



## RESUMEN / SUMMARY

### Summary

#### Presentation

The main objective of *Barcelona Societat* since 1993 has been to disseminate the results of research, statistical results, and studies on the reality of Barcelona, as well as to contribute to understanding the living conditions of diverse sectors of the population. Although the magazine has published articles on the different aspects that affect inhabitants' living conditions, for the first time Barcelona Societat has published a monographic dossier to analyse the situation, the changes, and the different prospects that affect women in Barcelona.

Barcelona Observatory was started up with the objective of consolidating a research strategy in order to provide a communal database; to make specific information available to observe a sector of the population; and specific issues with the idea of making the Observatory into an instrument that generates and disseminates knowledge. Among the different sections of the Observatory, the one on women is probably the one that has a more transversal impact.

The magazine *Barcelona Societat* is one of the main platforms for disseminating information gathered from the Barcelona Observatory. The twelfth issue takes a look at the changing conditions of women's lives, and the phenomena and the social process that affects the quality of citizens' lives. Several studies and analyses that have been compiled add to general knowledge on this matter, and they also add significant data and knowledge to determine what is meant by making progress in creating an egalitarian city that is more adapted to the needs of all its inhabitants, including their everyday existence, and the perspectives and contributions of women.

#### Women's Living Conditions in Barcelona

*Elena Sintes*

This report presents the results of the study "Women's Living Conditions in Barcelona" in the year 2000, in which the social situation of the female population is analysed. The report is focussed on seven spheres of daily life: the family, studies completed, the labour market, housework, in-come, leisure-time activities, and social relationships. It analyses the main municipal results from the Survey of Living Conditions and Habits of the Population in the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona in 2000.

For each one of the spheres mentioned, the present situation and its evolution is described and compared to the previous assessment. Furthermore, existing differences among women are analysed by age and social position in order to measure the imbalance between women and men in regard to equal opportunities.



The results of the study point to women's advance regarding their entry into the labour market, the increase in their educational level, and more participation in public affairs. As for spheres where discrimination is greatest, these include their situation in the labour market, their income level, and their domestic environment, where they still do most of the housework.

### **Barcelona Women. The Sociodemographic Situation**

*Pep Gómez*

This article briefly analyses the demographic evolution of women in Barcelona. Different aspects are considered, such as the frequency of female immigration, birth rates, fertility, changes in domestic structures, education, paid employment, unpaid work, and health.

In recent years, the proportion of women in the population of Barcelona has gradually increased, and life expectancy is higher for both sexes, although, as a distinguishing feature, women live longer than men do.

The immigrant population by gender, depending on the subcontinent it comes from, is also analysed. As far as the birth rate is concerned, important changes have been observed in regard to age and the socio-cultural characteristics of the population. The distribution of births by districts is analysed, as well as in the city as a whole, and in comparison to other European cities. In Barcelona, a gradual increase in the age of mothers at the moment of giving birth is shown. The family is still the basic nucleus for sharing everyday life and for forming relationships, although we should not talk about family, but "families", if we want to visualise the different structures of home life that exist.

On the whole, the educational level that women reach in Barcelona is lower than men's. This difference is mostly due to the educational imbalance between genders in older generations. At present, the tendency is reversing, and even the number of young women who study at university is quite higher than that of young men.

The participation of women in the labour market has been increasing in recent years, but it should be pointed out that the unemployment rate for women is still higher than men's. When time spent on housework by employed women and employed men is compared, the impression of inequality has been borne out.

Distinct aspects related to health (perception of state of health, fewer working hours, the practice of good health habits) are analysed by gender and age groups.

### **Equal Opportunity Policies in Spain**

*Judith Astelarra*

In the struggle against gender inequalities, the most widespread strategy has been the strategy of equal opportunities, which was introduced in Spain twenty years ago. In view of recent evidence, it has been demonstrated that the application of this strategy has not led to real equality between men and women. The author points out the fact that equal opportunity



policies have traditionally been undertaken in the public sphere (with positive results as far as the incorporation of women in the labour market is concerned), but has had no effect in the domestic sphere. Therefore, it is precisely the family structure that prevents gender equality, since it obliges women to take on a double workload.

The measures addressed to promoting the redistribution of housework are hampered by the fact that there is no social prestige attached to it. For this reason, the need to modify the social organisation in order to correct this dichotomy between public and private activity has been emphasised.

The article describes the equality policies introduced in Spain, whether on the national or autonomous community level, and their achievements or deficiencies are analysed. Moreover, these policies are linked to the changes in the social situation of women that have been produced during the last twenty years, and there is clear evidence that these changes have taken place in the younger generations. In this regard, the differences between three generations of women (before the political transition to democracy, the transition, and afterwards) are analysed in depth.

After developing the most relevant aspects of combining family life and working life, the author concludes the article with the need — pointed out above — to change the social structure, which is, on the whole, what has conditioned gender roles in modern society.

### **The Impact of Local Equal Opportunities Policies**

*Sara Berbel and the team from ADAGIO*

Beginning from the premise that the local administration is the public institution nearest to the citizenry, the author advocates local development as one of the basic issues to include the gender perspective in society. Local development must be focussed on people, and therefore, it must take diversity into account. Hence, the vision that local development defends is the need to include women's participation and decision-making in designing and constructing the environment.

After a brief examination of the factors that condition the introduction of gender policies into the local setting, the author proposes a local policy model for equal opportunities. In the first place, she establishes some of the principles that ought to govern any action plan: for example, transversality, integration, prevention, participation, innovation, and evaluation.

With these principles as a starting point, she then goes on to describe two experiences of the inclusion of gender policies that were carried out in Barcelona in the 2001-2004 Barcelona City Council Municipal Programme for Women and the Barcelona Provincial Council ADAGIO Programme (2000-2002).

### **The Perspective of Everyday Life in Public Policies**

*Teresa Torns*

The article proposes introducing everyday life, especially current gender policy, into public policy in order to improve it. To defend her arguments, the author introduces a brief assessment of gender policies, highlighting their successes and their limitations.



The concept of everyday life is defined by starting with the contributions made by social scientists in the 1980s. Their intention was, and is, to explain problems that affect adult women in Western societies, and also to set forth proposals so that public policies can make feasible a more supportive and friendly society for women, and for everyone, as a result. She specifically recalls that social structure is a sexually focussed structure in which men and women are placed in different and unequal situations. Time and caring for others must acquire a public dimension, which it still does not have, in order to make visible the importance of everyday life. At the same time, the productivist logic that organises society and people's lives must be made to disappear. A revision of the current family and municipal settings is the first step in shaping a course for a satisfactory performance that is in line with the objectives reported.

### **Health and Gender. The Population from 26 to 64 in Barcelona**

*Lucía Artazcoz, Imma Cortès, M. Isabel Pasarín and Carme Borrell*

Beyond the biological differences between men and women, gender inequalities in health matters are conditioned by social factors, such as the employment situation, family roles, and social class. In this article, these issues are analysed using the results of the 2000 Barcelona Health Survey.

In the first place, the general characteristics — living conditions and employment — and the state of health of the population from 25 to 64 years of age are defined. The results of the study confirm the distinct pattern of falling ill, depending on gender, as well as the divergence of the origins of ailments. Furthermore, behaviour related to health is described: cigarette consumption, the practice of physical exercise, body weight, and the consumption of tranquillisers.

The combination of work and family life for people who have formed a couple is another of the aspects in which this study goes into depth. One of main sources of ill health in women lies precisely in the unequal distribution of family and domestic responsibilities. Lastly, the health of working women compared to the health of housewives is analysed; the results again point to the health risks that many women face when they combine paid employment and housework, which is usually done alone.

### **Educational Levels in Barcelona: A Big Step Forward**

*Marina Subirats*

The author enthusiastically defines the great achievement of Barcelona women in the field of education, since they have gone from the precarious situation of having very high levels of illiteracy to having very notable university qualifications in only a few years. The fact that young women have also surpassed young men in universities has been verified.

In her study, she analyses the educational levels of women in Barcelona compared to men, and although, on the



whole, the educational level of Barcelona women is lower than that of males, there are great differences, if each one of the generations is considered.

Other questions that the article deals with are the choice of professional studies, depending on gender (traditional models are still in force, as men continue to be associated with technical disciplines) and the cultural dimension of education. It is in this aspect that the author situates the principal deficiency in the educational system: the premise that education is still basically androcentric, and continues to exclude traditionally female knowledge from the system (the care of children and the elderly, nourishment, and so forth), which has negative repercussions in both young men and their female partners.

### **New Indicators on Work and Gender: A Methodological Proposal**

*Cristina Carrasco and Màrius Domínguez*

Social indicators are criticised in the article, basically those that are about work, because of the androcentric slant they show, and new indicators are proposed that allow for understanding and reflecting not only on the labour market, but on housework as well. New indicators are used to reflect the work that women and men do in the city of Barcelona by employing the information that the Survey of the Region of Barcelona provides on living conditions and the habits of the population. The proposal is limited, since it only includes indicators that can be prepared according to the information that is available. In any case, by recuperating the hidden work that women carry out, the results show where the gender inequalities in relation to work are generated, a fact which may facilitate a better approach to public policies on social and employment questions. Lastly, the need to develop other, more complex, indicators from the same perspective are highlighted.

### **Female Employment in Barcelona: Underlying Tendencies and Future Perspectives**

*Narcisa Salvador, Eduard Salvat and Àngels Santigosa*

The authors contribute significant information to establish a perspective on the female labour market that can be used in Barcelona in future. In order to do this, they portray the current situation by considering female employment rates in respect to the European average; by the quantitative and qualitative increase of work contracts for women; and by the improvement of their educational levels as a determining factor for women to participate in the labour market.

Then, they describe the European experience, which is a testing ground for Barcelona. In this regard, they analyse the role of women and the knowledge economy (an increase in the demand for labour is expected to grow, chiefly in the intensive sector of knowledge at the most qualified levels). Furthermore, they analyse the relation of educational level and age to the patterns of female activity, bearing in mind constantly what is taking place in the European Union, and



they devote special attention to family models and systems of assistance, which are determining factors for the participation of women in the labour market. The authors sketch out the most effective measures to favour this participation: family care services, parental leave, and other strategies of flexibility in the labour market during the 2000-2010 period in Catalonia.

### **The Salary Differences between Men and Woman: Discrimination versus Inequality**

*M. Jesús Calvo*

The practice of measuring salary differences between men and woman that have been carried out reveals that the differences in salary are significant, and that, despite the fact that they tend to lessen, the change occurs slowly, much more slowly than what one could imagine, given the massive entry of women to universities, once the idea of their incorporation into the labour market was considered socially acceptable. This acceptance has been fundamentally based on respecting the desire for economic self-sufficiency.

On the whole, the differences are between 15 and 30%, according to the sources employed and the methodologies applied. The data that has been analysed for this study does not permit one to make any comments on discrimination, but it does show that salary differences by gender are explained — at present — by the fact that men and women are not employed in the same areas of work, and do not carry out the same work, and because women are younger on average, have less seniority, and occupy, in aggregate terms, less qualified jobs and receive less pay.

### **Violence against Women. Gender Violence**

*M. Isabel Cárdenas Jiménez*

The intention of this article is to carry out an initial approximation to the reality of violence against women in Barcelona, and to shed light on the challenges involved in tackling and preventing this through the development of the Barcelona City Council Operational Plan against Violence towards Women. The complexity of situations of violence makes an integral approach from all spheres necessary, but also it is necessary to work actively to construct cultural and relationship referents that lead to the eradication of violence.

Better knowledge about the evolution of gender violence in the city to improve and adapt the programme of action to the reality is also a challenge. Improving the analysis of data from the diverse existing information systems in the institutions involved; to make progress in the conceptualisation of the indicators that help us get closer to reality; and to understand the different dimensions of the problem, are some of the main objectives of the Observatory of Women, in the context of Barcelona Observatory tasks.

The Barcelona City Council, by implementing the activities included in its Operational Plan, aims to ensure com-



prehensive and co-ordinated quality care that recognises and guarantees the fundamental rights of women who suffer from different forms of violence.

### **Southern Women in the Southern Europe: A Globalized Domesticity?**

*Natalia Ribas*

This starts with a reflection on economic activity and the global marketplace. In a depiction of the new leading role of cities, the sociologist, Sas-kia Sassen, defines the connections that financial power has established in the service sector. Indeed, a massive conspiracy of workers at the service of the ruling class has been set up in cities worldwide. It is exactly here where the author of this article situates the migratory flow in European cities, at the same time that the concept of globalized domesticity has been introduced. It also develops the issue of foreign immigration in Southern Europe as a paradigmatic example of globalized domesticity. It analyses the transformations, specifically the feminization of migrations, in addition to the factors that determine this phenomenon: the impact of gender on immigration policies, job offers in the labour market, and the status of women in their countries of origin.

It also delves deeper into the process of the transformation of migratory patterns, which is the reason Southern Europe has gone from being an exporter to an importer of labour. It also defines the economic niche for immigrant women: housework and prostitution.

The author portrays the Southern European family model, and concludes the article by raising the question of how our globalized society must manage an also globalized domesticity.

### **How Women Move Around in Barcelona. 2002 Barcelona Mobility Survey**

*Anna Ferrer*

The data presented in this article corresponds to the 2002 Mobility Survey of Barcelona and the Metropolitan Area, which the Institute of Regional and Metropolitan Studies has drawn up with the research team made up of Josep M Aragay, Juli Sabaté, Elena Sintes and Elisabet Torrelles.

Women and men have different behaviour as regards mobility in the city. The differences in their movements centre basically on motives and the means of transport used. On the whole, the trips women make are not obligatory; they usually walk; and they use public transport more.

Women over 65 years of age show less mobility. They mainly devote themselves to housework, and they are the ones who travel more on foot.



Young women are the ones who are more specialised in the use of public transport and who walk less. They travel more to get to school and/or work than the rest of the groups studied.

Women between 30 and 65 are those who make more trips per day (3.05). As far as their mobility profile is concerned, they are found in an intermediate position – between young women, who are more active than they are, and women over 65.

The group of young women who are under 30 years of age present a singular profile in comparison with the rest of the population groups analysed, making them more similar to the group of young men than their pre-decessors are, in relation to their respective groups of men.

### **The Traffic Accident Rate for Women in Barcelona**

*Catherine Pérez, Carme Borrell, Eva Cirera, Isabel Ricart and Antoni Plasència*

Injuries produced by accidents are one of the main causes of mortality and morbidity. This article aims to describe and compare the characteristics of people injured in traffic accidents in Barcelona by gender. The data comes from the information on the injured in traffic accidents in the year 2000 who were treated in the emergency wards of seven hospitals in Barcelona (DUHAT study, n = 18,495), and from the information provided by the Barcelona Municipal Police Force on accidents in which they have intervened (GUB study, n = 14,816). From the total of people injured treated in emergency wards or treated by the Municipal Police Force, more than two-thirds were between 15 and 39 years old, and 37% were women. Half the people injured were travelling on two wheels (26% on moped and 24% on motorcycles), a quarter of them in cars (27%), and one-fifth were pedestrians. The proportion of injured women who were travelling in cars (31%) or were pedestrians (28%) was higher than the proportion of injured men (25% and 16% respectively). Injured women travelled more often as passengers in all types of vehicles. Whiplash was the most frequent injury in women, while it was multiple contusion in men.

### **The Barcelona Council of Women: An Experience of Participatory Democracy**

*Mercè Fernández Gesalí*

The feminist movement, the associational movement, and women's groups have been a widespread phenomenon in the city of Barcelona. The municipal government has wanted to have the participation of the social fabric as one of the keys to facing the problems that affect the citizenry. It has attempted this by incorporating a participatory model when developing policies. The article describes the experience of creating and developing different participatory systems since the time that the Barcelona City Council approved the regulating norms in 1986 for the organisation of the city in districts, and in 2001, the development of regulations was begun. The participatory councils will be instruments for improving and innovating public policies, and an experience in participatory democracy. In 1994, the Barcelona Council of Women was created with the purpose of stimulating women's groups to participate and form associations, to analyse and debate municipal activities that promote





women's presence in the different spheres of society, such as equal opportunities, as well as to introduce services that include the needs and the perspective of women, especially specific programmes addressed to women in disadvantaged situations. Since its creation, the Council of Women has participated in different spheres by analysing and drawing up proposals. Hosting the 1st Women's Congress of Barcelona in January 1999 stands out for its impact on the orientation of city policies.

### **Women as Protagonists in the History of Barcelona**

*Isabel Segura Soriano*

The objective of this project that is taking place in municipal districts is to recuperate women's historical memory from the viewpoint of female protagonists.

The techniques that have been employed have basically been family photograph albums that women have patiently compiled, organised, classified, and completed with spoken and written accounts by those who have participated in the working sessions – sessions that have been dedicated to reconstructing the experience of a life lived in a concrete place. The work is divided into three major sections: the space of origin, work and its spaces, and the political space.

Since 1996, The Women's Centre of Information and Resources (CIRD) of the Barcelona City Council started up the project with the support and collaboration of the Department of Personal Services in each district, the Council of Women, and the Municipal Archives. So far, the project has been carried out in the districts of Sant Martí (twice), Sants-Montjuïc and Sant Andreu as well.

The tangible result has been the publication of an illustrated book for each one of the districts in the collection "Quaderns" of the Municipal Archive. On some occasions, an itinerant exhibition has also been carried out.

Besides the tangible result of the books, the exhibitions, and the enlargement of the document collections in district archives, the project has fostered exchanges and relationships between the different women's groups in the districts; it has increased the participation of women, has helped to strengthen the image of neighbourhood and the city as a space for intergenerational exchange – as a space for living in, and it has helped to understand the city as collective participatory space.

### **The Municipal Programme for Women (2001-2004)**

*Mercè Fernández Gesalí*

The article describes the objectives and strategies proposed in the Municipal Programme for Woman (2001-2004) that was drawn up ten years after the 1st Municipal Plan for Women (1991) was, thus continuing the policies addressed to the city's women that the Barcelona City Council has been developing. Its aim is to define the objectives and strategies that guide municipal action in order to improve the quality of life of this sector of the population. It proposes to define the municipal



policy for women in the coming years, which is an activity that cannot be separated from the changes in the social reality that Barcelona women have experienced, nor can it be separated from the balance of policies carried out by different administrations, and the municipal administration in particular. The proposals are addressed to increasing the capacity of the local administration to design and execute policies that are sensitive to women's perspective by promoting and strengthening the network of associations, and augmenting and recognising their participation in social and political matters. The idea is to propose strategies that enable the inclusion of women's perspective in a transversal manner in all areas of municipal policy. The programme describes the different criteria that will allow for setting up objectives, measuring performance by carrying them out in proximity to the citizenry, by having an understanding of the reality, by considering the differences that exist when using of the city, and by making people's everyday life a central issue for organising the city. Strategies to promote the presence, the visibility, and the participation of women in all spheres (social, cultural, political, work), measurements addressed to improving the attention paid to the needs of women who are in grave situations, at risk, or in social exclusion will all be important. The measures to take in order to fight against gender violence are detailed.

### **Public Policies for Equality: A Bibliography**

*Serafina Lavín Forcada*

In this article, the process of recognising equal opportunities is reviewed from its beginnings through a variety of statements, treatises, and international congresses, to the establishment of political action programmes on the state level, in autonomous communities and city councils.

The cited bibliography attempts to gather significant documents on the equality policies of international organisations, the European Union, and Spain, as well as studies on public policy. In order to prepare it, three sources of information have been consulted: the catalogue of the documentary collection of the Municipal Centre of Information and Resources for Woman (CIRD) of the Barcelona City Council and its documents in order to write brief summaries of their contents; the catalogue of the Centre of Documentation of the Catalan Women's Institute; and the periodical publication, *Boletín de documentación y sumarios* (from January 1999 to July 2002) of the Madrid Women's Institute.

The documents are mainly books and Web sites, but there are some book chapters, and magazine articles, and a few CDs. The presentation of the bibliography is organised in five sections: equality policies, equality organisations, plans and programmes, treatises, regulations, and Web sites.

### **Survey on the Mobility of Secondary School Students (ESO) in Barcelona (12-16 years of age)**

*Department of Studies and Evaluation of the Municipal Institute of Information Technology (IMI)*

The article describes the methodology and principal results of the study based on a sample of 4,489 people who were representative of secondary school studies (between 12 and 16 years of age) from various schools in Barcelona. The



fieldwork was carried out in 2002. The overall objective of the research was to find out about the habits of young students in obligatory secondary education (ESO) regarding the necessary travelling they did to carry out their daily activities, including their school life and free time, as well as their degree of satisfaction in regard to the current system of public transport and their expectations in respect to it. Most of their travelling was done in order to get from home to school and back again; this was 53.5% of the total. Most travelling was done on foot, followed by bus, car, and underground train. Motorcycles are a priority in the expectations of adolescents, but in reality it is only used in 1.6% of their trips. The trips home from sports activities or extracurricular activities are the ones that show more use of cars and public transport. The survey delved deeper into the timetable for travelling, the means of transport used by boys and girls between 12 and 16 years of age, their preferred means of transport, and any improvements they would suggest. As for the use of bicycles, differences between the sexes appear, as they are usually used by boys. As far as their expectations are concerned, half the adolescents surveyed show interest in using bicycles.

### **Opening up New Paths: From Research/Participatory Action to Social Practice for Social Creativity**

*Tomás R. Villasante*

This article is a critical and constructive introduction on what re-search/participatory action is as compared to other methodologies, and a reflection on the main conceptual and methodological elements that characterize it. Faced with traditional research, where it is supposed that on one side there is the person who does research – the expert who knows and shows – and on the other, the population that is studied: a different role is considered for the people who are the subject of research. Both sides together fashion a common activity in a dialectic that enriches all the participants. Furthermore, it outlines concepts to advocate, such as social networks, which involves more complex dynamics. Beyond the individual, the interest lies in the connections made, and the way they have been structured and vitalised, as well as how to make the most of their potential in the context of participatory research/action. More than obtain reports on figures, participatory strategies are what is important; they can be more operationally and socially efficient when facing proposed objectives. The role of encounters or workshops that facilitate social creativity is made clear. Everyone – research professionals, social representatives, grassroots informants, and so on – come together to share ideas, to work through “sociograms” and “fluxograms”, to identify and debate criteria, and to draw up proposals in a co-operative and participatory manner.

Working in a democratic and operational network is proposed. This includes socially creative group encounters using a participatory process of programming and monitoring in which follow-up commissions, forums and co-ordinating committees have an important role. The article contributes criteria on what should be understood as research ethics, which must be present in the methodology, in the construction of the participatory process and the shared results. The usefulness of methodology in social intervention is pointed out in order to achieve objectives that open up new paths in the processes of “reversality” and “transversality”, so that one can learn during the process itself in order to create broader networks and reach new levels of achievement.



## **Opening up New Paths: Community Intervention in the Department of Personal Services of the Barcelona City Council**

*Carmina Català and Margarita Sáiz*

The participatory research/action has been applied during these years in several European communities and in South America. In Barcelona, this method has been applied in some projects of community intervention carried out through the departments of social services and personal services in various municipal districts.

After defining this methodology — which is based on involving the affected groups in the process of change — of building a new reality through consensus, it has been determined that the development of the role of technicians and specialists within a context of objectivity is impossible. The work of professionals is defined by their capacity to accompany the process by giving technical support by means of instruments and new techniques without ruling out the traditional ones.

The phases of the participatory research/action process are also defined, and three experiences were presented that were set out in a Training Programme promoted by the Barcelona City Council Sector of Social Services to apply intervention in the community.