The Right to Time: unequal working hours and the failure of gender equality policies in Malta

Professor Frances Camilleri-Cassar
Faculty of Laws
University of Malta

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Overview

The study focuses on the ‘right to time’

Policy implications and recommendations for gender equality are addressed

Themes that emerge rest largely on mothers’ voices
A shorter working week in Europe?

France and the Aubry laws

Netherlands and the ‘combination’ model

Sweden and the dual-earner model

Danish working-time and the earnings differential
Malta and its work-time regime

The EU Working Time Directive

Women’s share of the labour supply

Work-family policies and their effectiveness

The impact rate of parenthood
A note on methodology

Why a qualitative method of approach?
Key question

How much do State policies in Malta assume that both mothers and fathers need time for care as well as for paid work?
Key Finding

An inescapable implication is that the State’s key source of failure in achieving gender equality is its resistance to address cultural and structural disadvantages in its work-time regime for mothers.
Key challenge for Malta

Perhaps, shorter working hours would begin to address time inequalities in Malta?
Final note

Study draws on:

Please, address your correspondence at:
frances.Camilleri-Cassar@um.edu.mt