Relevant Points for The 2020 Draft Report On Family And Relational Poverty

0. Introduction

The Family International Monitor (FIM) has chosen to dedicate the first three years of its activity (2019-2021) to the reading of the relationship between family and poverty (other issues can be analysed, such as family and environment, family and education, family and work, family and values/spirituality/faith...). In particular:
- Family is (SEEN) as a fundamental resource for every person and society.
- Poverty is DEFINED here in its multidimensional dimension (according to the anthropological personalistic-relational model of the SDC and also in line with the most updated international literature).

SPAIN. Family as a resilience resource

In our country, the experiences of the previous crisis point out that intra-family solidarity has been the most significant resistance resource of the population affected by unemployment and the collapse of its family patrimony. In turn, the structural factors that affect the social-economic resilience in the current context are the quality of the human resources and the dynamics of innovation, two issues that largely depend on the character structure of the subjects. This issue arises primarily in the families through the upbringing and training. Family appears to be a factor of resistance and social-economic resilience and, again, as in previous critical times, is called to act as such in the current financial depression. However, is the family in the same condition of resistance as on other occasions in the past? Does the development of the family in our society put it in the adequate conditions to be a critical factor of resilience? (SPAIN)

KENYA Poverty: not only an economic issue

In Africa (Kenya for example), an older man identifies the poor as those who do not have people to live and eat with, whereas a man in his twenties reinterprets the same point and describes the poor as those who do not have access to education. While the idiom shifts, neither the older man nor the young one defines poverty in material terms, but rather in terms of networks, contacts, and opportunities, this is not to say that material poverty is unimportant – far from it – but to recognise that local perceptions of poverty highlight other elements of the problem. (KENYA)

Multidimensionality, furthermore, also concerns the constitutive elements of the individual and family well-being, which is also generated and protected by very heterogeneous elements (in a very simplified way: a series of factors determine the well-being of a family (person): income, work, relations, care, dignity, values (spirituality) and especially by their interactions.

In this sense, it is very relevant to consider a dynamic as the model of multidimensional positive coping of the families, according to which if one of the generating/protective dimensions of well-being comes to a crisis (for example a separation, or the loss of job/income), the other resources come into play to "compensate" the lack. If a family becomes poor, but it has good relations, it can resist. Indicatively, the opposite is more
difficult since great economic resources compensate a relational impoverishment less easily).

(KENYA) Supporting the responsibilities of families in their relations
Family Conferencing in Kenya is designed to establish a process for families, relatives, friends and community members to develop a plan that ensures the care and protection of children from future harm, as well as their moral and social development (Cf. The Family Conferencing: A Group-breaking Practice for Community Based Child Protection in Kenya). The family, in Kenya, participates in enlarged social networks through “Family Conferencing” composed of 73 family decision-making groups KENYA.

FURTHERMORE, the model of interaction between family and poverty adopted by the FIM sees the family as an active subject, with its projects and development tasks, that in the interaction with the economic, cultural and public intervention system has to face, in case of vulnerability/fragility, an impoverishment process that is both relational and economic (see the side diagram). All this is in a circular model of mutual influence among all the indicated elements: politics protects, to a higher or a lesser degree, from poverty. However, the political action also depends on how the economic system works - and vice versa.

SPAIN. Adequate family policies are needed
Our society should have done a lot more to strengthen families and couples, a Positive Family Policy to create the basic structure on which any society is based. (SPAIN)

From the survey, SEVEN key points emerge, with FOUR more cross-cutting topics, presented in different ways in the different territorial contexts considered. Twelve countries under primary observation, plus qualitative and quantitative data from international literature), characterised by two different qualities (frequently mutually intertwined):

Internal aspects of the family (roles, life cycle phases, age) and crucial passages/relevant social spaces.

KEY POINTS

1. Educative fragility, school drop-out, illiteracy/semi-illiteracy
2. Condition of young people, precariousness, work
3. Couple fragility (separation, education by single parents, protection of children in separations)
4. Natality-care of earliest infancy
5. Elderly and inter-generationality
6. Isolation, abandonment, loneliness (one-person households)
7. Poisoned family relations (irreconcilable conflicts, violence, abandonment)

TRANSVERSAL TOPICS

a. The condition of women
b. Care as constitutive quality of family relations
c. Income/economic poverty
d. New communication technologies and digitalisation of relations

In each of these points, they emerge both the vulnerability/fragility/impoverishments and the abilities of resilience/exit from marginality/empowerment. The family resource (alone or thanks to external help) can always intervene in all these "key points."

POSSIBLE SYNTHETIC MODEL: Key points and transversal topics

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<th>Educative poverty</th>
<th>Youn g peopl e, work</th>
<th>Fragility/endurance of the couple</th>
<th>Natality/earliest childhood</th>
<th>Elderly and intergeneration ality</th>
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In the chart, we can include many possible connections between the seven key points and the four transversal topics. For example:
- It is possible to indicate the countries in which these connections are particularly relevant, or to include notes on how much the transversal topics affect the individual key points (positively or negatively), and so forth.
- Alternatively, to indicate the possible actions of public policy that can improve the connection between critical points and transversal topics (and so forth).
1. **Educative fragility, school drop-out, illiteracy/semi-illiteracy**

- Educative poverty is a broad phenomenon, with various expressions and consequences. It has strong connections with the cultural family capital, a dominant protective factor from persons and families’ vulnerability.
- Its impoverishment depends on the fragility of the two leading social educative agencies, family and school.
- Reflecting on a family basis does not only refer to the educative challenge towards the youngest generations but also to the educative/cultural quality of the adult and elderly generations (the expression “returning illiteracy” is also used).
- This poverty has the face of the lack of access to school, but also of school drop-out during compulsory education.
- It frequently manifests itself also as a disadvantage for women.
- More recently, it is also characterised as digital divide/illiteracy, concerning the new communication technologies (ICT-digital technology).
- It does not suffice to protect the person. It is necessary to protect -support- his/her family (a low social capital is inherited as well, as a “disadvantage”

**VULNERABILITY**

Data on the lack of access to compulsory school/gender differentials from the country sheets (GEO)
Quotes on school absenteeism (PIE-GEO)
Quotes on drop-out/illiteracy also among adults (PIE - GEO)

**RESOURCE (if there are any sources):**
- Family cohesion/educative responsibility/widespread family cultural capital
- School support from the public system (and its overall quality) and the voluntary sector (various NGO projects.)
1. Educative fragility, school drop-out, illiteracy/semi-illiteracy

BENIN. Secularisation and literacy of adults

In Benin, primary school foresees 6 years of teaching, which is addressed to children aged 6 to 11 who correspond to the compulsory school segment. The majority of the population, however, does not have access to it: only 80% of children of mandatory school age complete the education path. The literacy rate of the population is equal to 40%, an amount that for women is even lower, equal to 23% (World Bank Data, 2018; Deschênes, 2019). BENIN

KENYA. Territorial (and not exclusively) inequalities in the access and outcomes of education

While 93 per cent of adult women in North Eastern Province had no education at all, only 3 per cent of adult women in Central Province had never been to school. These disparities, while narrowing, continue today: only 19 per cent of eligible girls in North Eastern Province were enrolled in primary school in 2005/06, against 87 per cent in Central Province. KENYA

KENYA. School drop out (inequalities and causes)

In 2015, for example, 55% of pre-primary school children were out of school (UNICEF, 2018). The reasons for poor enrolment in some areas range from poverty to violence instability and distance. Provision of government schools in the slums is a challenge because the government does not recognize these settlements (the recent case of a sub-standard privet school in a Nairobi slum collapsing and killing 8 children, illustrates the point). Transition from primary to secondary school remains low at 86% in 2014, mainly due to inadequate secondary school places in the country. KENYA

KENYA. Vulnerable minors, orphans and outside from the family

Out of a total of 18 million children in Kenya, 8.6 are classified as vulnerable (WHO, 2011). Of these, 1.4 million have been orphaned by Aids-related diseases. […] Child deprivation especially in urban informal settlements/slums, continues to plague the country. Statistics indicate that such children have 3 times the national diarrhoea rate, 1 in 2 are chronically malnourished and mortality rate is twice the national rate. Also, the number of slum children attending higher grades/secondary school is very low, mainly due to scarcity of secondary schools in the informal settlements. […] Care for minors outside the family/orphans

According to available statistics, Kenya has an estimated 8.6 million vulnerable children (that is, orphans and other children who are likely to suffer from inadequate material, social and emotional needs) out of a total of 18 million children/minors/under 15 years old. 3.6 million rural children are classified as vulnerable; 646,887 are double orphans; 2.6. million single orphans (1 million due to HIV/AIDS-related deaths). KENYA

CHILE Poverty and school disadvantage

«The percentage of young boys and girls aged between 6 and 13 who attend basic education and are left behind (students with two or more years of delay as compared to their curricular advance) corresponds, in 2017, to 3.9%, an amount that has not changed since 2015. If we consider the population of young girls and boys left behind, they correspond to 59.8% of the “Poor” population, as opposed to 40.2% amount among the “Non-poor” population.» (CHILE)
CHILE Illiteracy of adults, inequalities, gender gap

“One of the first revisions that is reflected in the analysis of social-economic assessment linked to education is the one of illiteracy (Table 43). Chile is a country with a lack of deficit that has been practically overcome. 3.6% of the population aged 15 and above does not know how to read nor write. This percentage is almost identical among men and women since it corresponds to 3.5% and 3.7%, respectively; therefore, no gender gap can be perceived. It is an indicator that has remained practically unaltered from 2000 until today. The distribution of illiterates in the urban and rural areas allows the observation of a higher percentage of illiterate population among the rural population, reaching 8.3% of this population as compared to 2.9% among the urban population. The illiteracy rate is doubled if we consider a population in a condition of poverty as opposed to those who are not poor (the percentage is 5.96% and 3.4% respectively among poor and non-poor people), while the schooling average is slightly higher (with two more years of studies) among the non-poor population. If we consider the percentage of people who did not take into consideration secondary education, among the population in conditions of poverty, it corresponds to 53% of the population, while the percentage observed among the non-poor population is 36%». (CHILE)

2. Condition of young people, precariousness, work

- The demographic structures are strongly heterogeneous at a global level, by geographic areas, among the countries considered in the research. This reality also generates a strong generational divide, frequently emphasised, instead of contrasted, by the public policies.
- In many of them it emerges the intense vulnerability of the youngest generations, which is shown on two main problems, and with a consequence: the problems are the difficulty of access to the labour market (in many cases to a stable and fair labour market) which is linked to the increasing difficulty/loss of affection concerning the creation of one’s own family.
- In some national fields, this situation is defined as NEET (Not in Education, Employment, Training.)

VULNERABILITY
Work stability is less common, the discontinuity of work penalises everyone (and young people, concerning the projects of family life).
The access to the world of work is a critical passage.
A precarious and poorly paid job generates economic poverty, but also difficulties in the projects and the postponement of autonomy.

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):
Economic development, more effective and better-regulated labour market, support to micro-entrepreneurship (young people, women, and the like.)
Both the public policies and the economic system are crucial.
In this field, the families are the social shock absorber (we may add inadequate and partial shock absorber).
2. Condition of young people, precariousness, work

SOUTH AFRICA. Young NEET: a present phenomenon
NEETs = In 2017 there were 9.6 million young people aged 15 – 24 in South Africa. Of these, 34% (3.3 million) were neither working nor attending an education institution such as a school, university or college. SOUTH AFRICA.

ITALY. Young adults still living with their family of origin

«In 2015, the young single persons who live with at least one parent are around 5 million 500 thousand, 56.7% of the total amount of young persons belonging to that age bracket (+3 percentage points as compared to 2009): they are mainly men, a little less than 3 million and 100 thousand (62.9%); women, on the other hand, are a little more than 2 million and 400 thousand (50.3%). Throughout time, however, the most consistent increase was registered specifically among women. From the analysis of the professional conditions, it emerges that almost half of young people who still live inside their family of origin have a job (47.0%), while 14.8% are looking for a job. About the young employed persons who live with at least one parent, it must be noted that 37.4% have an unstable job. Such a category of young workers is strongly increasing as compared to 2009 (25.7%). Among those who still live with at least one parent, almost one out of three is a student (30.9%), a percentage that has increased by 7.3% as compared to 2009, especially among men (from 18.0 to 27.1%). The stay of children in their family of origin is not only a consequence of the increased duration of the training cycle. It is frequently is the result of the difficulties that young people find in their economic autonomy and independence path, such as when it comes to finding a stable and adequately paid job, that allows to live in conditions that are considered as acceptable, and the possibility to find a housing arrangement». ITALY.

ITALY. NEET: a phenomenon of great impact

«Another worrying phenomenon that has taken place during the most recent years, marked by the economic crisis, is the significant presence of young persons who do not study nor work: an increasingly and worryingly growing phenomenon, to such an extent that they are starting to be defined as a “lost generation” (Neet). By Neet, we refer to the young or young adult population (15-29) who is no longer receiving an education nor being trained. In Italy, the percentage of Neets among the total number of young persons aged from 15 to 29, in 2017, is 24.4%, the synthesis of significant territorial differences: 16.7% in northern Italy, 19.7% in central Italy and 34.4% in southern Italy: Almost half of the Neets obtained the high-school diploma, and 15% of them are parents: especially mothers». (ITALIA)

CHILE NEET: a phenomenon of great impact

«According to OECD, in Chile, young persons who do not study nor work reach 21% of the population aged from 15 to 29. If we consider the young population who does not work nor study (the so-called NEETS), 69.1% of them are women, and 30% are men, and they are distributed among the different age ranges: 22.8% aged from 15 to 19; 40.4% aged from 20 to 24 and 36.8% aged from 25 to 29 (CASEN, 2017). In Chile, the young persons with a low level of education have a probability of 3.8 times higher of being NEETs as compared to those who have a high educative level. Women from Chile have a probability
of becoming NEETs that is two times higher than the one of Chilean men (OCDE, 2016). (CHILE)

3. Couple fragility (separation, education by single parents, protection of children in separations)
   - The well-being of each person depends firstly on the quality of his/her interpersonal relations (relational anthropological paradigm.)
   - The couple relationship is the field where this value becomes a shared and synergic project (alliance.)
   - For this reason, the couple breakups generates an objective vulnerability, firstly a social-relational one, for the spouses and the eventual children.
   - Furthermore, it also causes, in the majority of cases, a real economic impoverishment.

VULNERABILITY
Therefore, single parenthood becomes a place of possible educative fragilities (in addition to being a place of individual vulnerability).
Furthermore, in many cases, the condition of a single parent not only depends on the separation of a pre-existing couple but also on "never born couples" (teenage mothers and (or) mothers abandoned by the father or even cases of unknown father).
The case of premature widowhood is less frequent (but it frequently is even more dramatic).

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):

Priority: prevention of couple's breakup, mediation during separation, support in the educative-management tasks in parenthood, support groups for the children of separated couples.
The families that resist in the conflict.
The support groups (gruppi di parola)- Italy, but not exclusively (maybe in South Africa as well?)
General support for single-parent households (also when there is no prior break up of a pre-existing couple)
Public policies aimed at protecting single-parent households and at managing in non-conflictive ways the separations/breakups of couples (not exclusively the protection of minors).
3. Fragility of the couple (separations, education as a single parent protection of children in separations)

KENYA. Single parent households: more fragile, especially women
Single parenthood is another factor that affects children's development in Kenya. Many children in Kenya (and Sub-Saharan Africa) live with single parents but not enough research has been done to show how that affects psychologically, socially and educationally. A research carried out in the slums of Nairobi indicated, for example, showed that children who lived with two parents performed better in school than those living in single-parent households by as much as 16% (Abuya, Mutisya, Onsomu, Ngware and Oketch, 2017). According to the study, children living with both parents were 70% more likely to be in the right class according to age, those living with one parent scored at 56%, those living with guardians scoring at 23%. The presence of both parents is viewed as providing children with emotional support, motivation, role modelling and a value base, the study implied inadequacy of these advantages for single- or step-parented children. Children living in the latter types of set-ups receive less parental interaction, supervision and role-modelling. In addition, resources are relatively less in single households compared to the 2 parent ones. KENYA

LEBANON: Break ups of couples (separations/divorces)
The breakdown of families due to a social acceptance of divorce in both Muslim and Christian confessions. In reality, a recent statistic of 2018 of the Directorate of personal status in the Ministry of Interior shows that divorce rates have doubled in 10 years (knowing that separation – as mostly expanded within the Christian communities is not included in the counting of divorce), due to multiple reasons – from declining economic conditions to the shift in the conception of marital relationships with a refuse of the patriarchal perception of marriage). Adding to that social and economic opinion, a legal conception confirming that the legal rules of marriage are no longer valid within the Lebanese youth. LEBANON

BRAZIL. Children care, especially by mothers
«The perspective of women whose children were included in a childhood education institution was studied by Moreira (1999) by studying 90 mothers who brought their children to two crèches of Nuevos Alagados and what they meant by children education. As a result, the author verified that mothers were rated as more responsible for their children, and they were overloaded. Their dissatisfaction with the men or partners had to do with: scarce collaboration in child care, lack or insufficiency of financial aid and absence». (BRAZIL)

SOUTH AFRICA. Progressive erosion of family relations
The family has been and still is negatively impacted by the systematic breakup of bonds over many generations. Family units face continued erosion as a result of (i) non-marital child bearing, (ii) absent fathers, (iii) unwanted births, and (iv) vulnerable multigenerational households. SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA. Single parent households: more fragile, especially women
The majority of single parent households in South Africa are headed by women. This pattern has implications for family poverty given that female-headed households (FHHs) have been shown to be generally disadvantaged in terms of access to important socio-economic resources such as land, credit, education, health care and extension services). In essence, “the inequalities that afflict women in society are magnified among female-headed households, where dependency and vulnerability combined with sexist societal attitudes ensure that these households are typically poorer than their male counterparts” (Ellis & Adams, 2009:14). SOUTH AFRICA

ITALY. Family mediation and support groups (gruppi di parola) for separated families and children
«In these last decades, to face marital conflict, the Services of Family Mediation have spread. They intend to offer to ex-spouses with children a path aimed at reconstructing the possibility of a dialogue and of collaboration in the role of parent, which does not end with separation.

Next to the tool of family mediation, for some time, the researchers of the Family Studies and Research University Centre of the Catholic University of Milan have been trying, by reflecting on the need of the children of separated couples to go beyond the trauma of separation, to start the experience of Support groups (Gruppi di Parola). Such Groups constitute a place where children and adolescents can put into words - in front of two mediators- the doubts, worries, and fears linked to the critical event of separation, for which they frequently feel responsible». ITALY.

4. Natality-care of earliest infancy

- The event of birth is an objective turning point in the life of people (especially mothers and fathers, but also for the extended families, both for the micro and the macro community.)
- It also is a decisive part of the projects of life of persons, and it becomes more frequently a "choice event" instead of an inevitable passage/duty.
- Policies have a decisive role in qualifying/protecting/promoting the event of birth (health services, conditions of security, support, progressive tax policies). Their strength or weakness has a significant effect on the choices of the persons.
- At a demographic-overall level, the national differences are relevant: some countries have a meagre demographic growth rate (Italy), some other present extremely intense dynamics, even inside an overall reduction (more or less pronounced and gradual) of natality.
- Both at a micro (individuals and families) and a macro (peoples, nations, continents) level, the topic of birth is an inter-generational and "project-like" event (it concerns the future, more or less consciously.)

VULNERABILITY
Diffusion of abortion
Inadequate health conditions
Isolation of the woman
Lack of tax policies to support the cost of children

RESOURCE (if there are any sources):
- Sharing in the couple
- Intergenerational family networks (grandparents...)
- Support policies
- Voluntary sector- associations - support voluntary work
4. Natality-care of earliest infancy

KENYA. Social-economic and territorial differences
While some progress has been recorded, major disparities in socio-economic and geographic dimensions persist. Most of the child deaths occur in the Nyanza, Rift Valley and Western regions where neonatal mortality stands at 28 in 1,000 live births. The causes on such deaths include pneumonia, diarrhoea, HIV-related infections and malaria. A number of new vaccines, including one against malaria, have been introduced and these offer prospects of hope of reducing child mortality. KENYA

SOUTH AFRICA. Adolescent pregnancy/motherhood
"The level of teenage pregnancy is a major concern in South Africa given that the majority of these pregnancies are unplanned, unwanted and non-marital. Teenage pregnancy also has major social and health implications for the young mothers e.g. interrupted education, increased vulnerability to exploitative relationships, and greater risks of illegal abortion According to the National Adoption Coalition of South Africa (Nacsna) a review of reported abandonment indicates 65% of abandoned children are new born and 90% are younger than a year. Disturbingly, some 70% of abandonment locations are cited as unsafe, with common places including sewers, gutters, drains and toilets. Ultimately, illegal termination of pregnancy, the abandonment of babies, and child neglect are often seen by the teenage mothers as inevitable ». (Sud Africa) [...] Young girls fall pregnant for the grant (R425) but this starts them on a cycle of poverty SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA. Demographic decline and ethnic differences
Total fertility rate declined from an average 6 to 7 children per woman in the 1950s to 2.9 children per woman in the late 1990s and to 2.4 children per woman in 2008 South Africa has amongst the most advanced fertility declines in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Although the level of fertility has declined among all the four main population groups, differences in fertility that was historically observed by population group still exist, with Africans having the highest fertility rate, followed by Coloureds, Indians and Whites in that order. SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA. Non-marital births (internal differences)
"South Africa has non-marital child birth of more than 58% which rates among the highest in the world. This situation is more evident in black African and coloured communities, where migrant labour has played a significant role in separating parents. Nearly 60% of children grow-up not knowing or having a relationship with the father. In a study, “Examining non-marital fertility in South Africa3” using 1996, 2001 and 2011 census data, non-marital fertility increased from 48,7% and 47,6% in 1996 and 2001 to 56,3% in 2011. Interestingly there is only 5% difference between urban (55%) and rural areas (59%) non-marital childbearing. These figures are reflective of the breakdown of trust and bonds between men and women on the issue of the desire to jointly form relationships that lead to childbearing and joint responsibility for rearing children.

While non-marital childbearing among black African and coloured women respectively stands at 59% and 54%; with white and Indian women, this accounts for only 14%. This data shows a similar pattern linked to single-parent (mother) households. The highest percentage of non-marital fertility is noticeable among women who had no schooling (73%) and the level decreases with increasing education to reach 49% among women with tertiary education». (SOUTH AFRICA)
5. Elderly and intergenerationality

- The increase in lifespan generates an increasing number of elderlies, and it increases the period of a life lived as elderly (giving more life to the years, apart from giving more years to life.)
- The fragility and the social-health needs grow
- Loneliness among elderly increases as well (they frequently spend many years alone).
- Intergenerational solidarity (adult children towards old parents) is still decisive, but it is progressively less present (less children who were born later).
- Furthermore, being an elderly does not only correspond to being fragile; they frequently are irreplaceable resources for the other generations (resources of care, economic support).
- In this specific field, the public policies are decisive (effectiveness of social protection systems, accessibility of social-health services, home care.)
- In some contexts, elderlies are an educative resource for minors, with a "generation leap" (skip generation families).

VULNERABILITY

Health
Social and relational isolation
Weak public support

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):
Intergenerational family networks (caregiver sons/daughters - circularity of the gift, babysitter grandparents/lenders)
public services/welfare for the elderly
active ageing
Social Keepers Project (Progetto Custodia Sociale) – Italia

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5. Elderly and intergenerationality

KENYA. Targeted policies are needed for an increasing number of elderly

Kenya’s Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2000 on National Population Policy for Sustainable Development observes that older persons, whose population is rapidly growing, present a potential problem regarding their care; this is in light of the break-down of family support structures and the lack of social security measures. The Sessional Paper recommends formulation of long-term policies and programmes towards preparing people for old age – by ensuring that there would be provision of social security measures and other forms of socio-economic support to Kenyans in their old age. Therefore, a break-down of family structures has left older persons in a condition of marginality in Kenya.

SOUTH AFRICA. Presence of “grandparents-grandchildren” families (skip generation families)

While the majority (93%) of these children had both their biological parents alive, only 36% lived with both parents. A total of 38% of fathers lived with their young biological children compared to a total of 79% of mothers. The findings also show that of the 19% of children who lived with neither parent, 85% lived in households headed by their grandparents. SOUTH AFRICA

SPAIN. The pensions of the elderly support the families of their youngest children

Like in all the crises we have lived, the impact of coronavirus depends on the families’ strength. We experimented with it during the great economic crisis that hit the West in 2008, and that lasted practically until the beginning of the pandemic. At that time, society had resisted the economic crises thanks to the solidarity of the families and, most notably, of the elderly. More than half a million households depended on the pensions that the elderly and disabled people decided to share with their siblings, children, and grandchildren. We will see this again in the recession of 2020. (SPAIN)

ITALY. Risk of burnout for the family caregivers of fragile elderly

“It is high the risk that facing the load of care of the elderly, more or less serious difficulties might emerge that lead to the burnout of the caregiver, with the consequent need to find new solutions, supports and admissions to retirement homes lived with a sense of defeat and guilt by the relatives. Families are put to the test by the need to take care of a subject who is in a condition of dependence, either because he/she is very old, or because he/she is disabled or sick”. (ITALY)

KENYA. Increasing abandonment and need to care for the elderly

“Older persons: This group of people is said to be increasingly left to fend for themselves in rural, and sometimes in very remote, areas often without traditional family support and financial resources. Kenya’s Sessional Paper No.1 of 2000 on National Population Policy for Sustainable Development observes that older persons, whose population is rapidly growing, present a potential problem regarding their care; this is in light of the break-down of family support structures and the lack of social security measures”. (KENYA)

CHILE. The elderly population increases

“Ageing in Chile does not differ much from the rest of the world. The quantitative projections of the population, carried out by national bodies such as the National Institute of Statistics (Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas), show that people over the age of 65 went from 6.6% in 1992 to 11.4% in 2017 (INE, 2017). Functional dependence increases proportionally to the age of the elderly, both concerning its prevalence and to its seriousness. In Chile, 14.4% of older adults are functionally dependent, 6.2% are
moderately dependent, while 3.8% are severely dependent (CASEN, 2015). This functional dependence increases at a lower social-economic level. A member of the household supports 42.2% of older adults with functional dependence. 4.3% do not have any type of care. (CHILE)

**BRASIL. Scarce external and professional supports for the care of the elderly**

"In a particular manner, supportive care for older persons who do not have autonomy requires the family to seek resources outside the family context, since it does not always have the means to provide the adequate and needed care. For the care addressed to the elderly population, Brazil has not been treating as a priority the training of professionals such as geriatricians, social workers, psychologists, and others who work to strengthen intergenerational relations in the face of active and healthy ageing." (BRASIL)

**ITALY. 8 million family caregivers (for free!) and a million in-home caregivers**

«The Italian family, even with many difficulties, protects its elderly. In fact, from the 80s on, the number of precociously institutionalised elderly has significantly decreased. The families look for at-home support and help (the number of in-home caregivers increased) before deciding, as extrema ratio, to place them in a retirement home (RSA -residenze sanitarie assistenziali). From the researches made (Bramanti Boccacin, 2014), it emerges, in general, that the families continue, even with many difficulties, to carry out a function of "care" of their subjects, especially of the weak members, and the ones who take on this role of caregivers are mostly women. Furthermore, it is underlined how the compulsory dimension of the bond between old parents and adult children, apart from being mediated by the different sub-cultures of reference of the families, is negotiated inside the family itself. The first report on the innovation and change in the sector Long Term Care (edited by CERGAS SDA Bocconi), has photographed the existence of a silent army of 8 million family caregivers who self-organise themselves to face the needs of their loved ones who are no longer autonomous, side by side with almost 1,000,000 in-home caregivers with or without a contract.". ITALY.

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6. isolation, abandonment, loneliness (one-person households)

- The number of people living alone is growing, and in many contexts, the proportion of older people living alone is growing (also due to separations, single, separated parents.)
- Isolation is often linked to specific personal weaknesses (psychological distress, homeless persons, elderly alone), combined with social isolation.
- This condition is ambivalent: in some cases, it is a "choice of freedom/rejection of ties" (e.g., LAT families, Living Apart Together). In many cases, it is "loss/absence of ties."
- Often the dynamics of isolation/abandonment concern minors (out of family children).

**VULNERABILITY**
Lack of relational, social and economic support networks
Greater difficulty of access to public services
Greater psychological vulnerability (see the following point, however, when ties become prisons, even in the family)

**RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):**
social keepers, proximity intervention services, close/neighbourhood networks
local public services
6. isolation, abandonment, loneliness (one-person households)

KENYA. Protection of orphaned and out-of-family children, between institutional and other forms of family reception

“The alternative care [of orphans] can be provided by: a relative, a foster parent, temporary shelter, kafaalalah, a guardian, adoption, supported child-headed household, supported independent living, institution, after-care. The guidelines detail the most appropriate form of care, roles and responsibilities depending on circumstances. According to the 2009 census, more than 1 million families were caring or orphans. The Department of Children’s Services, the individuals and institutions providing alternate care for children should endeavour to replicate family life as much as possible. The findings of many studies underscore the need for policies which support families as a means of supporting vulnerable children as opposed to institutional care. Despite the fact that the numbers of orphans in Kenya are high, as many as 95% of them remain in some kind of family setting. In the rural areas, this family fostering is disproportionately provided by older, single, female family members often living in poverty. There is little research however, on the nature of extended family care for orphans or vulnerable children in urban settlements».(KENYA)

BRAZIL People who are alone, due to separations and reduced orientation to have children

“In the last two decades, Brazil has witnessed a progressive increase in the rates of people living alone (one-person arrangements, 14.6%), of households made up of childless couples (20%) and of divorces (8.3% increase between 2016 and 2017). On the other hand, there is a contrary trend in marriage rates (2.3% reduction between 2016 and 2017) and birth rates (18.6% decrease in ten years), which confirms the relative decline of the personal and social ideal of constituting a family and having children (IBGE, 2016)».

(BRAZIL)

SPAIN. Marginality and severe social exclusion, even for many families

Today, the number of people in social exclusion in Spain is 8.5 million, 18.4% of the population, which is 1.2 million more than in 2007 (before the crisis). They are the face of a stagnant society, a large group of people for whom “the elevator of social mobility does not work, and they are not even capable of getting to the first floor.”
Within this social sector, there is a particularly vulnerable group that accumulates so many daily problems that prevent a minimally structured life project: there are 4.1 million people in a situation of severe social exclusion. The different forms of inequality and precariousness are based on citizens: insecure and inadequate housing, persistent unemployment, extreme job insecurity, and invisibility for political parties.
Within this group in severe social exclusion, there is a group of expelled people, amounting to 1.8 million people (600,000 in 2007), who accumulate such an amount of serious difficulties that they would require an urgent, deep and intense intervention in resources to guarantee their access to a minimally decent life. Families with children and young people are more exposed to social exclusion.
- 33% of large families and 28% of single-parent families are in social exclusion.
- 21% of all households with children are in social exclusion. (SPAIN)

KENYA. Abandonment and negligence, factors of serious vulnerability for millions of children

“According to available statistics, Kenya has an estimated 8.6 million vulnerable children (that is, orphans and other children who are likely to suffer from inadequate material, social and emotional needs) out of a total of 18 million children/minors/under 15 years old. 3.6 million rural children are classified as vulnerable;
646,887 are double orphans; 2.6 million single orphans (1 million due to HIV/AIDS-related deaths). Such children are cared for either by relatives or in institutions. Orphaned children living in large families are likely to be more adversely affected than those in smaller ones. The other variable that seems to affect the well-being of such vulnerable children is the head of a child’s household: single-parent, female-headed, or grandparent-headed households are associated with poor nutrition, lower school enrolment and attendance, and lower incidence of at-grade-for-age status. In addition, it has been reported that a positive maternal HIV status is associated with decreased uptake of such services as school and immunizations among children». (KENYA)

SPAIN. Globalisation and post-modernity: society without (and/or against) bonds

Overall, it can be said that, despite advances in tools for creating a more global civil society and more versatile organisations, this stage of re-modernisation has produced the Great Disembedding and this has led to a crisis of belonging—to society, to nations, to economic organisations, to professions, to churches, to neighbourhoods, to families, and the like. Even networks have been used to strengthen more homogeneous and narcissistic groups.

Along with this, there has been a struggle to restore and strengthen social ties. The creation of urban gardens in cities all over the planet is an example of Reembedding. So are the expansion of the social economy and the collaborative economy, many of the attitudes of the new generation called Millennial—seeking fuller and more satisfying social relationships—the emergence of the City of Care perspective, or the efforts in many places around the world to help families heal and strengthen their relationships.

However, the potential for a more connected and reticulated world is still waiting to be fully developed. Networks contain extraordinary capabilities to improve our world. It all depends on how we resolve, with concrete policies and cultural movements, the crossroads between the Great Disembedding and the necessary Great Reembedding. (SPAIN)
7. **poisoned family relationships (irremediable conflicts, violence, abandonment)**

- Violence in family relationships is a hidden phenomenon, difficult to quantify: the only irremediable mistake is to deny it.
- Violence has many faces, all serious for the dignity and integrity of the victim: physical, psychological, severe neglect.
- Some members are particularly exposed (women, minors), but often the whole relational structure is "violent."
- For violence, there is also an interchange (in this case perverse) between the internal family culture (which may be the place that generates violence) and the widespread social culture/subculture (where illegality and violence mark public social relations, family relations will also inevitably remain poisoned).
- A specific point (on which intervention is possible) is the "conflict out of control," that is when an internal conflict within the family (couple, parents-children, other parental relationships) is considered not to be manageable: it is not possible to escape conflict, but it has to be handled.

**VULNERABILITY**

Secrecy and isolation are decisive (and aggravating) factors
External perception is complex (and few are competent)
The intervention is inevitably urgent (and therefore liable to "excesses")

**RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):**

Services/widespread public awareness
immediate response systems
shelter for victims
Promotion of the culture of conciliation, forgiveness, the possibility of non-destructive conflict
7. poisoned family relationships (irremediable conflicts, violence, abandonment)

KENYA. Sometimes family relationships are no longer protective, but poisoned and violent.
Presently, the workings of kinship and family relations continue to be crucial to the ways poverty and wealth are defined and experienced. Yet in material terms, kin networks can be both a buffer against poverty, and a cause of it through the creation of forms of inequality around gender, generation or other positions (World Bank Status Report, 1999). According to the Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Kenya (2017) there is a weakening of family structures and kinship care mechanism is under threat and many children are at risk of maltreatment. The predominant formal alternative care arrangements are placements in children’s charitable institutions or other institutional care. KENYA

ITALY. Ill-treatment of minors: present and not very visible

"Family care can tragically take on the features of the impossibility and the denial of the relationship itself. This is what happens, obviously to varying degrees, in situations of ill-treatment and violence against children. In our country, there are almost 6 million children and adults who are or have been victims of abuse during childhood. A partial projection, because the phenomenon is still submerged and not adequately studied on a national basis. The ill-treatment of children is the ultimate consequence of a situation of unease that involves parental figures and the family, environmental and social context in which children grow up. Boys and girls are abused, especially in the environment that should guarantee their safety and protection most of all". (ITALY)

SPAIN. Sometimes family relationships are no longer protective, but poisoned and violent.
Although the family is a positive motivation for the development of individuals, cities, and society as a whole, we also know well that when problems are infused with violence that overcomes people’s resistance and their bonds, creating negative relationships or depression, those problems become then more potent than those transmitted with any other institution. Family relationships become then a trap that negatively socialises new generations by deeply prolonging the problems, and resolving them will require a very long and deep process. (SPAIN)
A. The condition of women (cross-cutting topic)

- In families and society, a decisive difference (often characterised as disadvantage/overburden) of women remains, who continues to be the essential pivot of the relational system, a primary resource of care, a weak subject in family choices.
- On the other hand, the resilience and planning of fragile families is based on female figures.
- In isolation conditions (when the male / female alliance is lacking), the woman seems to have more considerable skills/resilience (cf. lonely elderly, single parents).

In terms of primary prevention, the culture of work and economic systems is still unbalanced and disadvantageous.

VULNERABILITY
Overload of tasks/functions on women
Wage disadvantages (social and economic "glass ceilings")
"Sexist" stereotypes (care only for women, work only for men)
Fragile/unaccountable male roles

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):
recognition of the value of the difference (which is not a disadvantage)
enhancing women's skills, multitasking, care
Couple alliance
New male responsibility
General policies to protect against disadvantages/ to promote equal opportunities
A. The condition of women (cross-cutting topic)

KENYA. Women remain penalised in school and in the workplace
Women are much less likely than men to have completed secondary school education and to be employed in the formal sector. [...] gender disparities in employment opportunities and economic investment patterns in Kenya have continued to widen across all sectors of the economy and at various levels of development intervention. KENYA

According to the United Nations Development Plan-Human Development Indices and Indicators, (UNDP-HDII, 2018), lack of gender parity in education in Kenya remains an issue of concern, especially bearing in mind the central role women play in children’s welfare. The observation is that in many cases, parity exists at the primary school enrolment. However, towards the end of the cycle, a difference becomes discernible in favour of boys. The trend continues and by the end of the secondary school and college cycle, the ratio has fallen to 52.2% for boys and 35.6% for girls. This drastic drop in girls’ numbers is due to a number of factors that include early pregnancy; child marriage; poverty and scarce resources which are awarded preferentially to boys; need to withdraw girls for domestic chores, caring for siblings, sick or elderly parents. KENYA

KENYA. The woman, the cornerstone of the family (in care, in relationships, in resilience)
«Women as sources of family strength: Studies have shown that women across the globe sustain human life well beyond bearing children (Rombo-Odero, 2004). They meet not only the physical and material but also the social and psychological needs of children. They are able to engage in relationships more holistically than men, thus being able to nurture children/individuals for survival even in very harsh circumstances. The sight of women struggling to eke out a means of living for their children in some of the harsh rural parts of the country while the men live in the towns earning a salary that cannot sustain a family, is very common. Such women have been socialized to shoulder the family burden no matter what». (KENYA)

BRAZIL. The great value (also economic) of unpaid domestic work
«In Brazil, 11% of the GDP is estimated to be due to domestic and care work performed, in the vast majority, by women and girls (IBGE, 2019). Although it is essential, the performance of this type of work has consequences for women, since it makes it difficult for them to take up places in formal paid work, as well as to achieve favourable conditions for retirement. In 2017, 31.5% of the total 168.7 million people of working age took care of household residents or non-resident relatives, which corresponds to 49.1 million people. In this form of work, according to PNAD Contínua (2018), there is a large discrepancy between men and women: while 37% of women took care of household residents or non-resident relatives in 2017, the proportion among men was 25.6%». (BRAZIL)

CHILE. The overburdening of women in different areas of life
«The figures presented show that gender is essential when defining care tasks, despite the progressive increase in the incorporation of women into the work sphere, resulting in “a greater overall workload for employed women” (INE, 2018, pág. 17)». (CHILE)

BRAZIL. Women/mothers: strategic resource for education and care
«In the same region [Novos Alagados], Moreira, Alcântara and Petrini (2011) developed research that focused on how women with young children described and evaluated their lives in terms of family, study and work and what their perspectives were for the future. The mothers of the women who participated were fundamental and determining people in the lives of all of them in their maturity, constituting their basic training. They were the main reference for their lives and, in cases where this presence was fragile or absent, and there was no one to replace it (grandmothers, godmothers, aunts), the consequences of misery and abandonment were aggravated. With their mothers, they learned various skills, such as how to tidy up the house, cook and wash clothes (useful for work in family homes where they worked), and with them, they also learned to respect people and listen to advise. In contrast, the fathers of these women were more absent, and in some cases, unknown. They barely appeared in the participants’ statements». (BRAZIL)
B. Care as a constitutive quality of family relationships (cross-cutting topic)

- Family relations are first of all relations of reciprocity and solidarity: the willingness to care for the other is a constitutive factor of the identity of the family (a family without care is a "distorted" family). Care in social relationships is also "learned" first and foremost in the family.
- Care in family relationships is generally a circular process (where the caregiver is/can be a care resource—perhaps in different ways.)
- Care (care time) may clash with other functions (due to the time to be devoted to other functions): work time, social time (roles), personal and family development tasks.
- Family care can become an overload, especially in the absence of social welfare support (public, among others.)

VULNERABILITY

Overload of care tasks within extended family networks (intergenerational)
Withdrawal of public intervention/welfare systems
Increasing commercialisation/marketing of aid relationships
Decrease in informal solidarity networks

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):

Each family member can/knows how to be a resource of care, in a circularity that generates social capital.
Close relational networks (informal, neighbourhood, village community) are often a strategic resource of care.
So, conversely, an isolated family is even more vulnerable.
Boosting social/public responsibilities (welfare, preferably plural, non-state-centric)
B. Care as a constitutive quality of family relationships (cross-cutting topic)

ITALY. Close solidarity networks, beyond and in addition to family/kinship relationships
«The ISTAT 2018 Report confirms some emerging trends: almost half of people aged 18 and over (45.8%) claim to be able to rely at least on other relatives; for almost all of them (39.6%) the network is enriched by the presence of friends and neighbours. In urban areas, individuals are more likely to move away from the close network and extend their relationships with their network of friends, thus reshaping the size and form of their network throughout their lives. On the other hand, in rural areas and small urban contexts, the most traditional type of bond remains strong, which takes the form of close relationships with close relatives». (ITALY)

CHILE. Circular relations of solidarity between generations in the family
«Intergenerational relationships have always been a relevant aspect within the family dynamics, especially nowadays, due to the increase in life expectancy, the decrease in the birth rate, and the diversification in the family structure. All these factors lead to more and more generations living together, and therefore the support role that is produced between the different members is fundamental. In this way, the importance of intergenerational exchange is based on the transfer of knowledge, experiences, and stories on the family and environment through different types of acts of commitment. These issues undoubtedly strengthen the sense of belonging and contribute to the formation of the identity of individuals. Furthermore, as it has been observed, "the family is still the place par excellence of protection and shelter, a privileged place for affection, support and cooperation among its members."» (Fernandez, 2012, pág. 16) (CHILE)
C. income/economic poverty (*cross-cutting topic*)

- Economic and structural poverty is taken into account here if and to the extent that it interacts with the relational dimension of poverty, that is, within the multidimensional model (a more specific one will be carried out in the following path, from 2020 to 2021).
- In the multidimensionality of poverty
  - pure economic poverty sometimes generates the impoverishment of relations, planning, and operational capacity.
  - Sometimes a robust relational vulnerability (in the different circumstances described above) also leads to the depletion of economic resources (economic poverty)
- Here, inequality and the (unfair) distribution of economic resources within the single country system and between nations/geographical areas are decisive.

VULNERABILITY
Inability to respond to essential needs of dignity (food, education, housing)
Vulnerability at the expenses of other resources (relationships, care, values)

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):

Relaunch of the work/"just" economy (which generates widespread wealth and work)
solidarity in the family and informal networks (close relationships)
supporting and empowering social policies
C. income/economic poverty (cross-cutting topic)

KENYA. Inequalities in wealth distribution
At the national level, the 10 per cent of the richest households in Kenya control about 36 per cent of national wealth, while the poorest 10 per cent control less than 2 per cent. KENYA

KENYA. Unequal opportunities between territories, ethnic groups, social classes, cultural capital
Wide disparities also exist between urban and rural areas, with 85 per cent of all poor people living in rural areas while the majority of the urban poor live in slums and peri-urban settlements. The percentage of hardcore poverty in the rural areas declined from 34.8 per cent in 1997 to 21.9 per cent in 2005/6, while the percentage of urban hardcore poverty increased from 7.6 per cent in 1997 to 8.3 per cent in 2005/6. KENYA

LEBANON, Differences between cities and countryside in the presence of poverty
But in Lebanon, geographical isolation can be also recognized as a feature of urban areas. Though, relational poverty tends to be concentrated spatially in urban than in rural areas in Lebanon, as a result of lack of relationship and family and neighbour support. LEBANON

SOUTH AFRICA. The intergenerational transmission of poverty in individual social subgroups
Many black families have generations of poverty, now with high unemployment there is no money coming into the family. People who live far from places of work spend a lot of money on transport. There are no jobs, high unemployment means that young people cannot send money to their parents. SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA. Unequal opportunities between territories, ethnic groups, social classes, cultural capital
Black South Africans consistently exhibit the highest poverty rates. In 2015, 47 percent of the households headed by black South Africans were poor. This was very high compared to 23 percent for those in households headed by a person of mixed race (coloured), a little more than one percent for the population in households headed by an Indian/Asian South African, and less than one percent among those in households headed by white South Africans. SOUTH AFRICA

CHILE. Economic and food support for children
 «In Chile, there are municipal schools and subsidised private schools of elementary, secondary, and higher education, which are attached to the School Feeding Programme (Programa de Alimentación Escolar) (JUNAEB, 2019), where a school feeding system is in place. Students between the ages of 6 and 13 who are in the lowest deciles take advantage of this benefit. The population coverage of the first, second, and third deciles benefiting from this is 82.0%, 76.1%, and 70.0%, respectively. If we consider the age range between 14 and 17, these percentages correspond to 75.5%, 72%, and 65.9%, respectively. Higher education also offers this benefit and has a coverage of more than 70% for the first three quintiles (JUNAEB, 2019)». (CHILE)

ITALY. Child poverty and family structures
 «About the poverty of children, not only access to sufficient resources is essential today, but also adequate access over time that could preclude the process of accumulating human, relational and social capital of the child in the future. If children are forced to give up their school education to help their families living in precarious conditions with their work, it will affect their future work and the possibility of enjoying opportunities equal to those of other people with a standard school background. In general, children from the poorest families, where the level of education of parents is generally lower, who often live in inadequate housing, are at higher risk of school failure and persistent poverty. In Italy, in general, the economic poverty of children is prevalent in families in which both parents are unemployed or have a part-time job, and it is markedly reduced when at least one of the parents is employed on a full-time basis. If both parents are employed, child poverty is significantly reduced. The situation is exacerbated in the case of single-parent families even though it would seem that single mothers who can maintain a working condition can be effective in protecting their children by transferring more resources to their children while giving up their own (Echeverria, Menon, Perali; 2019). In general, the incidence of

poverty in Italy is relatively higher, even in large families. About 40% of families with three or more children are below the poverty line». (ITALY)

KENYA. Poverty: a millstone on children’s future opportunities

«Poverty remains a main barrier to the full realization of the children’s rights. It means that many of the households cannot afford basic necessities such as food, clothing, housing, health and education. They are thus unable to meet the recommended daily intake of 2,250 calories per adult. About 30% of the children under 5 years are moderately malnourished due to long periods of consuming unbalanced diets. Food security is partly compromised by unreliable climatic conditions. It is in these circumstances that the majority of Kenyan children live. As will become clear, often, several challenges prevail, creating a domino effect on the same families and the way they care for and raise their children». (KENYA)

CHILE. Inequalities affecting younger families and families with female heads of household

«A higher percentage of poor households with younger heads of household is observed, with a positive correlation between poverty status and age of the head of household. Greater poverty is observed in female-headed households, with a representation of 6.2% of poor male-headed household as opposed to 9.2% in the case of female-headed households (MDS, 2018)”. (CHILE)

SOUTH AFRICA. Children are more present in families in poverty

«Yet child poverty is growing trend in South Africa and is a direct result of fragmented family relationships. Since 1994 key issues arrange of circumstances have increased childhood vulnerability; these include the HIV and AIDS. An analysis of the Income and Expenditure Survey of 2005/06 by Statistics South Africa was able to paint a clearer picture of this phenomenon. According to the report, child poverty peaked at 65.5 percent and remains more extensive than poverty among adults (45.2 percent), thus confirming that there is a greater incidence of children in poorer households. Considering poverty across different age groups suggests poverty is highest among children below the age of 15. Children up to age 5 consistently register the highest poverty rates. The fastest decline in poverty was experienced by the elderly, aged 65 and above, whose poverty rate fell by around 19 percentage points between 2006 and 2015, possibly due to government social transfers that targeted the elderly». (SOUTH AFRICA)

BENIN. Widespread but not extreme youth poverty

«Even though more than half of the youth population is looking for work, poverty relationships are not so miserable and deadly in most families. There is a lack of means, but people are not yet dying of hunger. Parents are constantly concerned about the future of their children and young people. Families support families». (BENIN)

CHILE. Economic support and local government

«The municipalities manage this file [for the social protection of the family]. The municipalities are one of the most used networks. They are the ones that manage the application of the current system of social stratification and single-family allowance, through the Social Register of Households that allows the identification of vulnerable families: family members with disabilities, older adults, female heads of household, teenage parents, among others.» (CHILE)
D. New communication technologies and digitisation of relationships (cross-cutting topic)

- Digitisation seems pervasive in every national context. It generates risks and opportunities yet to be discovered (on the one hand, the pathological social isolation; on the other hand, the possible exponential strengthening of relational networks and job opportunities.)
- This reality is a specific aspect of the larger link between scientific progress (and its particular modalities) and human dignity/protection of the creation (a link in unstable equilibrium and constant dialectic.)
- The possibility/presence of generational and socio-economic digital divide is present here in a relevant (and worrying) way. There was no peculiar assessment of this issue in the reports but then emerged very strongly as a result of the global spread of the pandemic, with the consequent social isolation in families and the (almost vanishing) rarefaction of face-to-face interactions, which have radically changed –perhaps permanently– family and social relationships.
- The impact of ICT (and their duration) should be considered, for example, on distance learning, remote working/smart working, connection of social networks via smartphones, and digital technology.

VULNERABILITY
The hybridisation of face-to-face and digital relations does not necessarily lead to a strengthening of relations (but neither is it necessarily a threat). Access to digital technology is not yet "democratic" (some sections of the population are excluded, more or less entirely, for various reasons). There is an actual problem of freedom/control, whose potential and regulatory modes are radically influenced by digital technology.

RESOURCE (if there are any quotes):
Governing the hybridisation of relationships within direct "close" relationships (family, friends)
Widespread digital education
Systems of governance versus strong powers in digital technology (privacy, big data, transparency)
A few quotes from some Inside Families editorials
**SPAIN. Digital culture, relationships and networks**
Without a doubt, economic poverty impacts on relational poverty. The new dynamic that Modernity entered in the 1980s has substantially altered sociability and modes of social bonding. The digital culture has been creating new forms of relationships that follow the reticular logic. In principle, it is an advance because networks make possible relations more mobile and with more people at a greater distance. They increase the connectivity of society. The organisations that follow the network logic also have greater flexibility, increase synergy, and empower people who have all the information to generate value creation processes. The reticular pattern is an advance in the organisations and all the institutions. (SPAIN)

**SPAIN. Social and digital networks. Opportunity and risk factor**
The assessment of the impact of the use of the networks is contradictory. On the one hand, they have expanded our social world and made our lives and our organisations more global. They have made the business and social fabric more complex and global, and strengthened world civil society. On the other hand, there has been a biased implementation of the networks' potential. The part related to synergy, personalisation, and co-responsibility is ignored, and only flexibility, mobility, and scalability are implemented. That leads to a new pattern of social relationships that neither take sufficient responsibility for the other nor recognise the links that otherness implies. In this way, a much more malleable social fabric is created, with weak links in which some can quickly get rid of the responsibilities that an integrally human relationship implies. (SPAIN)