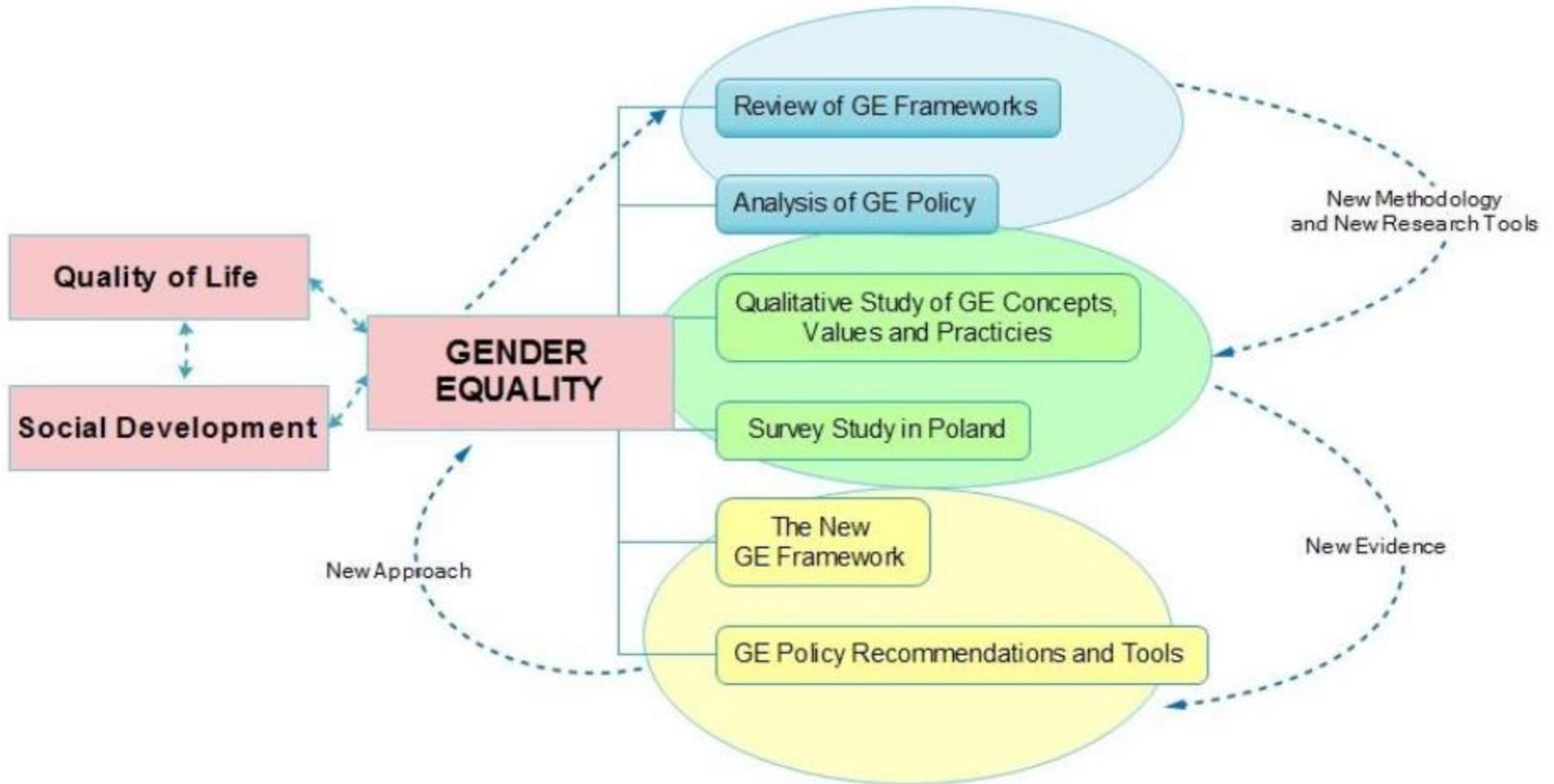


Reflections on methodology

Ewa Krzaklewska, Oslo 5.12.2013



Picture 1: The GEQ project concept.



Project methods

- Secondary data analysis (PL, NO) – responsible: Prof. Slany
- Policy analysis (PL, NO) – dr Kowalska
- Qualitative research – Krzaklewska
 - *Focus groups interviews (PL) +No?*
 - *Media analysis (PL, NO)*
- Survey research (PL) +No?

Aims

FGI aims:

1. exploring attitudes, practices and gender power relations within different life areas (like education, work and family), using daily life oriented questions including actions, choices, experiences, norms and values regarding GE
2. reaching more diverse groups of respondents
3. Pretesting questionnaires

Survey aims:

1. mapping inequalities
2. highlight the structural, cultural and institutional determinants of GE
3. identify the conditions that foster positive impact of GE on the quality of life and social development

⇒ **the need for new indicators in the area of gender stereotypes (cultural dimension!)**

⇒ **European survey model**

SURVEY : GENDER EQUALITY AT THE CENTER OF RESEARCH

DIMENSIONS

- attitudes and norms
- practices
- resource distribution
- identity
- life course experiences
- quality of life
- social development

AREAS

- work
- family
- political participation
- decision-making
- violence
- free time
- unpaid work

Other issues to explore

The impact cultural norms, religious beliefs, family roles, masculinity and femininity norms and gender stereotypes.

Social development: efficiency, social innovation and human capital, including welfare economics

- a life course perspective considering impact of life experiences, events and transitions on GE in different life dimensions
- intergenerational approach
- care networks
- men and masculinities
- gender intersectionally especially in relation to age, social class, and culture including beliefs and religion, as well as urban and rural setting.

What we need to reflect on?

Context of the research

Norway

- „ question of “gender equalities” *and different development paths, as opposed to a linear progress model of GE, which tends to translate to little research”*

Poland

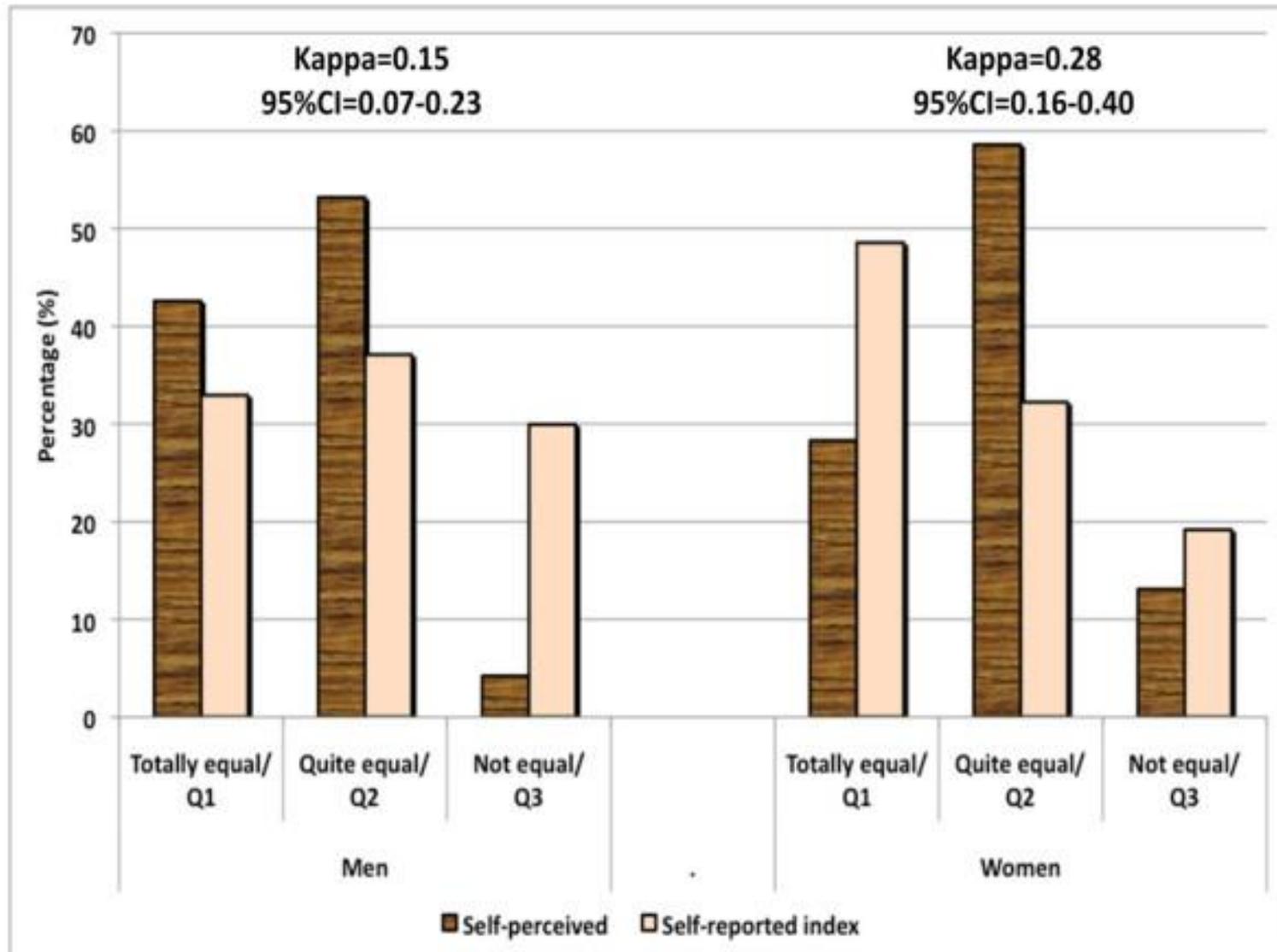
- Gender equality as a controversial topic, lack of common political agreement on GE
- Little research connections between GE and QL

Different understanding and value load of the same concepts – e.g. quality of family life, equality

'Subjective' and 'objective' GE

- How do we measure 'gender equality'? Is it an intrasubjective experience or 'objective' situation?
- Need of qualitative exploration: what equality means to women and men?
- Not sufficient measures until now

„This study shows clearly that **none of the applied measures is ideal**. They tell different stories but are part of the same reality. Men obviously overrate self-perceived gender equality, suggesting that a single question on gender equality does not generate a valid result. On the other hand, the index used overrates equality among women, most likely because important aspects are lacking. A possible solution to this **problem might be a combination of measurements** (Sorlin et al 20 11)

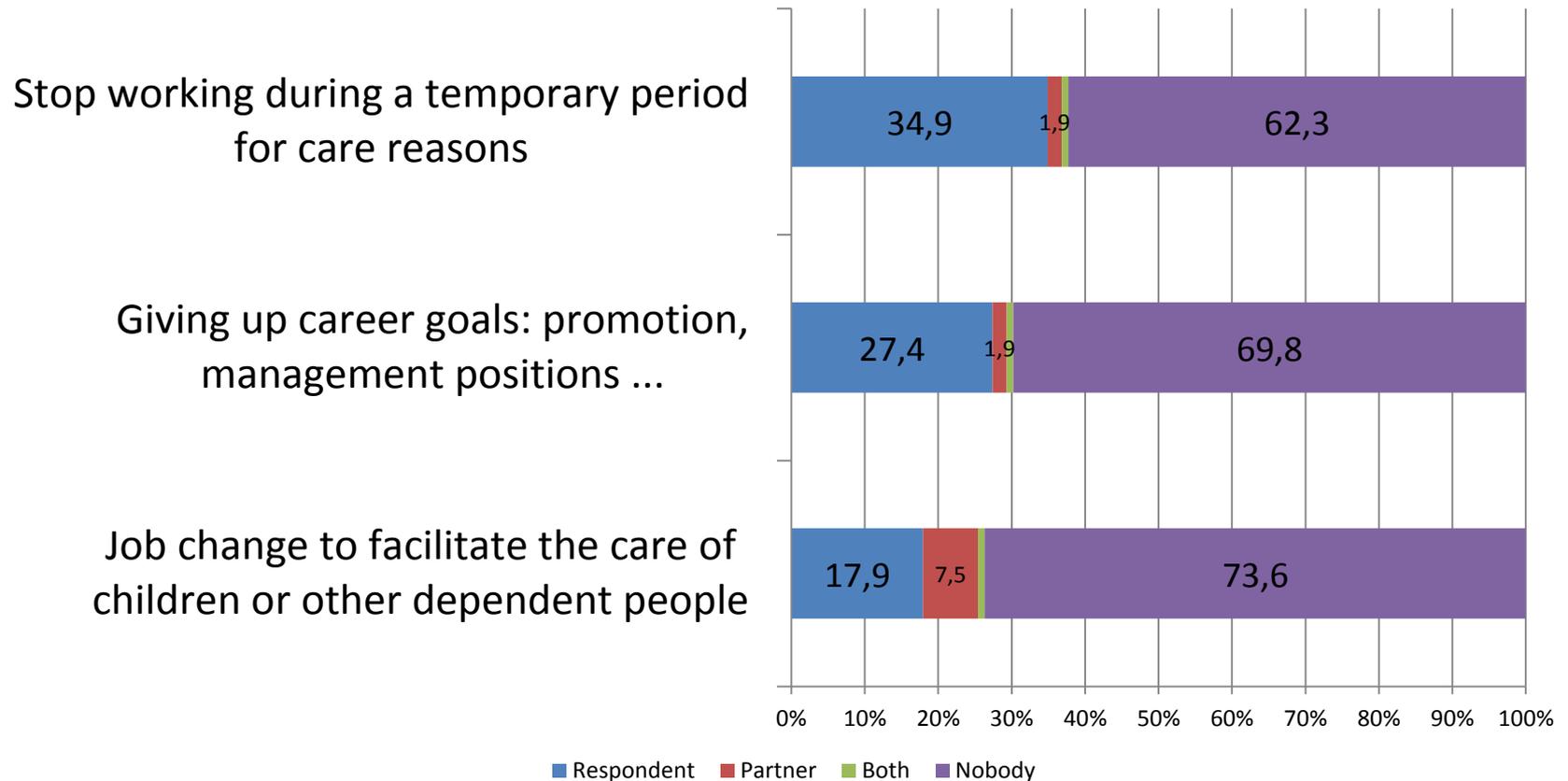


- Sorlin et al. 2011: „*self-reported gender equality* for three domains, for both the respondent and his/her partner. These domains were (1) education, income, and full or part-time employment; (2) sharing of time and responsibilities for household work; and (3) sharing of parental leave following the birth of a child, and sharing of temporary parental leave for child sickness.”

Experience of gender equality

- **Daily life experiences** – based mostly on practices
- **Practices** => why only daily practices? What about life decisions?
- Experience of **conflicts** over certain issues as an indicator

'Exceptional' events



- Krzaklewska 2011: Diversia results

Gender relations/power relations

- Power is not well investigated in the Norwegian survey – how to capture power relations?
- Capturing relations and negotiations
- Sampling: household study instead of study of individuals
- Difficult to survey couples – financial incentives?

Story of Judith and James (World Bank 2010)

Imagine the case of a married couple living here.

Let's call them Judith and James. Judith has been working very hard and has managed to save \$100; and she is thinking of investing her savings in a business. Judith has discussed her business ideas with family and friends, and she would like to start a small food stand selling homemade sweets. James, however, does not support his wife's business plan. How difficult do you think it would be for Judith to go ahead with her small business without James's support?

Resource distribution

- Choice of indicators – is health a resource?
 - Income => how to deal with the fact that the reproductive role is not appreciated culturally?
 - Social inequality as a main context for GE
- => better tools to capture inequality in the research**

Gendered spaces impacting health

Concentration mostly on family/household:

1. Importance of **the workplace equality** on the psychological health => *„Gender equality is multidimensional and therefore the combination of several aspects of gender equality needs to be taken into account to understand its relation to health outcomes.” (Elwer 2013)*
2. **Civic space**
3. **Community attitudes as a context**

Relations between GE and QL

Pearson's correlation	Difficulties in taking care of children	Difficulties with reconciling various duties	Satisfaction with division of house work between partners	Satisfaction with solutions offered by the company	Satisfaction with free time
Satisfaction with life scale	-.384***	-.424***	.462**	.456***	.361***

Krzaklewska (2011)

Diversia European results (2011)

Table 54. Regression analysis including the satisfaction with domestic tasks distribution

	Not Standardized Coefficient	β	t-values	R ²	R ² change
(Constant)	2.26		6**		
Satisfaction with Personal Time	0.15	0.15	2.56*	0.29	0.29
Satisfaction with Children Care Resources	0.24	0.22	4.45**	0.38	0.09
Satisfaction with the Domestic tasks Distribution	0.34	0.28	5.39**	0.46	0.07
Satisfaction with Company Reconciliation Measures	0.23	0.21	4.27**	0.50	0.04
Perception of Children Care Difficulties	-0.23	-0.21	-4.01**	0.54	0.03

*p <.05 ** p <.01

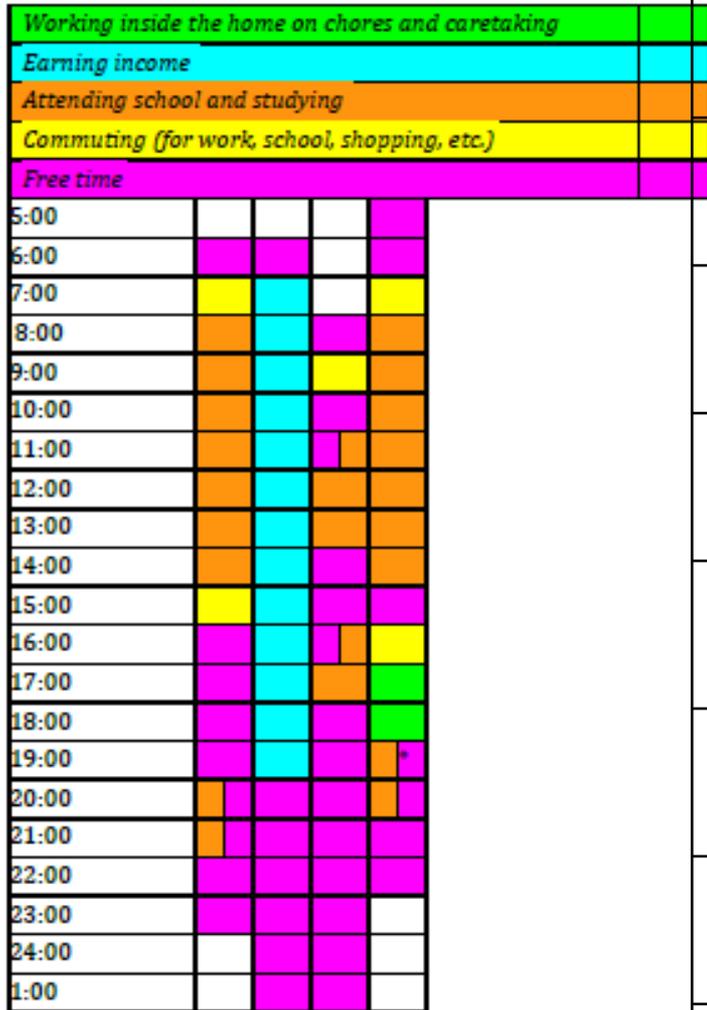
M. -Mar González et al. (2011)

Private/public sphere

Gender equal in the private sphere versus being gender equal in the public sphere – diverse impact on health

„Income and occupational position(...) were selected as indicators of gender (or parental) equality in the public sphere; and parental leave allowances and temporary child care benefit (to be used when the child is ill) as indicators in the private sphere.” (Backhans 2009)

World Bank 2010



* or studying or free time

TODAY	ADULT FEMALES	10 YEARS AGO
5%	STEP THREE 'a self-confident go-getter'	10%
85%	STEP TWO 'a happy partner'	55%
10%	STEP ONE 'a modest housewife'	35%
TODAY	ADULT MALES	10 YEARS AGO
5%	STEP FIVE 'on the candlestick'	3%
20%	STEP FOUR 'nouveau rich'	-
30%	STEP THREE 'make ends meet'	44,5%
40%	STEP TWO 'benefiting from social welfare'	44,5%
5%	STEP ONE 'social margins'	8%

Bibliography

- Backhans Mona Christina, Bo Burstroma, Lars Lindholm, Anna Månsdotter 2009. Pioneers and laggards – Is the effect of gender equality on health dependent on context? *Social Science & Medicine* 68 (2009) 1388–1395
- Backhans M.C., Lundberg M., Månsdotter A. 2007. Does increased gender equality lead to a convergence of health outcomes for men and women? A study of Swedish municipalities. *Social Science & Medicine*, Volume 64, Issue 9.
- Elwer S, Harryson L, Bolin M, Hammarstrom A (2013) Patterns of Gender Equality at Workplaces and Psychological Distress. *PLoS ONE* 8(1): e53246.
- doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0053246
- Sörlin Ann , Lars Lindholm, Nawi Ng and Ann Öhman (2011), Gender equality in couples and self rated health - A survey study evaluating measurements of gender equality and its impact on health, *International Journal for Equity in Health* 2011, 10:37 <http://www.equityhealthj.com/content/10/1/37>
- Gonzalez Rodriguez, Maria Mar, Díez López, Marta, López Gaviño, Francisca, Martínez, Eloísa, Morgado Camacho, Beatriz: 2012. Diversia sub-project. Family Diversity and Reconciliation Strategies. Final Report. Consejería para la Igualdad y Bienestar Social. Junta de Andalucía. Instituto Andaluz de la Mujer.
- Krzaklewska E. 2011. RECONCILIATION OF FAMILY, PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL LIFE IN VARIOUS TYPES OF FAMILIES IN MAŁOPOLSKA. Results of research conducted within the scope of the Diversia Project.
- World Bank 2010 Research on Gender and Economic Choice, report authored by Krzaklewska, Community Report from Jonkowo, plus methodology guide