**Review of the
volume
“*Reproductive
Behavior of Women
in Republic of
Moldova,
Sociological Study*”.
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Abstract: The reproductive behavior and its dynamics are a topic of particular relevance due to the major societal changes imposed by the modernization process currently taking place in the Republic of Moldova. Among these changes we can include an egoistic attitude towards parenthood and the correlation of parenthood with a certain level of living and a certain socio-professional status that leads to postponing the decision to become a parent in favor of completing studies and career development. The increase in the birth rate is correlated with an increase in the marriage age, but also with a fragility of the marital couple, coupled with a much higher divorce rate. Increasing the birth rate leads to a decrease in the fertile period of future mothers, and implicitly to the decrease in the average number of children per family couple (Van de Kaa, 2002), which is below the rate of natural replacement of generations (Metro Media Transilvania, 2005; Varlamova, Noskova & Sedova, 2006).

Keywords: *reproductive behavior; societal changes; Republic of Moldova; parenthood.*

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The transition to the postmodern family is not a sufficient explanation, according to the authors of the study, to be the only explanation for the demographic decrease registered in the Republic of Moldova, which is far above the European average, since the modernization of family life is a social phenomenon affecting the entire Western society. The authors of the study consider that "changes in family behaviors occur in the Republic of Moldova on the background of the contradictory processes that take place during the long transition period towards the market economy and the deep socioeconomic crisis, which led to a significant decrease in the quality of life of the majority of the population, increased polarization of society, poverty, unemployment, tomorrow's insecurity, mass migration across the country in search of a job, and many other negative phenomena." (Bulgaru & Bulgaru, 2015)

In the context of this extremely long and difficult transition for a large part of the population of the Republic of Moldova, a significant part of Moldova's citizens, especially young people, adopted a range of values different from traditional ones, especially in terms of lifestyle, values that are reflected in the changes recorded in marital cohabitation, which differ in some situations from the traditional or numerous nuclear family, especially through the development of cohabitation and the one-parent family, etc. Transformations in the marriage regime are reflected in the structure of parenthood, especially in children's decisions, their number, and the interval between births.

From a methodological point of view, the research uses the survey based on a questionnaire. The sample consisted of 2000 women, from the generations 1980, 1990 and 2000, who reached fertile age after the independence of the Republic of Moldova. The sample was multi-layered, weighted by odds by age and place of residence. A total of 6 questionnaires were invalid, leaving 1964 questionnaires to be analyzed. The margin of error for the research is 2.2%.

The results obtained were compared, where there were data, with those existing in official statistics and reports, especially those from the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, the proximity between the data obtained from the research and the official data being likely to strengthen confidence in the validity of the research tools and the chosen sampling method.

Among the most significant results obtained in this opinion poll, we mention:

- the age (the generation from which it originates) is an important factor in adopting a set of values after which individuals are guided in life, including in family planning behavior;
- family, children, followed by the career, studies, leisure time and entourage (friends) represent the dominant values of young women in the Republic of Moldova;
- the foundation and functioning of the family is a constantly transgenerational value, while the importance given to children (procreation) decreases from one generation to the next;
- maternity is considered absolutely necessary for the full realization of the woman;
- the average ideal number of children is decreasing from generation to generation, ranging from 2.90 children (for respondents of the 1960s generation) to 2.41 children (for respondents of the 2000 generation);
- the average number of wanted / planned children also decreases from one generation to another, being 2.47 for respondents of the 1960s, reaching 2.30 for the 2000 generation respondents;
- there is a pro-natalist attitude for women belonging to all generations studied;
- family planning is dependent on the background, the level of culture, the social position, the family of origin, the standard of living, the religious orientation, etc.

The findings of the study highlight the fact that "the decline in fertility is not necessarily the consequence of moving from the family-centered family model, to the postmodern family model with strong individualistic accents", the family and the child still remaining highly valorized among women of some generations, both older and younger. The value of maternity is not correlated with the level of education, income or the environmental background of the women in the Republic of Moldova.

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