken union by widowhood



Never in union



Never in union



**Table 3. Sociodemographic determinants of exit from lone-motherhood by union formation. Birth Cohorts, 1941-50 to 1961-70.**

	EXP (b)	Level Sig.
<b>Duration under lone-motherhood</b>		
0-1 year	1	
2-4 years	0,95	
5 or more	1.26	
<b>Generation</b>		
1941-50	1	
1951-60	1.32	**
1961-70	1.25	***
<b>Type of entry</b>		
Children and never in union	1	
Broken union	2.6	***
Withhood	1.71	
<b>Level of studies</b>		
Without Studies	1	
Primary level	0.60	**
Second and third level	0,62	*
<b>Children</b>		
One child < 6	1	
One child > 5	0.96	
2 ore more children	0.81	
<b>occupation status</b>		
not in employment	1	
in employment	1.01	

\*\*\*signification at 0.01; \*\*signification at 0,05; \* signification at 0,1.

## **A) Factors of homogeneity:**

**-Female life experience**

**-It stops the maternity process**

**-It is a non repeatable event**

**-Associated with a complex household structure**

**-Linked with a high activity which increases once in the lone-motherhood status**

## B) Factors of heterogeneity:

**-The type of entry is the main factor of heterogeneity (very different ages at entry, different number and age of children)**

### A) childbirth and never in union

- Low incidence
- Low education and employment strong and positive. The importance of education does not change by birth cohorts (separated models not shown).
- It shows the highest association with complex household structure.
- Lower likelihood to exit by union formation compared to the separated

### B) Broken union

- Increasing phenomenon
- High education strong and positive. Education loses effect by birth cohorts (separated models not shown).
- Number and age of children together with the employment show the strongest positive effect
- Education lowers the likelihood of exit by union formation

### C) Widowhood

- Decreasing phenomenon
- Lower association with household complexity and labor participation
- Lower likelihood to exit by new union compared to the separated
- Oldest birth cohorts show that the likelihood to exit by union formation is associated with higher education and labor participation

## lone-fatherhood

Associated with household complexity as well

Lower duration than lone-motherhood

Higher likelihood to exit by new union than lone-mothers

Being unemployed shows a positive association with the entry into lone-fatherhood (results also found in the study of factors of union separation)