



ドイツ日本研究所 German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ)

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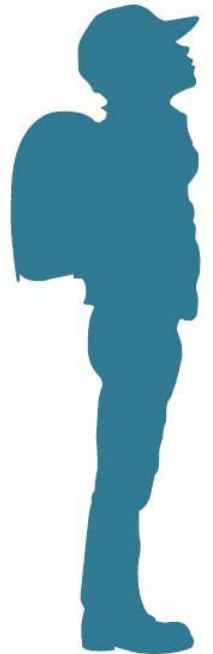
Fertility and Social Stratification Germany and Japan in Comparison

Friday, November 7th, 2008

Section 5: Gender

“Age Stratification and Gender Roles in Germany’s Fertility Crisis”

PowerPoint by **Alexander Röhler**
and **Heather Hofmeister**
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Age Stratification and Gender Roles in the German Fertility Crisis

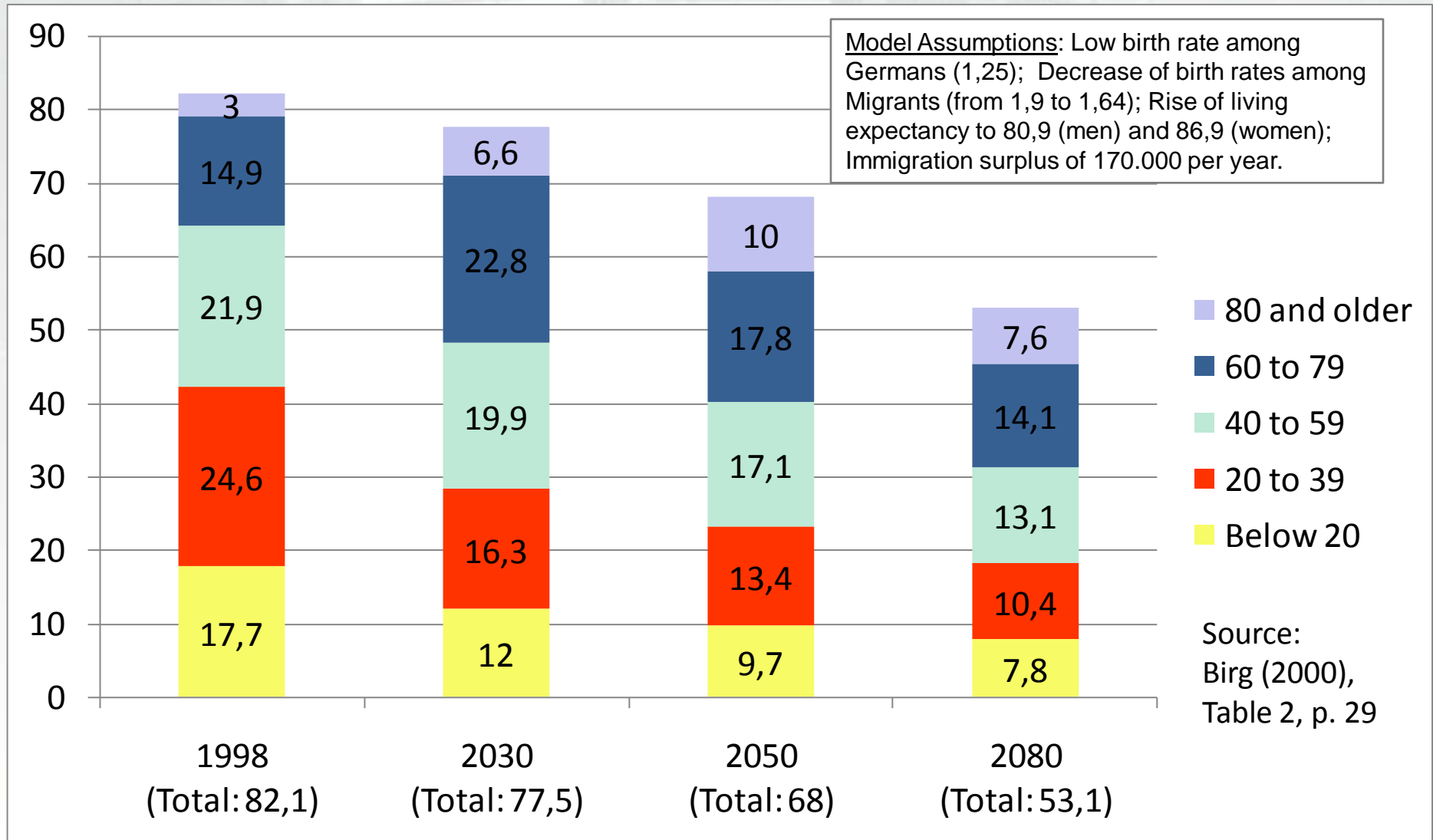
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Sociology and Gender Studies

Tokyo, Japan
November 2008

- Prospects of age stratification in Germany
- Pressures for ages 20-40 („fertility window“)
- Division of paid and unpaid labor in couples
 - Past and current models
 - Puzzles
- Unpaid labor:
 - Mechanisms of housework division in couples
- Two scenarios and summary

Prospects of Age Stratification in Germany



German men and women in their (social) fertility window (Age group 20-40) ...

- have to support themselves
- pay for children
- pay for pensions
- have and raise (more) children

..... face multiple pressures

The Labor market

- Pay for children
- Pay for pensions
 - for older people
 - for own pensions
- Pay for eldercare

Household work

- Care for own children
- Care for elder relatives
(„sandwich squeeze“)

Gendered division between paid and unpaid labor

- „Career men“ with housewives
- „Career women“ with no children

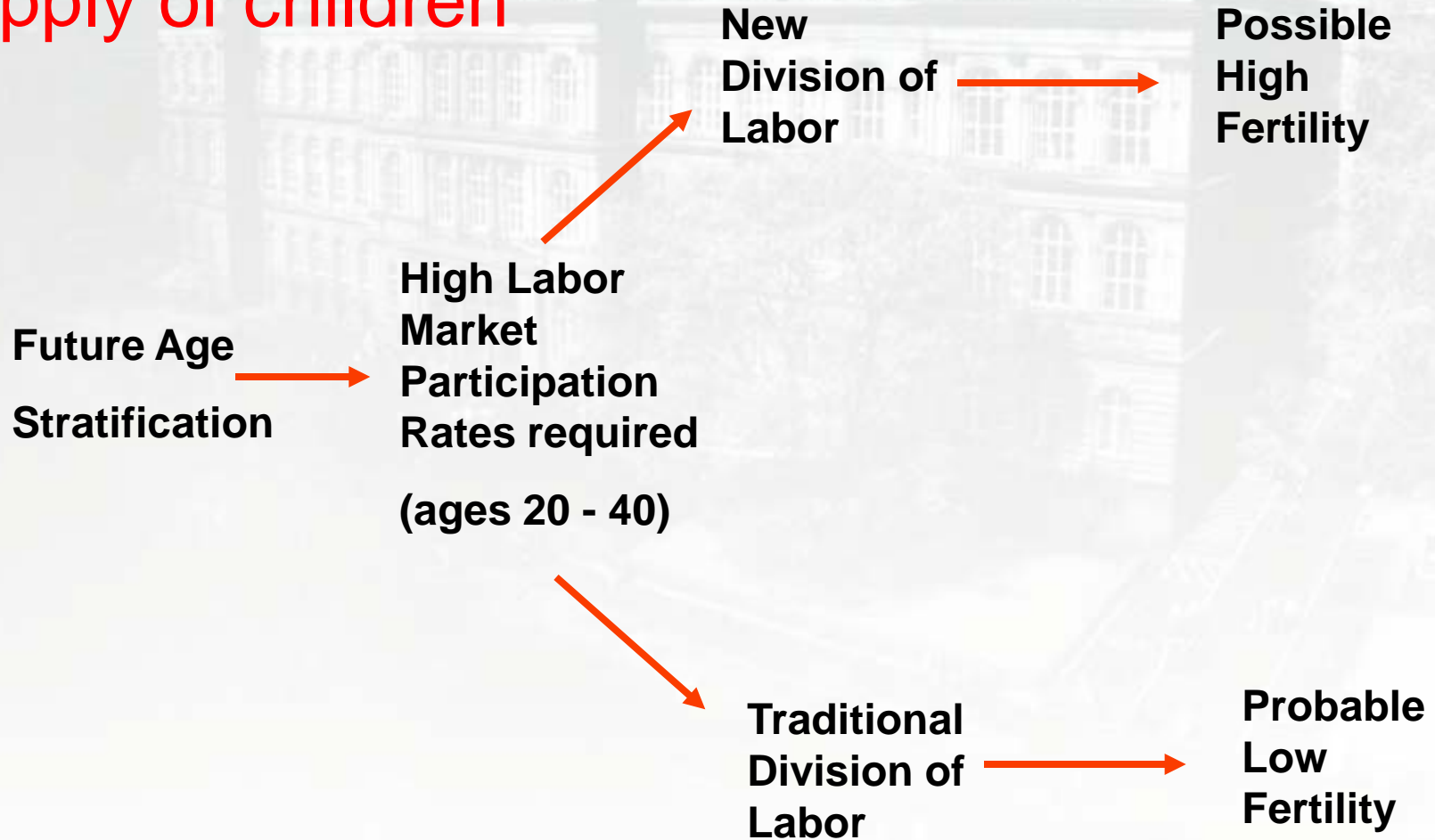
Boths models are no longer an option

- „Career men“ with housewives -> labor market needs all
- „Career women“ with no children -> society needs children

1. Changed attitudes towards egalitarian labor division
 - > reduced housework hours of women
2. „Traditionalization“ after birth of first child
 - In the home
 - In paid work arrangements (Reichart 2008)
3. Stable and gendered labor division within families
 - Women face more pressure than men

How to reconcile attitudes for gender-equitable labor division, couples' practices and pressures from fertility crisis?

Age stratification, labor market demand, couples' labor division and supply of children



Unpacking the puzzle – The case of household labor division

Mechanisms...

- Gender ideologies
- Competencies
- Preferences for doing
- Interest in the outcome
- Transaction costs
- „Doing gender“ (West & Zimmerman 1987)

..... **that restructure housework**

(source: Röhler & Huinink 2008)

Effects of Housework Mechanisms ...

- Fading of gender roles
- Individualized household arrangements
- Efficiency issues and transaction costs
- Identity construction
- More female attachment to household issues

... Inequality in the household persists

- Individualization of couple's unpaid work
- Search for new models to reconcile paid labor and family work under the pressures of high work force integration of both men and women

Dystopia

- Rising inequality and pressures
- Cohort conflict (age fragmentation)
- House and care work left alone
 - Very few children
 - Elderly in self care, regardless of ability
- Immigration with isolation
- Overburdened social system / Social collapse

Future Scenarios

Utopia

- Expectations of men and women, mothers and fathers more realistic and attainable (Baur & Hofmeister 2008)
- Societal support (time, money, encouragement)
 - Images, Rewards, Offers, Cooperative models
- Employers rethinking lock-step career path
 - Support parents
 - Support older workers
- Immigration with integration
- Fertility rate increases or at least remains stable
- Social cohesion / Societal welfare

Given the need for high labor market participation in the future from both men and women:

The future fertility rate in Germany depends, in part, on the success of German couples and German society at developing new arrangements of paid and unpaid work.



Today's and future age stratification in Germany

| year | Percentage of age groups | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1998 | 2030 | 2050 | 2080 |
| Age | | | | |
| below 20 | 21,6 | 15,5 | 14,3 | 14,6 |
| 20 to below 40 | 30,0 | 21,0 | 19,7 | 19,6 |
| 40 to below 60 | 26,7 | 25,7 | 25,2 | 24,7 |
| 60 and older | 21,8 | 37,9 | 40,9 | 40,9 |
| (80 and older | 3,7 | 8,5 | 14,7 | 14,3) |
| sum | 100,0 | 100,0 | 100,0 | 100,0 |

Source: Birg (2000): Table 3, p. 30

Prospects of Age Stratification in Germany (Percentage)

| | 1998 | 2030 | 2050 | 2080 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|
| Age | | | | |
| Below 20 | 17,7 | 12,0 | 9,7 | 7,8 |
| 20 to 39 | 24,6 | 16,3 | 13,4 | 10,4 |
| 40 to 59 | 21,9 | 19,9 | 17,1 | 13,1 |
| 60 to 79 | 14,9 | 22,8 | 17,8 | 14,1 |
| 80 and older | 3,0 | 6,6 | 10,0 | 7,6 |
| | | | | |
| All population | 82,1 | 77,5 | 68,0 | 53,1 |
| | | | | |

Source: Birg (2000): Table 2, p. 29

(Model Assumptions: low birth rate among Germans (1,25) and a going down of birth rates among Migrants (from 1,9 to 1,64); rise of living expectancy to 80,9 (men) and 86,9 (women), and an immigration surplus of 170 000 per year)

Schaubild 2: Bevölkerungsentwicklung Deutschlands im 21. Jahrhundert mit Wanderungen – bei einem jährlichen Wanderungsgewinn von 250.000 und einem Anstieg der Geburtenzahl pro Frau von 1,25 auf 1,50 innerhalb von 15 Jahren ab alternativen Zeitpunkten

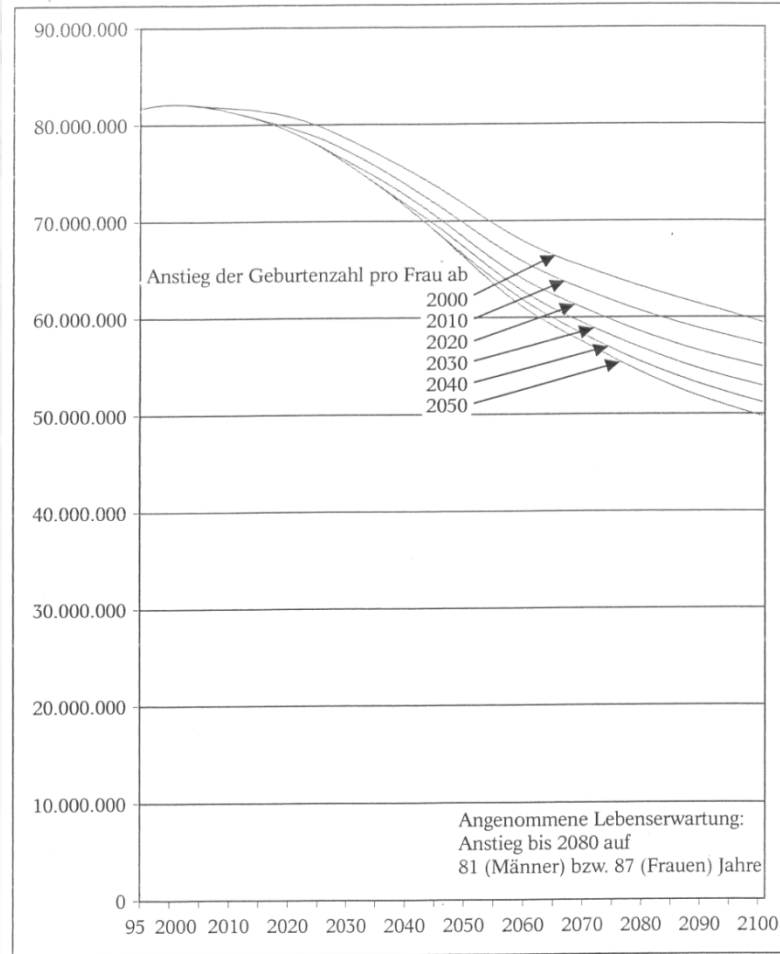
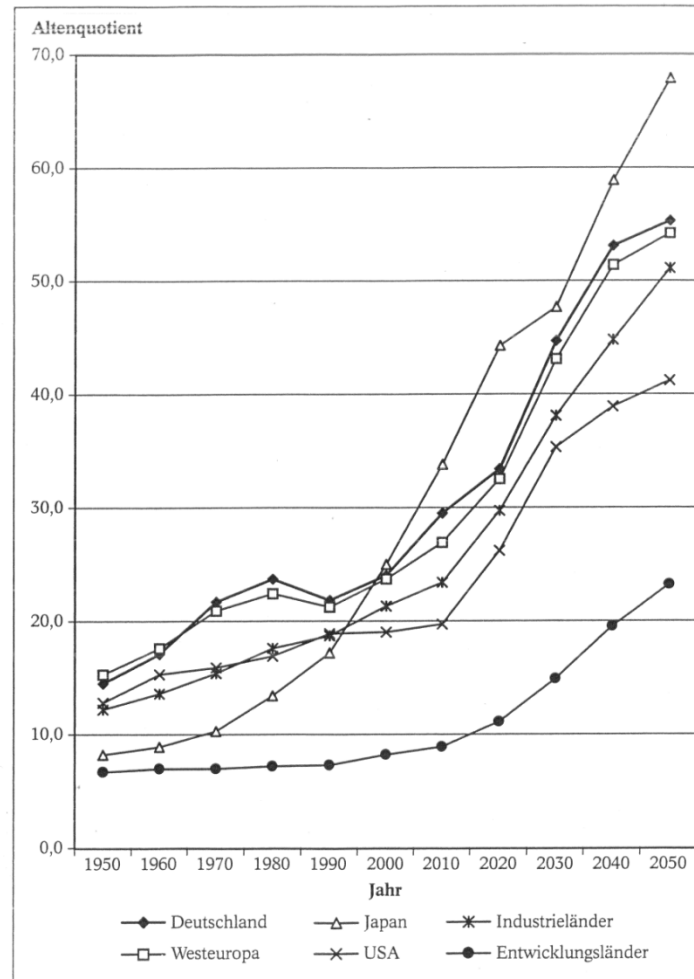


Schaubild 10: Entwicklung des Altenquotienten (= Zahl der 65jährigen und älteren auf 100 Menschen im Alter von 15 bis 64) von 1950 bis 1990 und Projektion bis 2050



Quelle: H. Birg (nach Daten der UN von 1998; für Industrieländer **niedrige** Variante, für Entwicklungsländer **mittlere** Variante).

Age dependency ratio in different countries; among them Germany and Japan (source: Birg (2000))

Table I: Survey Sample

„Housework in pair relationships“ (Huinink / Röhler 2005)
 (64 pairs, 128 individual interviews) (Röhler / Huinink 2008)

| Region of socialization | GDR/GDR (30 pairs) | | | FRG/FRG (30 pairs) | | | GDR/FRG; FRG/GDR (4 pairs) | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Marr. (12) | Non married (12) | LAT (6) | Marr. (12) | Non married (12) | LAT (6) | Marr. (2) | Non married (2) |
| No children (32) | 6 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 3 | - | 2 |
| With children (32) | 6 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 2 | - |

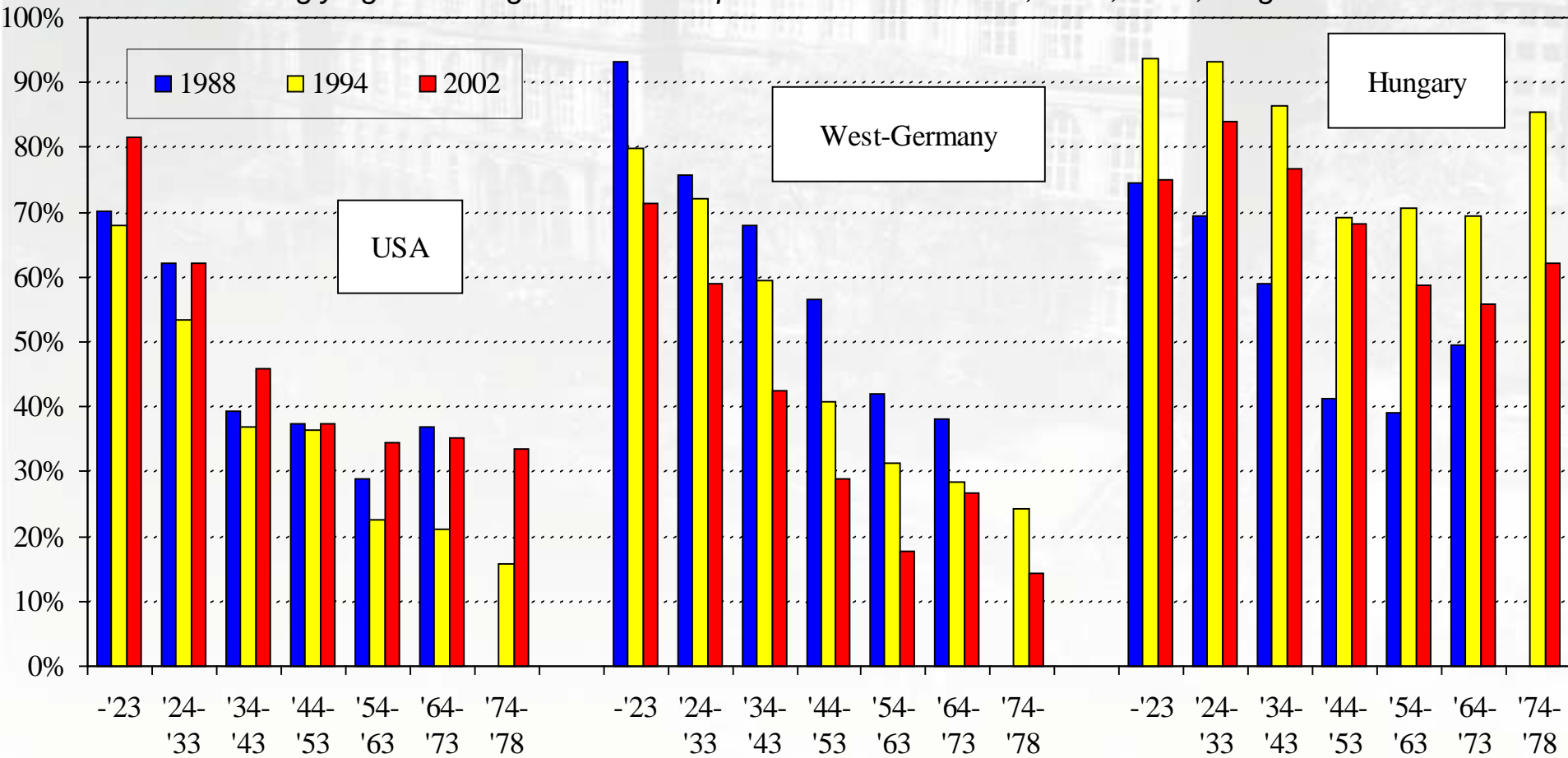
- Before birth of first child:
 - most men and women work fulltime
 - After birth of first child prevailing work arrangements are:
 - Men fulltime, woman housewife
 - Man fulltime, woman parttime
- (source: Reichart 2008: analysis with GSOEP longitudinal study)

conclusion: women reduce their paid work for the sake of their partners and children (to do the unpaid work)

Cohort-analysis: Support for male breadwinner model in USA, West-Germany, and Hungary

Indicator: "Do you agree or disagree ...? A husband's job is to earn money; a wife's job is to look after the home and family."

Answers: "Strongly agree." + "Agree." from a 5-point scale. ISSP 1988, 1994, 2002, weighted data.



Women doing laundry – Are there age or cohort differences? Is there change over time?

Question: “Please answer if you are married or living as married. In your household who does the following things ...
Who does the laundry: the washing and ironing?” Answer “Always the woman.” ISSP 1994, 2002, weighted data, no filter.

