

The DECET conference

John Bennett, OECD

- Marked by a concern
 - To bring security and belonging to the young children
 - To practice outreach to parents and provide family support
 - To create community solidarity and social inclusion
 - To respect multiculturalism and your hope to move the agenda toward inter-culturalism
 - To improve your approaches and methodologies

- Your sense of not simply supplying services but also of creating spaces for democratic participation

Economic and social contexts of child well-being

- The economic generation of child poverty

- The continuing lack of equality of women

- Unequal ECEC and education systems

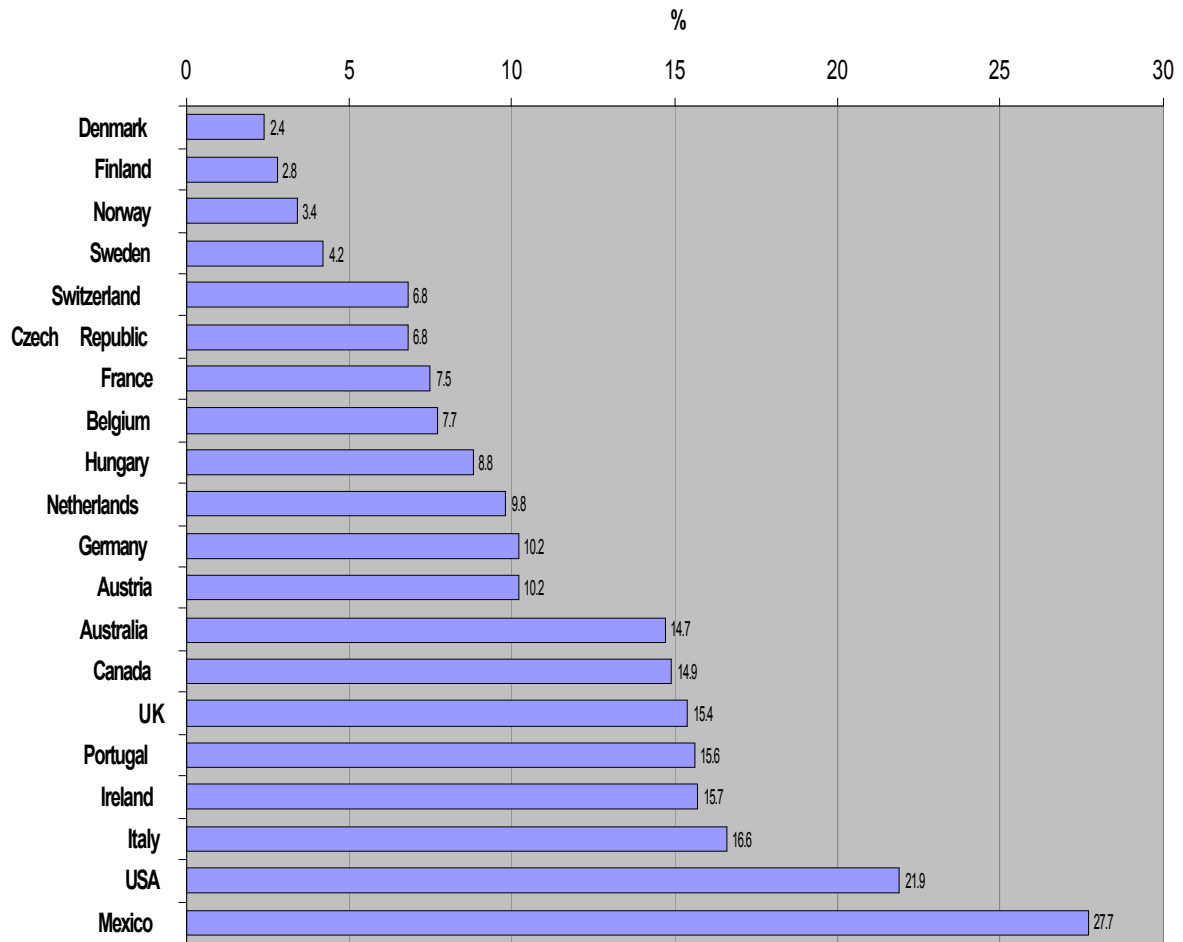
GDP per capita
USD, using current PPPs, 2004



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A European Seminar on Respect for Diversity, Equity and social Inclusion

Child poverty in rich countries



The status of women

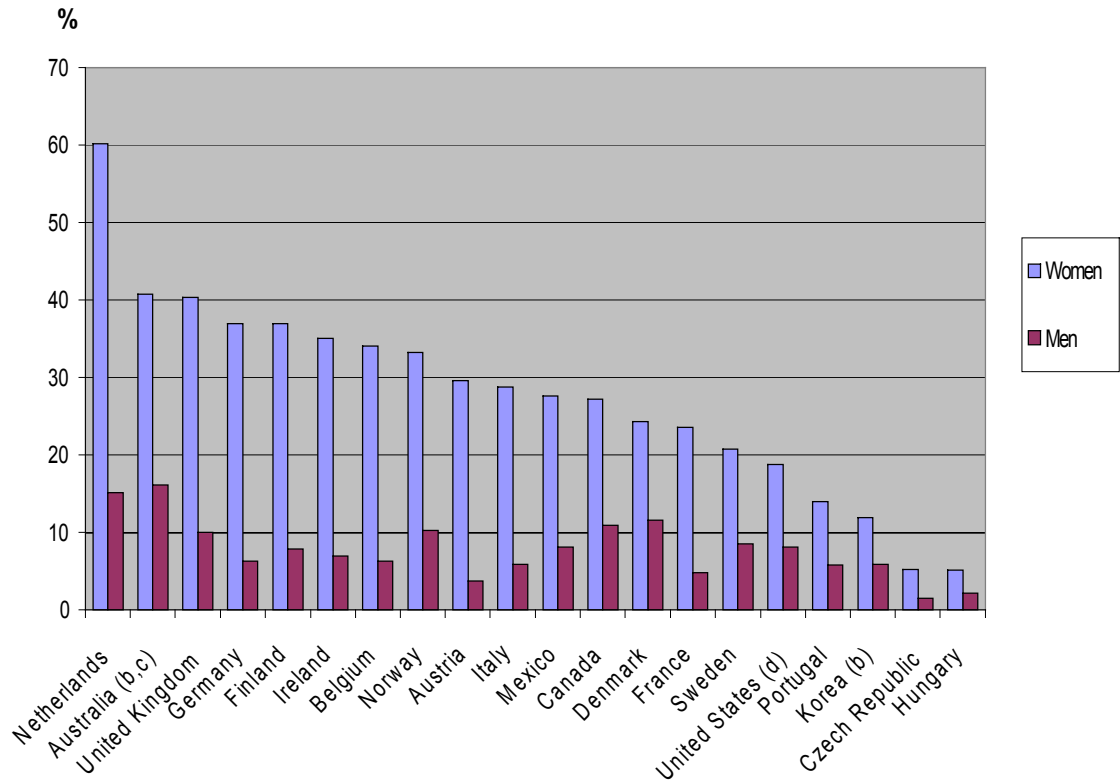
- 80% of men's pay for same work in professions; 60% of men's wages in low-skilled work
- Though better educated, concentrated in low-skilled, low-paid jobs
- Engaged 3 to 4 times more in part-time work... life-time earnings low, pensions low...
- Many lone mothers...



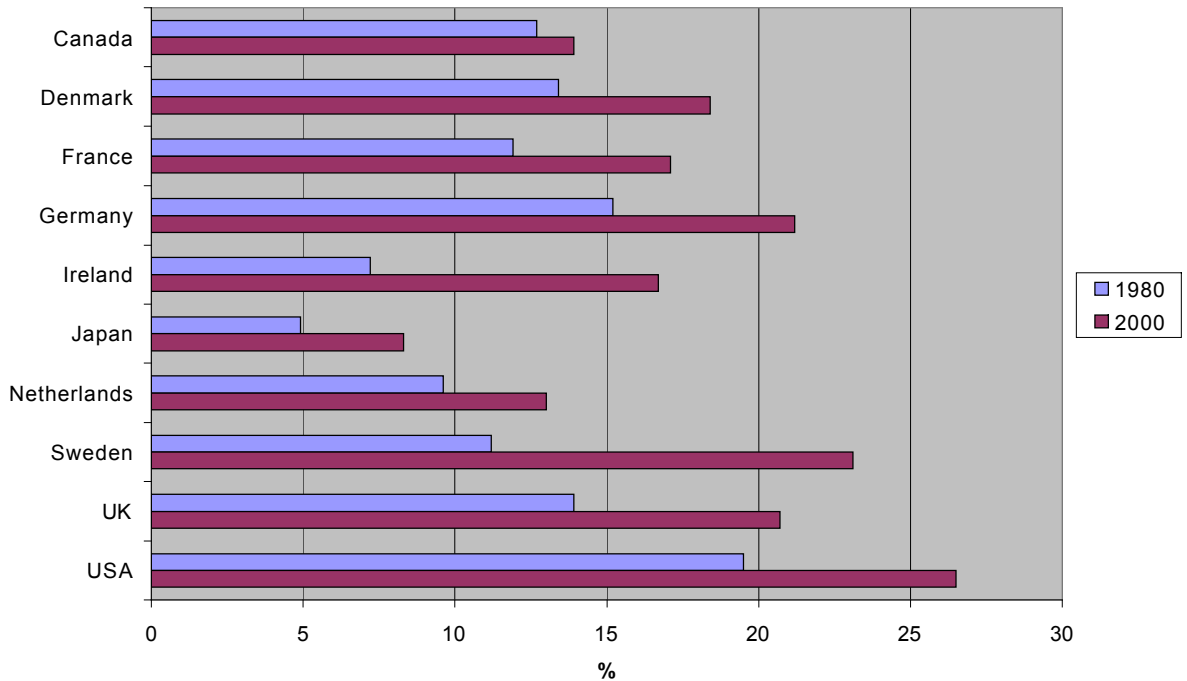
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Part-time work: women and men



Lone parents in OECD countries



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Two-tiered education systems

- ❑ Under-funded public systems for the children from diverse backgrounds
- ❑ Some democratic solutions:
 - No separation of children: respect and co-existence in the lay public school (France, Nordics, RS...)
 - A structured network of public-private systems governed by national agreements on
 - o Enrolment and fee policies
 - o Curriculum
 - o Staffing
 - o Wage and career structures for teachers
 - o Extra funding for public (and private) services in difficult neighbourhoods
- ❑ More funding and more creativity in the public schools (Sweden, Rosa Sensat...)



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