

RESUME

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Couples and Childbearing among Hungarian Families Abroad: Results from a Representative Survey

The Maria Kopp Institute for Demography and Families together with the Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad conducted a survey among the Hungarian minorities in Subcarpathia (Ukraine), South-Slovakia (formerly Upper Hungary), Vojvodina (Serbia) and Transylvania (Romania), collecting 2576 valid responses. The aim of the questionnaire was to study the attitudes to relationships, marriage as well as to plans and facts about childbearing. The sample was representative for sexes, and other basic demographic variables as well; 50,4% of the respondents were men and 49,6% were women in the study. The survey results showed that the start of the first marriage is two years earlier than the so called 'ideal age' for marriage (women 25, men 28) for both sexes. The relationships (marriage or cohabitation) are more stable in the 35–45 age group than among younger couples. According to our respondents the most important preconditions for childbearing are right partner and the appropriate housing. It has been again verified that it is important for mothers to reconcile family needs and work responsibilities. The results show that the attitudes abroad are very similar to those inside Hungary.

Branislav ŠPROCHA

**Ethnic Differences in Family Formation and Patterns
of Exogamy in Slovakia**

Ethnic affiliation is an important factor in family and reproductive behaviour and it also has an important role in assortative mating. The historical presence of numerous ethnic groups, especially of Hungarian and Roma background in certain regions of Slovakia, raises the question of how they differ in some selected population communities (e.g. age, education, economic activity, religion) and whether there are differences according to their place of residence (e.g. size of municipalities). In this study we tried to point out the existing differences in fertility levels and the parity structure of women in relation to ethnicity, education and place of residence. Other important questions that we analyse in our paper are the differences in family formation in connection to ethnicity. For this purpose, we use not only marital status but also census results by households. In the last part of the study we examine the issue of ethnic exogamy.

Dániel GAZSÓ

Diaspora Interviews

“We felt that the leaders of the Hungarian emigré organizations in America were living in the past, and their conflicting political goals fragmented our communities. We set out to change this.” Dániel Gázsó interviews András Ludányi