Combining Motherhood and Employment? Where, When, and Why?

Rense Nieuwenhuis  Ariana Need  Henk van der Kolk

Two questions:
1. To what extent were mothers in OECD countries between 1975 and 1999 less likely to be employed than women without children?
2. To what extent did institutional developments in OECD countries between 1975 and 1999 affect the employment of mothers differently from the employment of women without children?

Key Findings:
- Mothers were almost always less likely to be employed than women without children.
- The motherhood-employment gap decreased in most countries, but not all.
- Reconciliation policies reduced the motherhood-employment gap.
- Family allowances increased the motherhood-employment gap.
- A large service sector increased the employment of all women, but did not affect the motherhood-employment gap.

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