

Abstract

Russia has gone through many dramatic changes since the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991. One of them was the fact that Russia became a capitalist state after being under the communist regime for seventy years. This new change harmed the support Russia gave in developing child care facilities as well as the movement towards working mothers and made the participation of women in labor market more incompatible. This paper presents the results of an analysis designed to understand the choices of child-care strategies that are made by households in Russia. In order to test the research hypotheses, this research has made use of information from the Generations and Gender Survey that is processed by means of the Multinomial Logit Model. The findings of this research showed that different constraints are involved in the choice of child-care strategies. We find that high educational level of the mother and full-time job of the mother, nonavailability of a partner, the age of the youngest child, and residence in a metropolitan area increase the odds of choosing remunerative childcare. Moreover, residence in an urban or rural area, availability of partner, unemployment or part-time job of the mother increases the odds of choosing care by relatives or friends. Finally, the odds of using a strategy of mother care rather than remunerative childcare are higher when the mother is unemployed, low educated, and has no co-resident partner.