

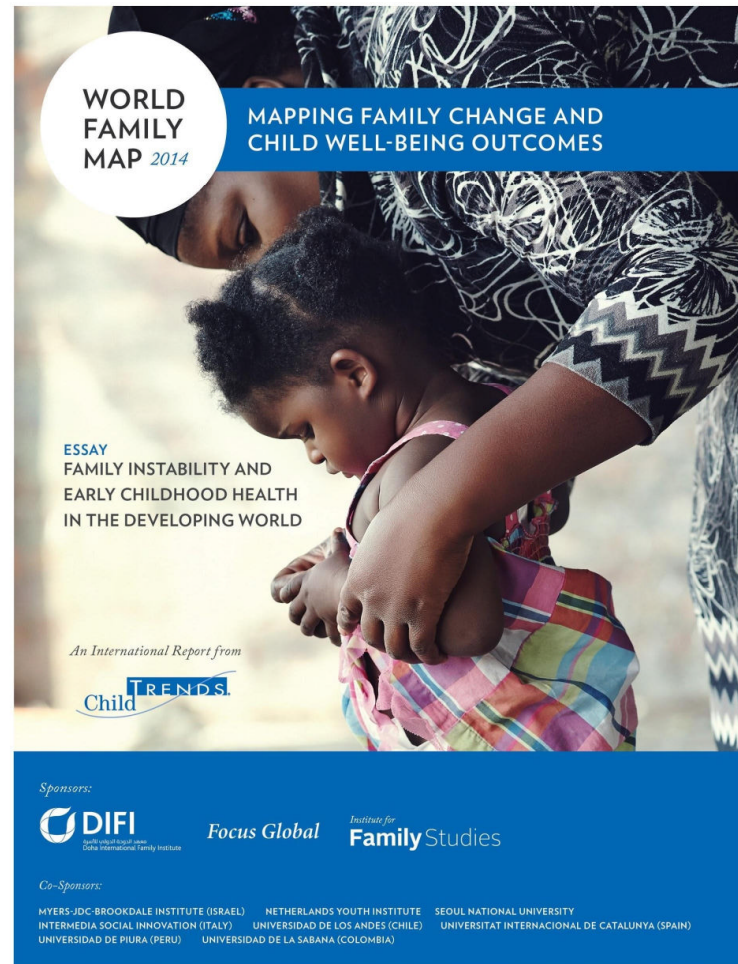


Families in Transition: Of What Consequence are Global Changes in Fertility & Marriage?

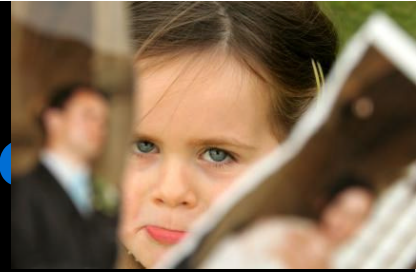
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The World Family Map Project (WFMP)



Why is the WFMP Needed

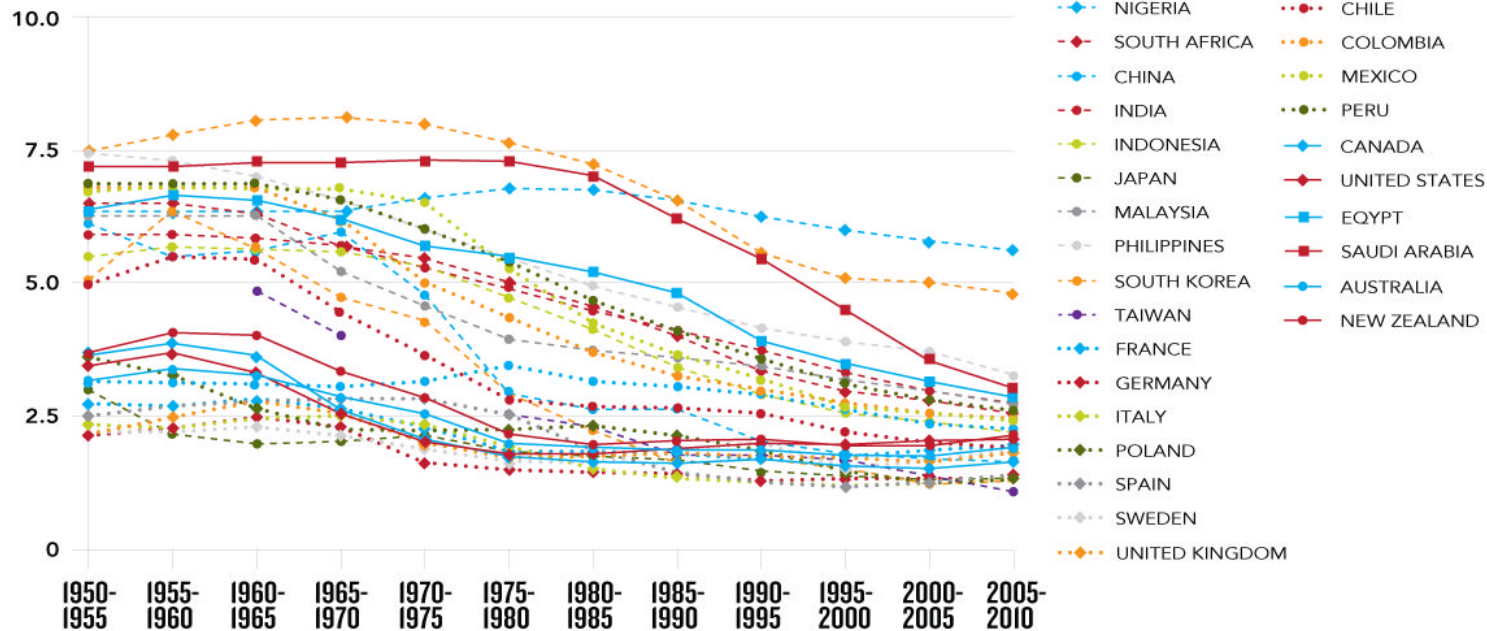


- ▮ Much of the globe is experiencing a **"second demographic transition"** marked by:
 - **A retreat from parenthood:**
 - Falling fertility
 - **A retreat from marriage:**
 - Divorce, cohabitation, nonmarital childbearing, & single parenthood on the rise
- ▮ **The New York Times** says we are moving towards a **"post-familial"** moment.
- ▮ How is this transition **affecting children, families, and nations** the world over?

The Emptying Cradle

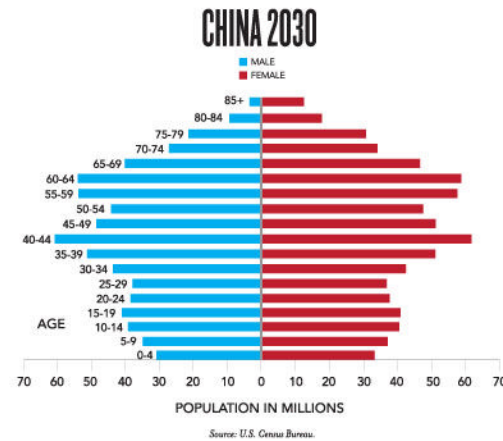


WORLD TOTAL FERTILITY RATE



Sources: www.sustaindemographicdividend.org/e-ppendix/sources

Shrinking Workforces



- Because of low fertility, the workforce will shrink in much of Europe & East Asia in this century.
- From 2010–2050 (Eberstadt 2011):
 - Chinese workforce will decline by 21%
 - Japanese workforce will decline by 35%
 - Eastern European workforce will decline by 33%

Slowing Growth



- ▢ The new face of East Asia is increasingly an elderly one (Longman 2011).
 - Japan's slow rate of growth since 1990s partly attributable to stagnating work force
 - Some economists now predicting slowing growth for South Korea & China as their populations age
- ▢ Demography isn't destiny, but sustained low fertility could threaten long-term growth.

Is Demography Destiny?



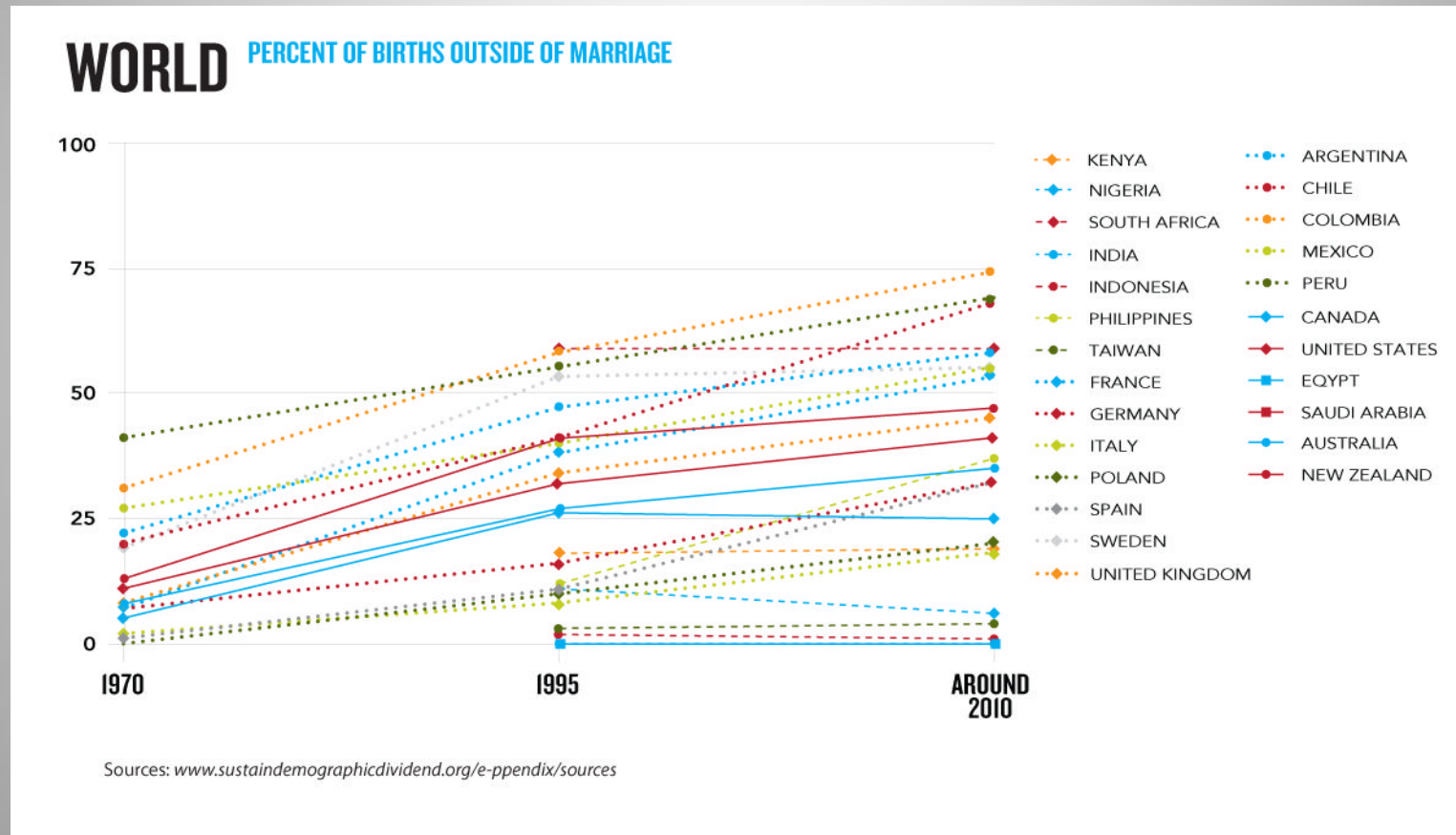
- The bottom line:
 - These demographic “trends portend ominous change in economic prospects [for many developed countries]: major increases in public debt patterns, and slower economic growth.” (Eberstadt and Groth 2010)

Marriage & Baby Carriage



- But family change is not just about the number of babies being born in nations around the globe, it's also about the nature of the homes they are being born into & raised in.
- Growing number of children being born and/or raised outside of a married home around much of the globe.

Childbearing Outside of Marriage



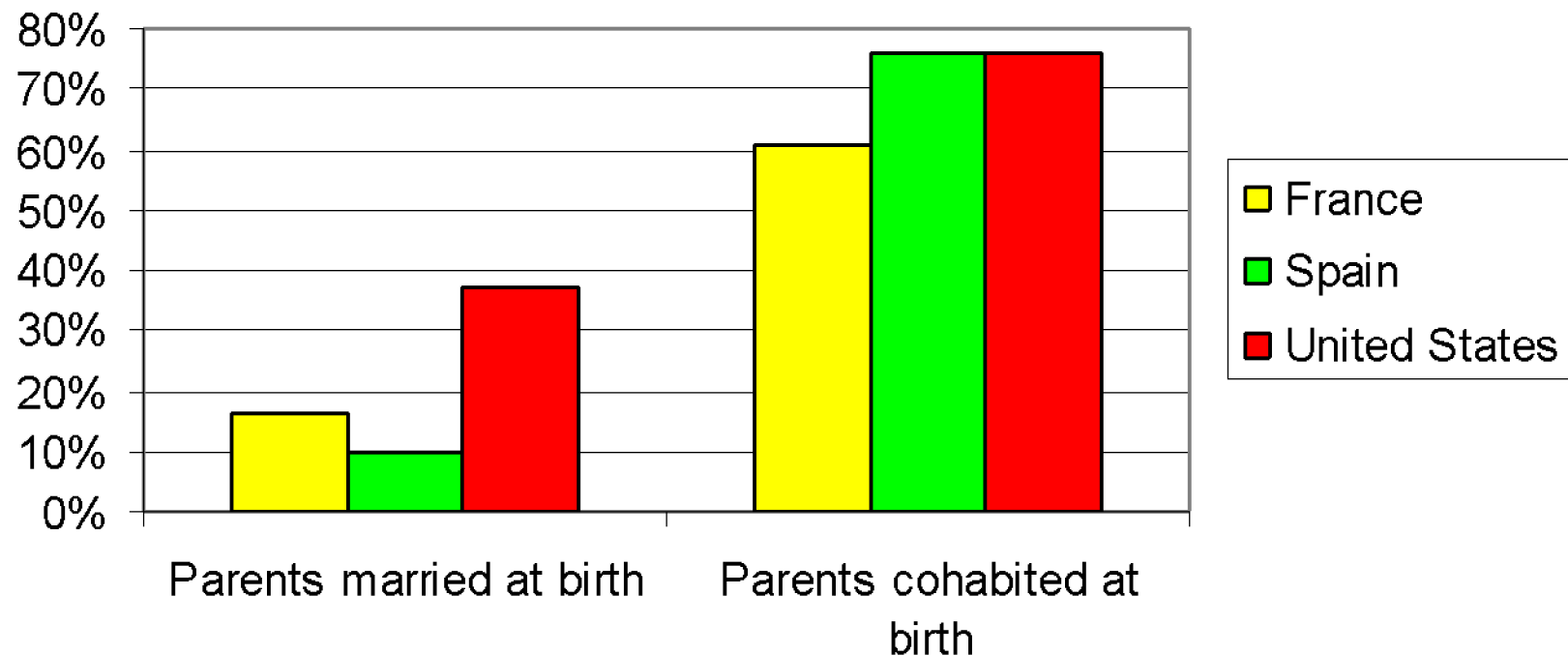
More Nonmarital Childbearing

- ▢ Nonmarital childbearing is concentrated in
 - The Americas
 - Europe
 - More than 40% in many countries in the Americas and Western Europe
 - From Colombia to United States to Sweden
- Nonmarital childbearing
 - To single mothers
 - To cohabiting couples (more likely to break up)



Cohabitation Less Stable, Often Ends in Single Parenthood (Heuveline et al. 2003)

Odds that children see parents break up by age 15

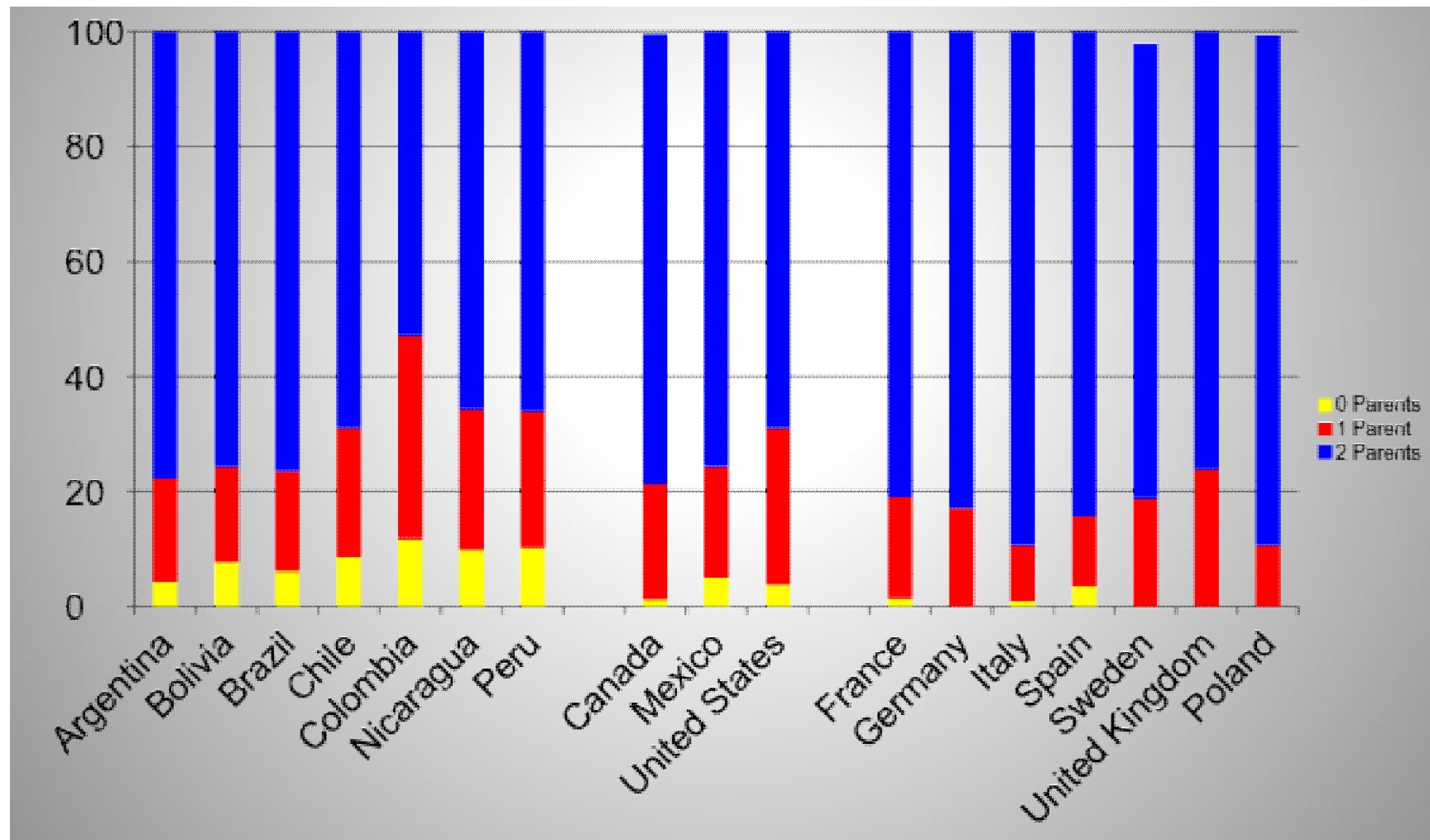


Even in Sweden Cohabitation is Less Stable

- In Sweden:
 - Children born to cohabiting parents are 75% more likely to see their parents break up, compared to children born to married parents (Kennedy & Thomson 2010).



2, 1, or 0 Parents? Children's Family Structure



More Single Parents (WFMP 2014)

- ▢ More than 20% of children in the Americas and much of Western Europe are **currently** living outside 2-parent family.
- ▢ In these regions, many more will spend some time in single-parent family.



Why Does This Matter?

- Why does it matter that marriage is less likely to ground the bearing & rearing of children?
 - → More single parenthood & family instability

Single Parenthood & Child Well-Being

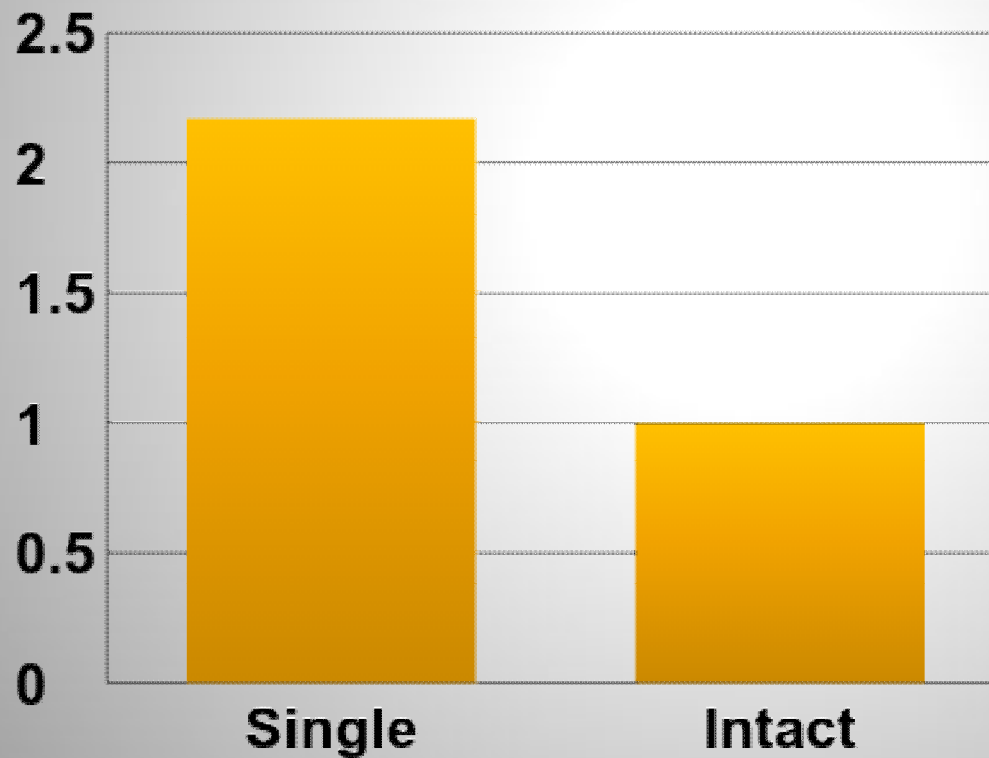
The Western Experience

- In North America & Europe, the intact, 2 parent family is associated with better outcomes:
 - Emotional and Physical Health:
 - Less obesity, drug abuse, & depression
 - Social Welfare:
 - Less crime, teenage pregnancy, & educational failure
 - Economic:
 - Less poverty & economic immobility

Young Men in Prison

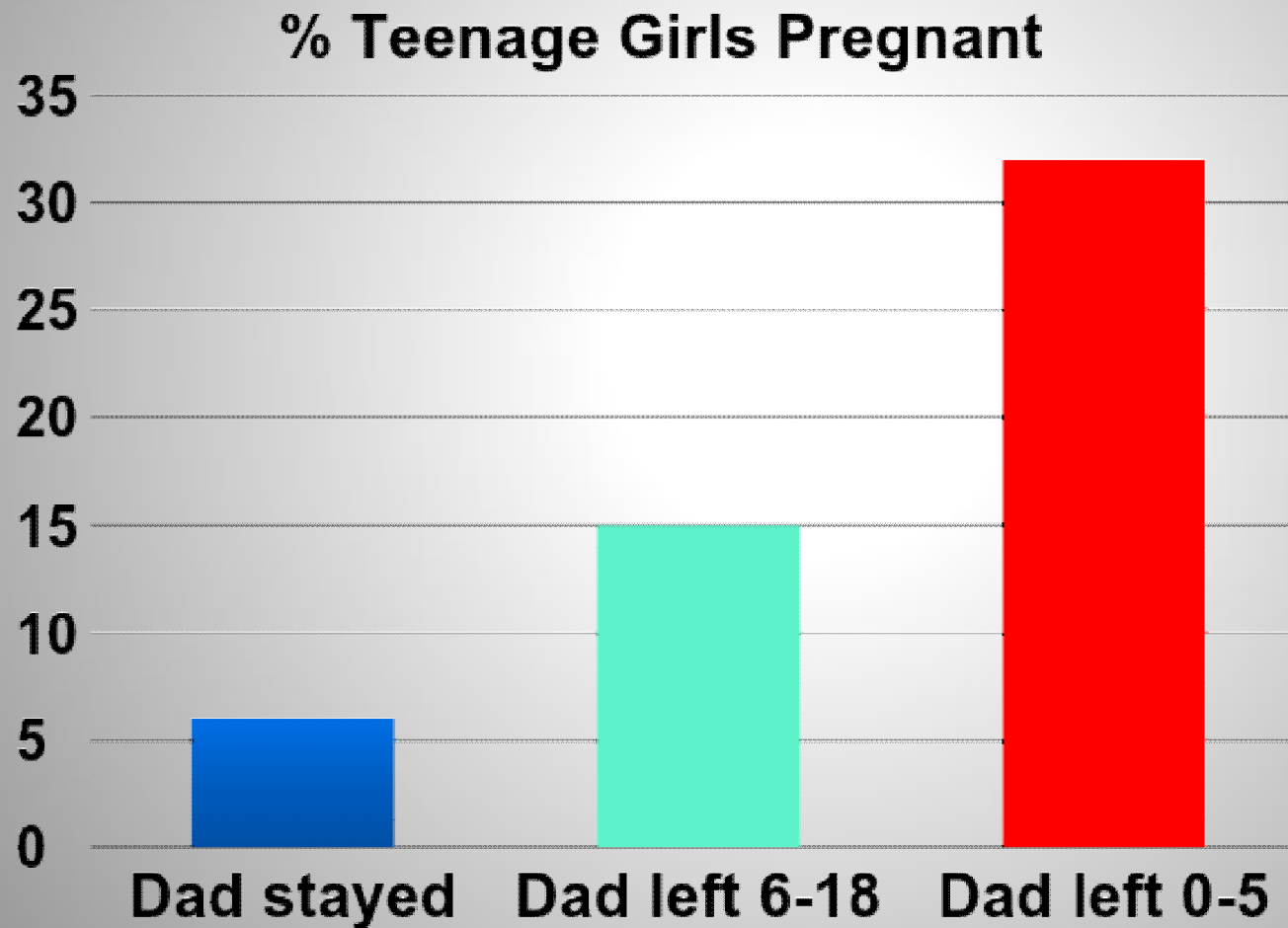


Odds of Incarceration by 30



Source: Harper and McLanahan 2004

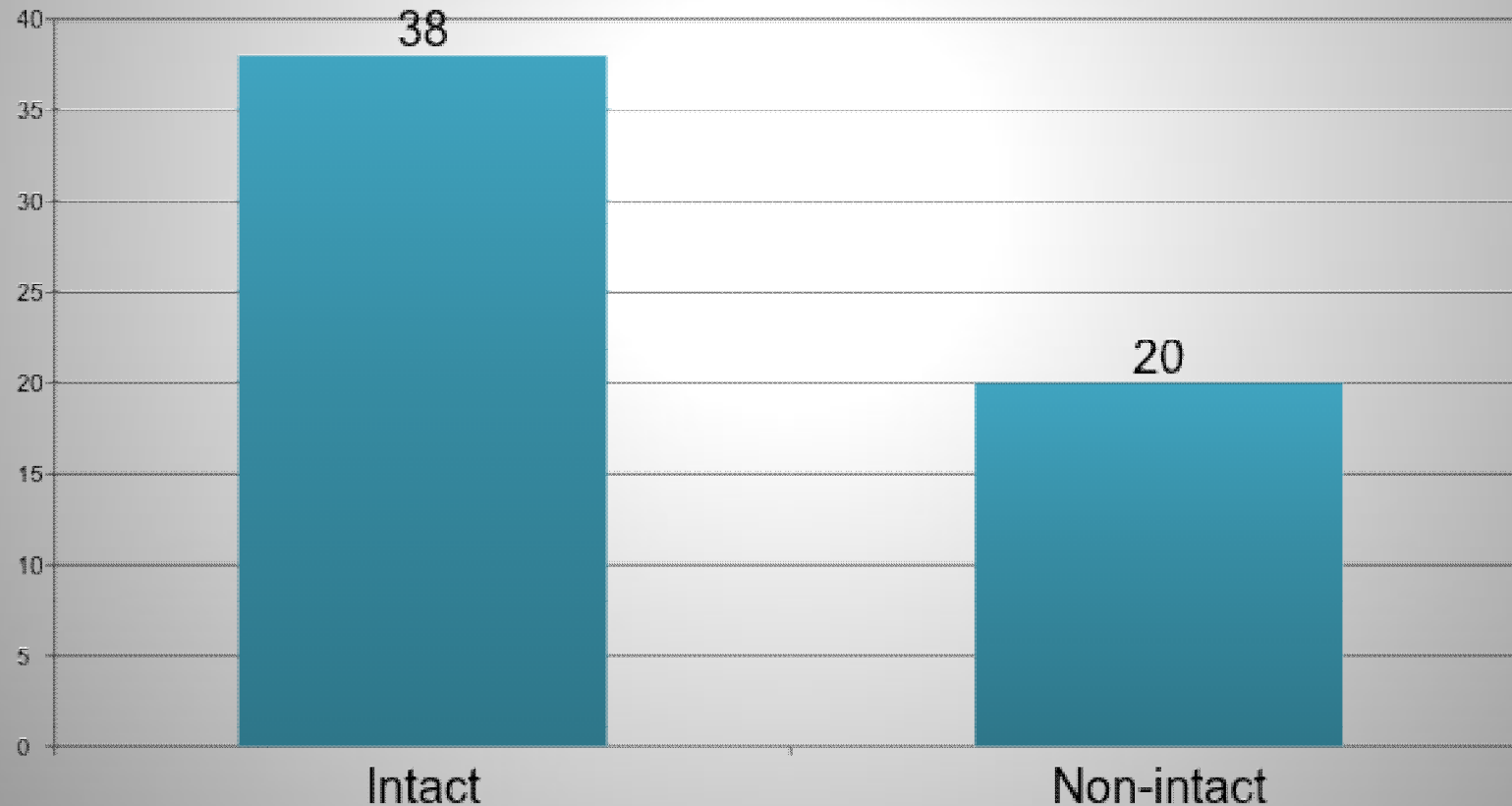
Teenage Girls Pregnant



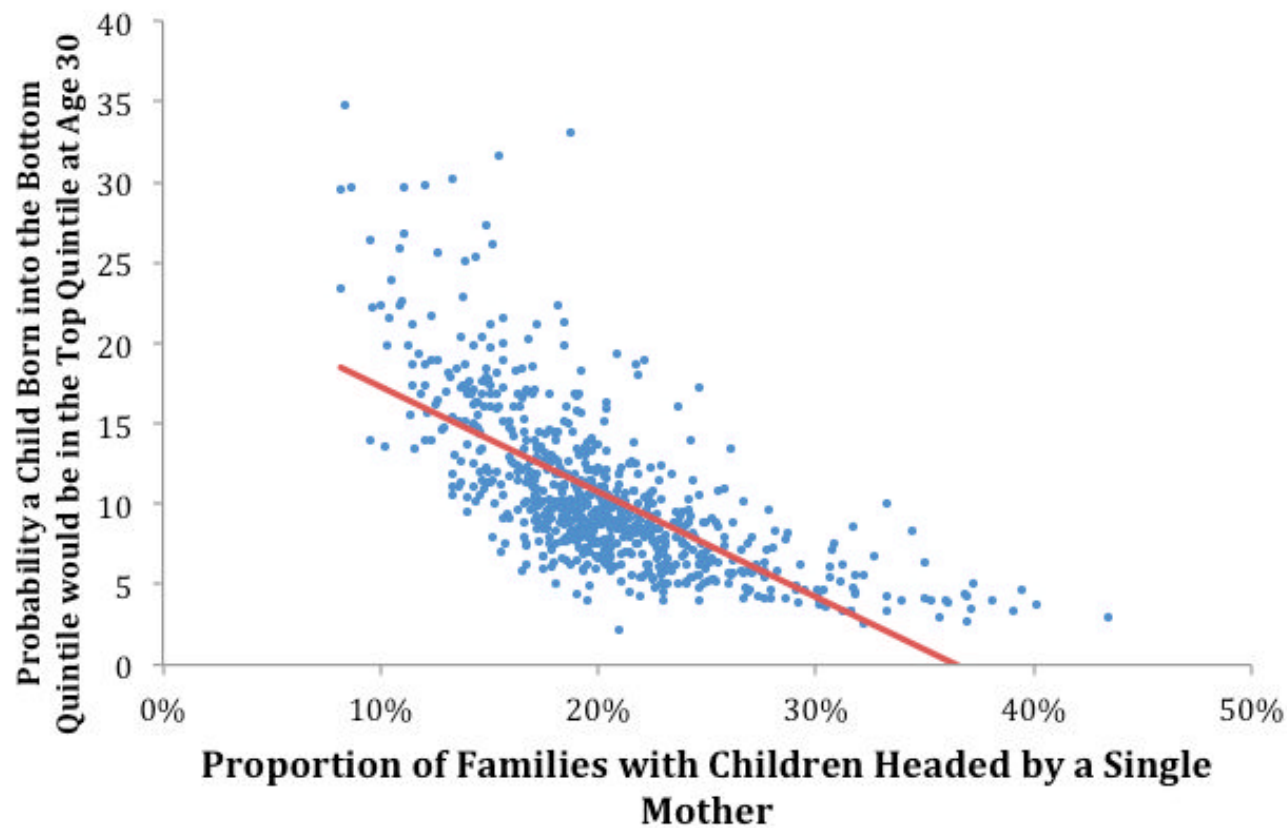
Source: Ellis et al., 2003

College Graduation in America

Percent of Young Adults Graduating from College (Add Health 2008)

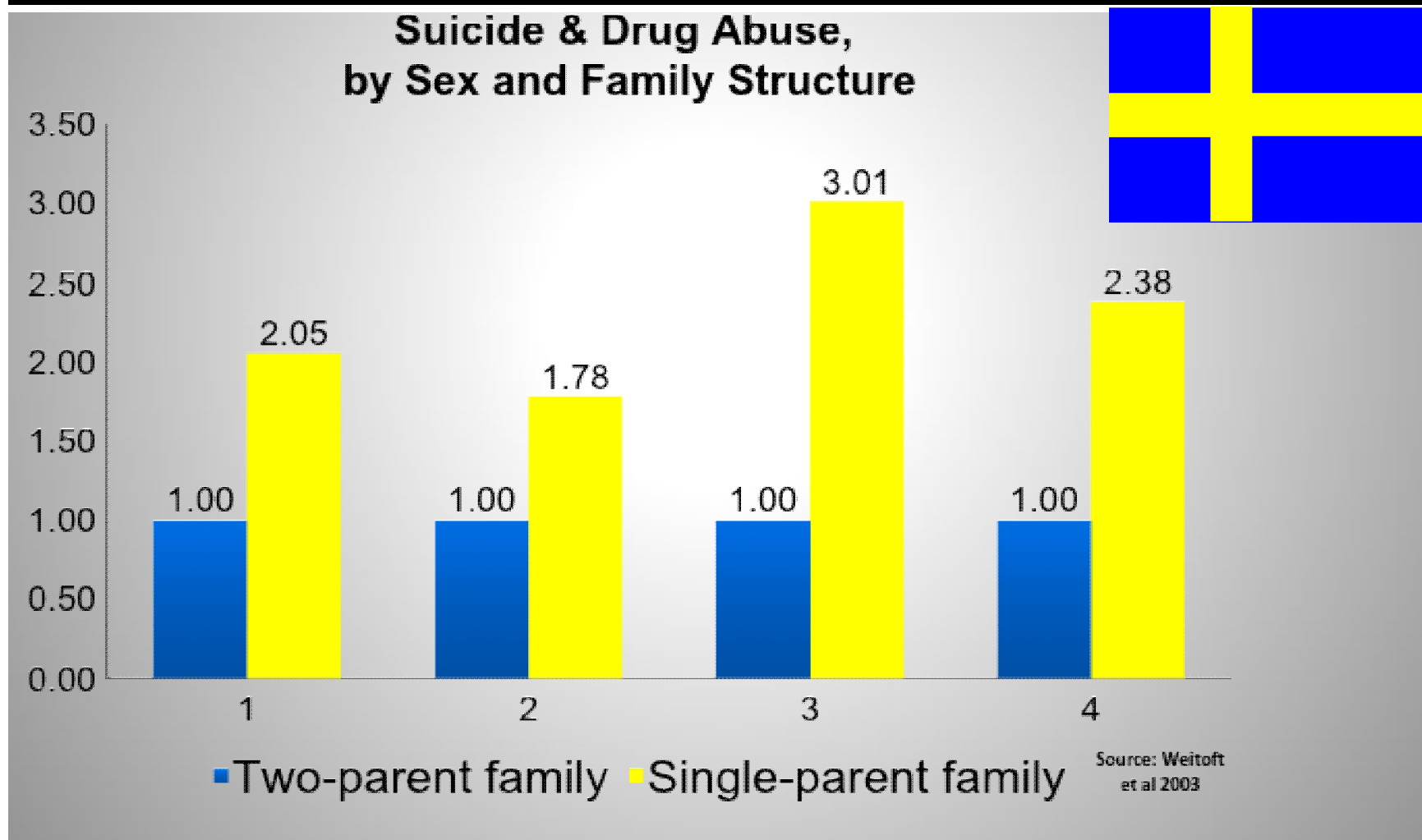


Community Family Structure & American Dream



Source: Data from The Equality of Opportunity Project.

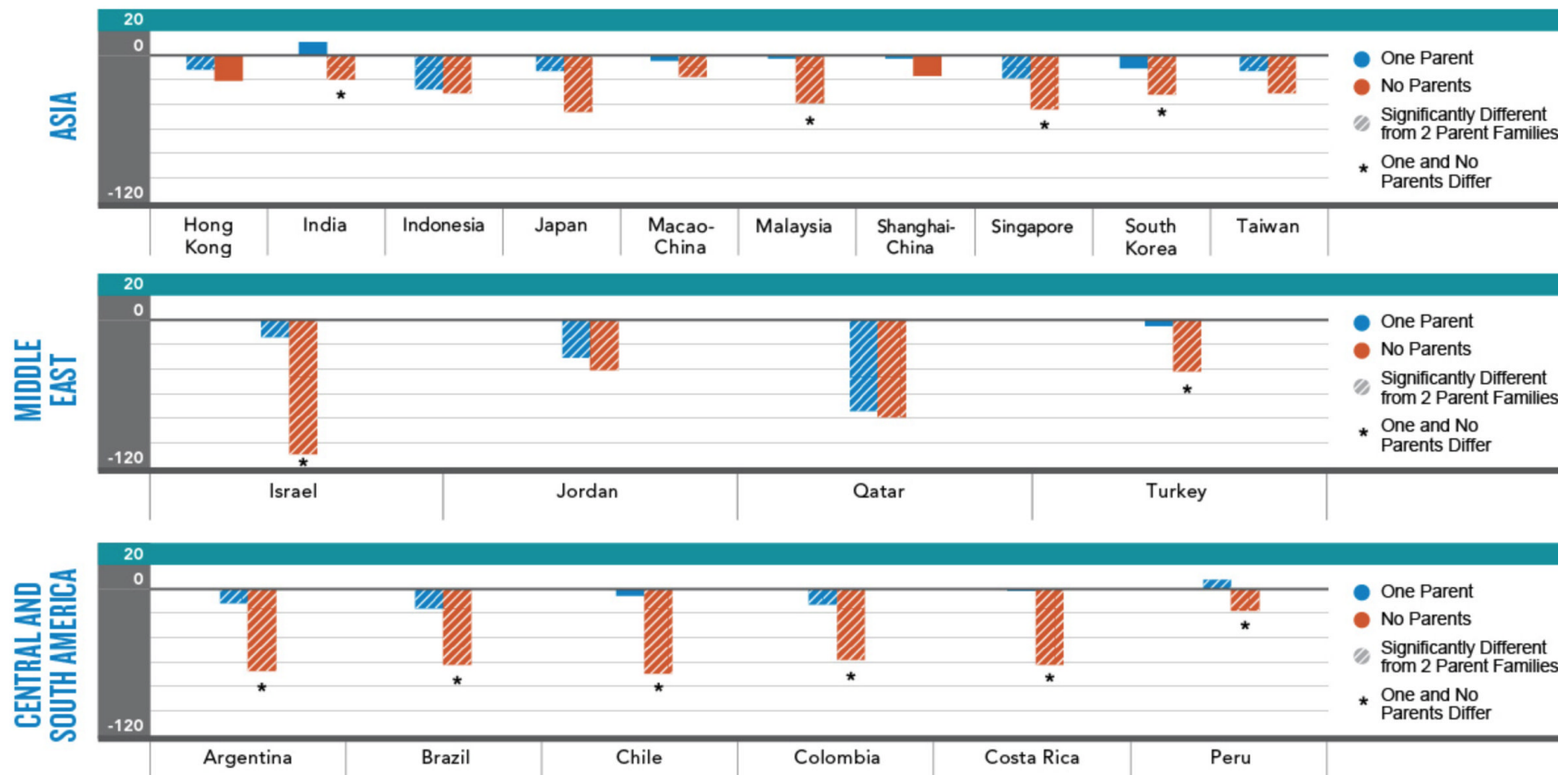
Not Just America: The Swedish Story



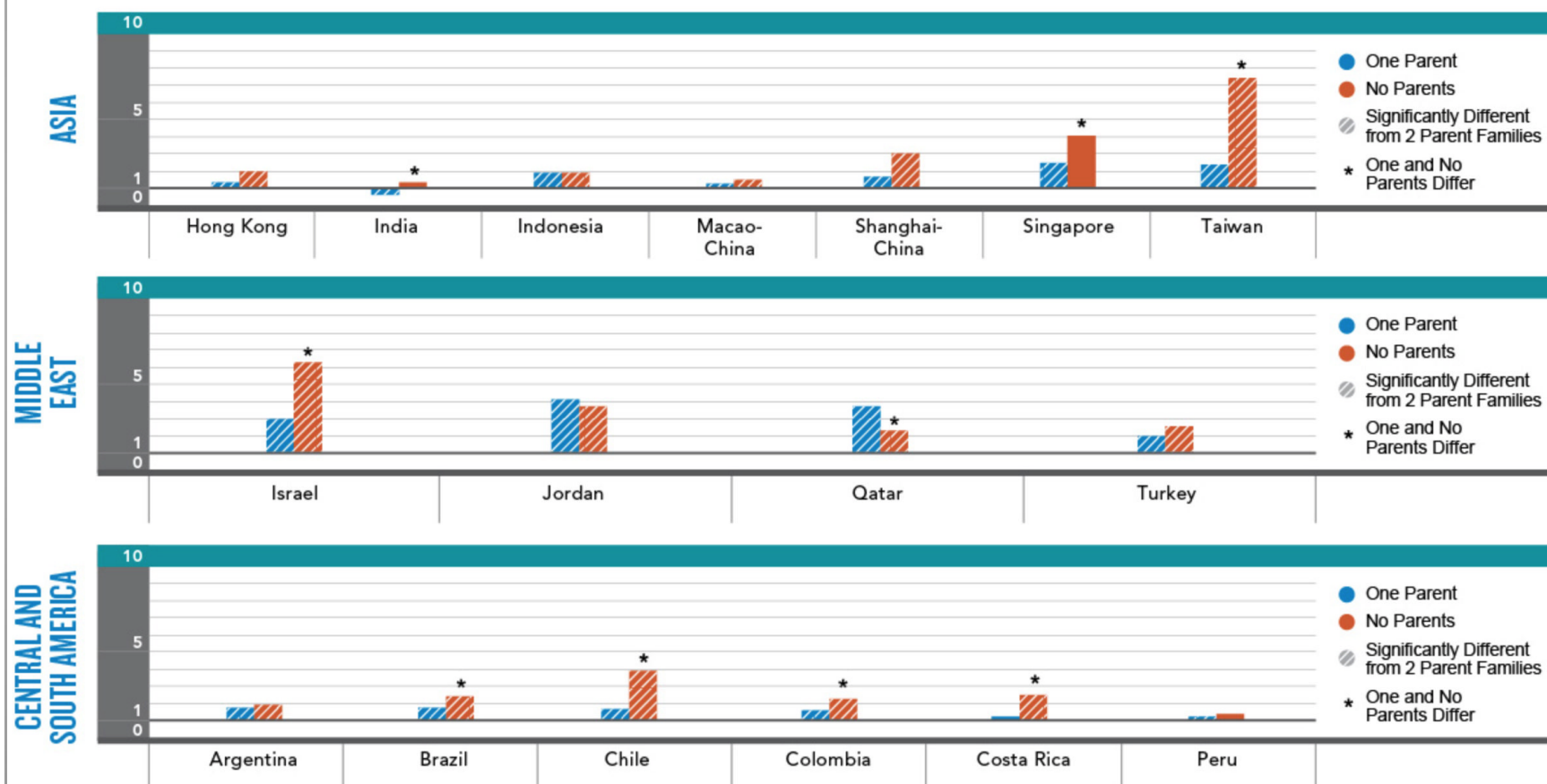
What About Outside the West?

- ▮ When it comes to education, family structure matters not just in Europe & North America but also in much of Asia, Latin America, & Middle East.
- ▮ When it comes to health, family stability matters in most of the developing world.

Literacy (WFMP 2013)



Odds of Being Held Back in School(WFMP 2013)



Explaining the 2-Parent Advantage

- ▢ Compared to single parents, two parents often have more:
 - Time
 - Money
 - Affection
 - Kinship support
 - Stability
- to give to their children.

Family Instability & Child Well-Being

Healthy Children (WFMP 2014)

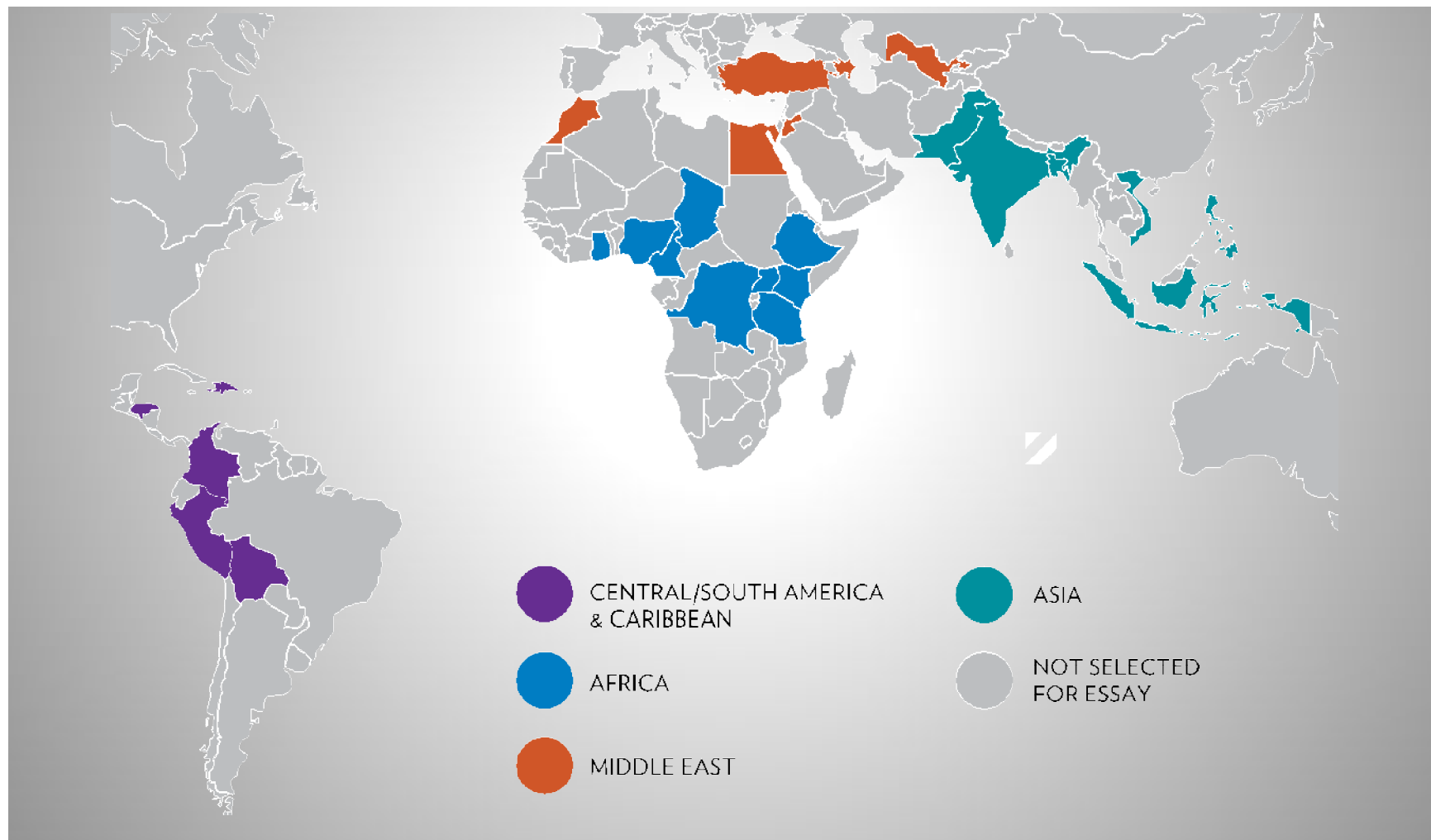


- ▢ U.N. Millennium Development Goals seek to improve the health of children in the developing world.
- ▢ But little attention has been given to role of the family in shaping the contexts of care.
- ▢ The 2014 edition of the World Family Map does that.

Which regions?

- ▢ Central/South American & the Caribbean
 - Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Peru
- ▢ Africa
 - Cameroon, Chad, Congo Democratic Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda
- ▢ Middle East
 - Azerbaijan, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Turkey, Uzbekistan
- ▢ Asia
 - Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Vietnam

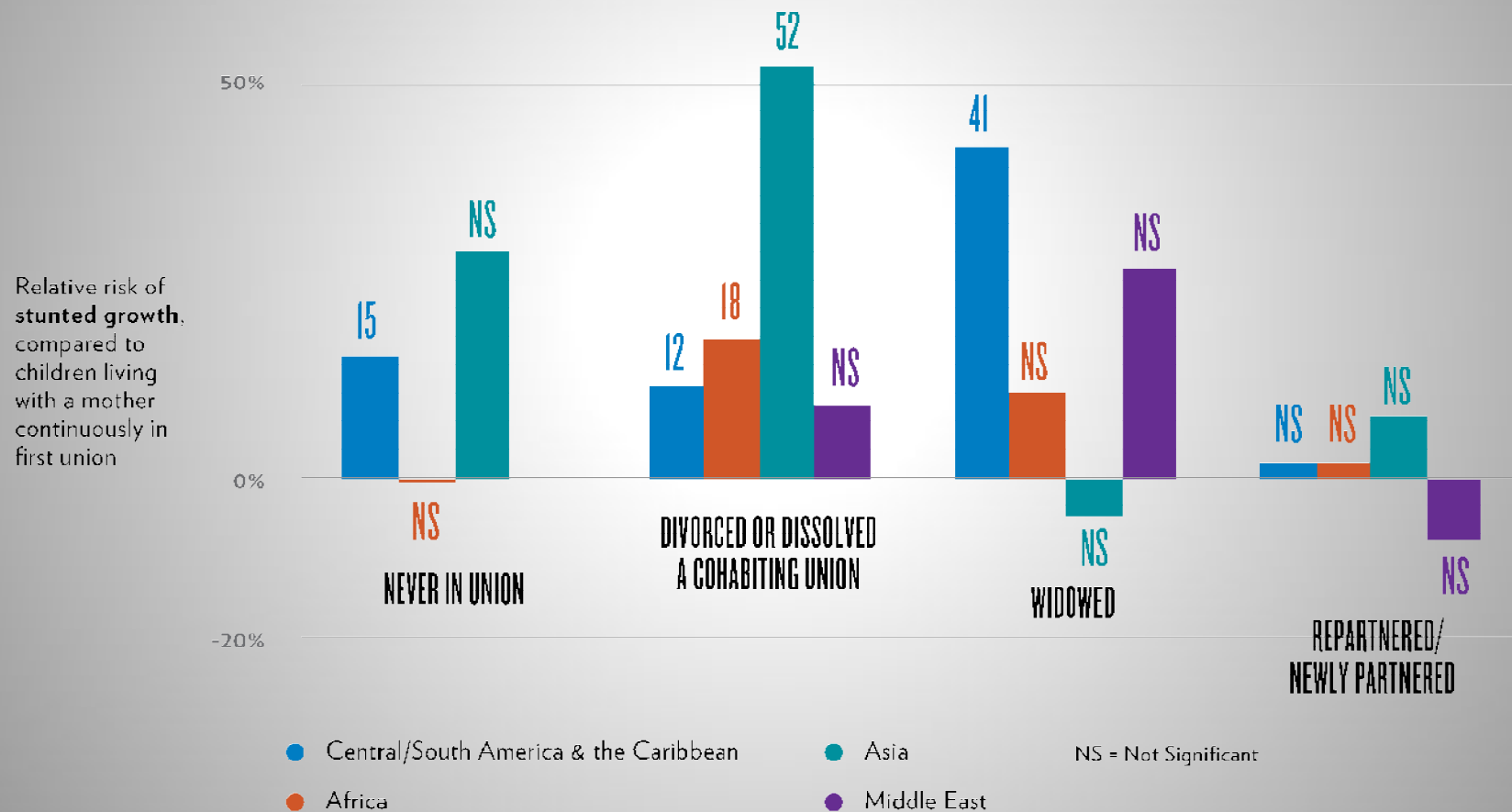
The Regions



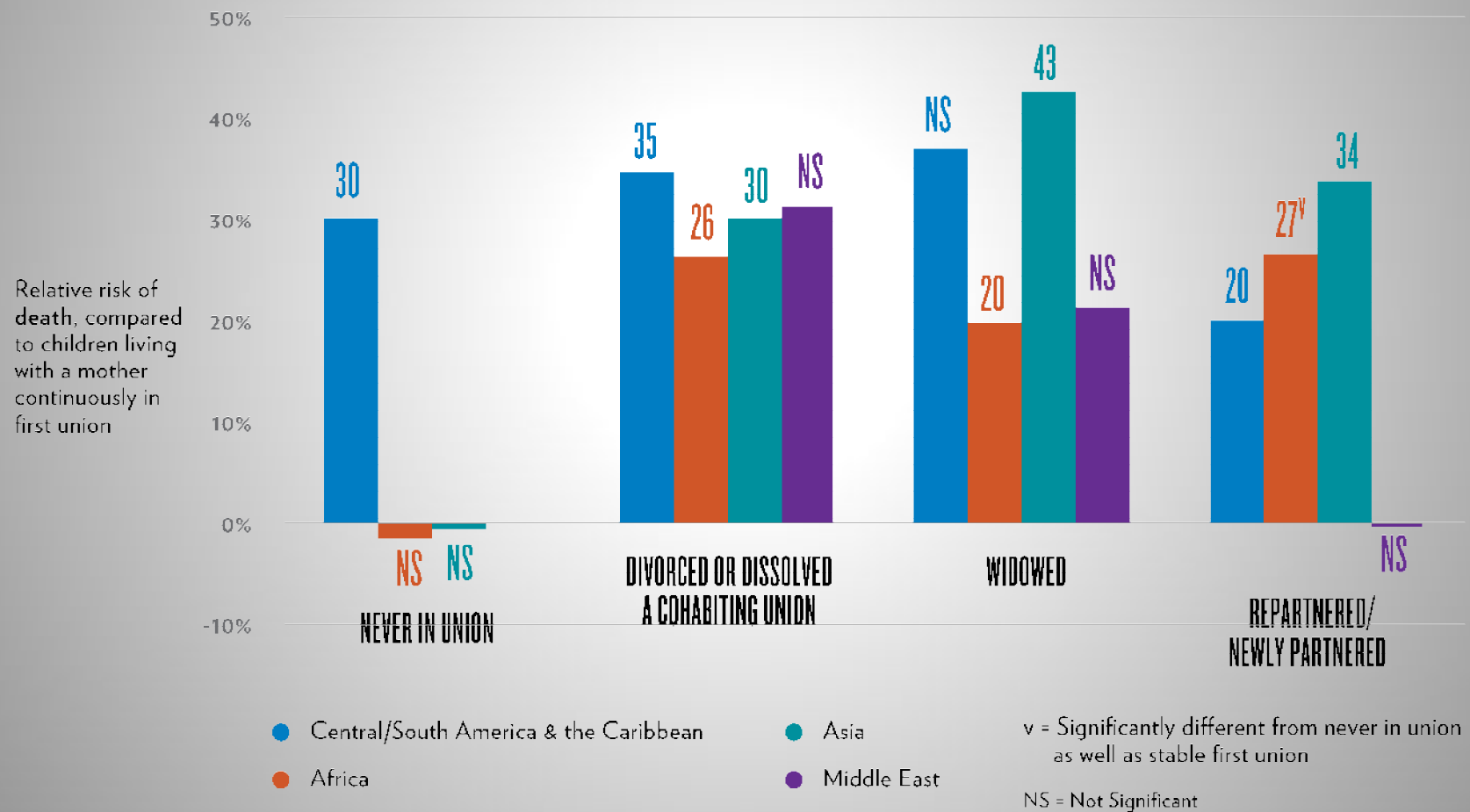
Relative Risk of Diarrhea



Relative Risk of Stunted Growth



Relative Risk of Child Mortality



Stability, By Region

TABLE 1 Union Instability Among Mothers Of Young Children By World Region

REGION	MOTHER CONTINUOUSLY IN FIRST UNION	MOTHER NEVER IN UNION	MOTHER REPARTNERED/ NEWLY PARTNERED	DIVORCED OR DISSOLVED A COHABITING UNION	MOTHER WIDOWED
AFRICA	75.86%	2.93%	15.42%	4.30%	1.49%
ASIA	93.99%	0.19%	3.88%	1.17%	0.77%
MIDDLE EAST	95.44%	N/A	2.75%	1.12%	0.69%
CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN	60.32%	6.16%	20.75%	11.93%	0.83%

Why Might Family Instability Harm Children?

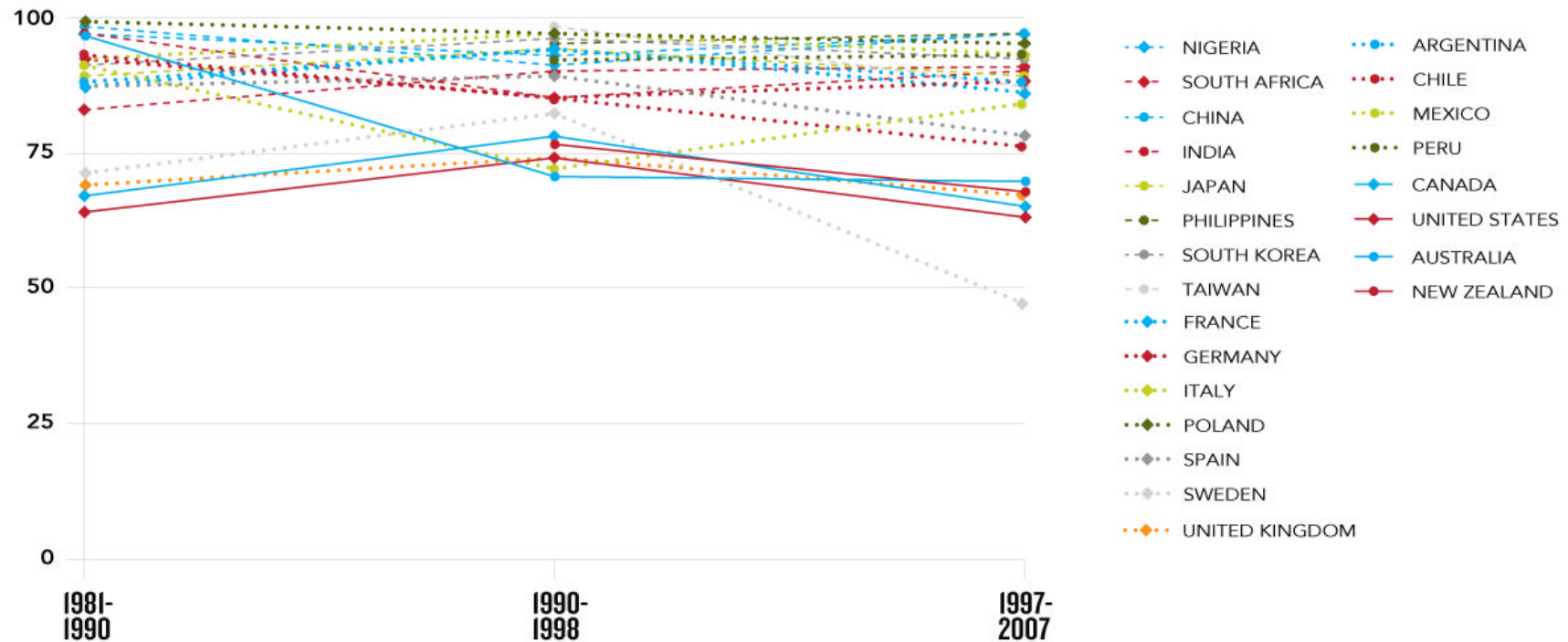
- Is this really about money?
 - unlikely because in the regions with significant results, the divorced are wealthier
 - unlikely because results do not differ much when controlling for wealth
- Less time devoted to caregiving
- Stress
 - affects caregiving (children suffer from second-hand stress)
 - direct stress from union transitions
- Disrupts social support networks

The Limits of the Second Demographic Transition(WFMP 2014)

- ▢ Marriage remains quite strong in two major regions of the world: Asia & Middle East.
- ▢ Today, most children are still being raised in two-parent families—esp. high in Asia & Middle East.
- ▢ Majority of global adults think two-parent family is ideal.

Cultural Support for Two-Parent Ideal

WORLD PERCENT AGREEING THAT CHILDREN NEED "A FATHER AND A MOTHER TO GROW UP HAPPILY"



Source: World Values Survey.

An Unsustainable Trajectory?

- ▢ **Are these trends in fertility & marriage unsustainable?**
 - **The Emptying Cradle**
 - Negative implications for workforce, economic growth, & fiscal health of nations
 - **The Retreat from Marriage**
 - Negative implications for physical and emotional health, education, mobility, & probably economic growth
- ▢ **Challenges associated with these transitions have often been obscured or mitigated by affluence.**
- ▢ **In this century, we will see if economic & social progress can be sustained in countries w/ low fertility & marriage.**

Policy Suggestions

- ▢ Policies and cultural initiatives should
 - 1) Minimize marriage penalties
 - 2) Tax credits for children/caregiving that do not favor one family-work strategy
 - 3) Social marketing campaign on behalf of success sequence
 - 4) Expand vocational education targeting boys and young men falling behind in educational arena

Conclusion

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

“The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.”

The path towards continued social & economic progress lies, in part, through building strong families for the 21st century.

Questions and Answers

For more information on the report:

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