

# **INN CARE Project**

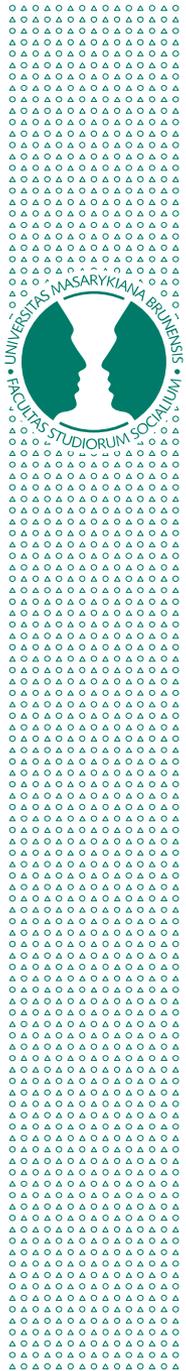
## **Early Childhood Education and Care Childcare arrangements**

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**Kick-off Meeting, Oslo, 03/12/2014**

# Introduction

- Childcare for children aged 0 to 6
- Defamiliastic policy → refamilialistic policy (Sirovátka, Saxonberg, 2006)
  - return of the major portion of childcare back to the families and in most cases provided by mothers
  - implications on employment rates, economic situation of families and fertility rates



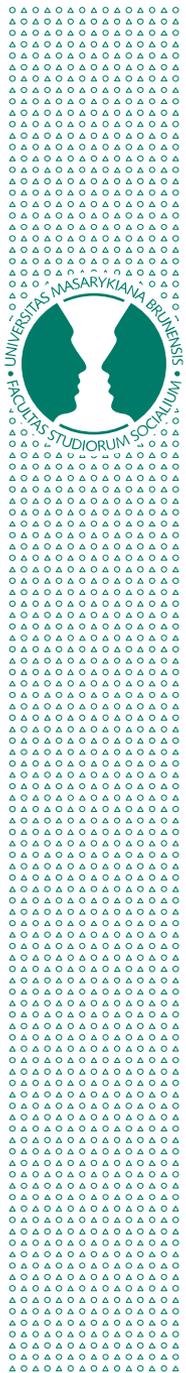
# Leaves

## Maternity leave

- Conditional on insurance in the last 270 days
- Entitlement: mother, father in case of death of mother or after concluding a contract with mother (from 7<sup>th</sup> week, 7 days in row, unlimited swapping)
- 28 weeks
- 70% of the previous income

## Parental leave

- Entitlement: mother or father
- Flexible – fixed amount 220.000 CZK, maximal amount 11.500 CZK per month (= 19 months provision), income tested for calculation of the monthly amount
- Child under 2 can not be placed in daycare for more than 46 hours a month
- Possible to work parallel to parental leave up-take



# Daycare facilities

## Nurseries

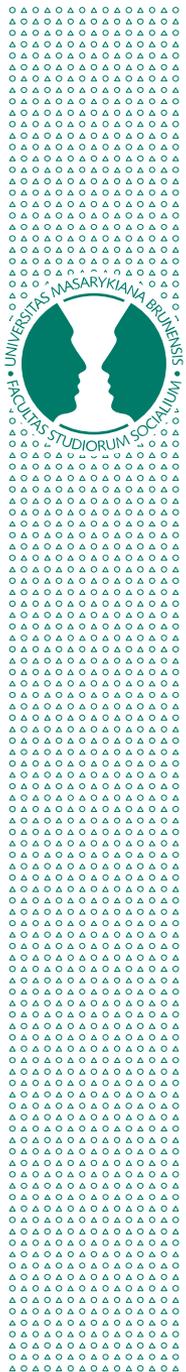
- For children 0 to 3
- Run by municipalities or churches
- Governed by Ministry of Health
- Cancelled in April 2013
- Have no clear status for now

## Child Group programme

- Non-profit activity of childcare provision
- Governed by Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- Rules and conditions for functioning of various forms of facilities

## Private nurseries

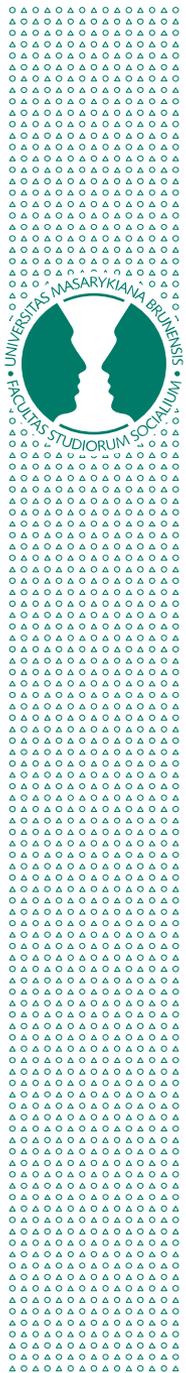
- Childcare as business activity



# Daycare facilities

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Nurseries	1 043	486	381	247	235	207	151	101
Places in nurseries	39 829	-	13 196	9 265	8 565	7 574	5 551	2 965
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Nurseries	79	67	65	59	58	60	58	54
Places in nurseries	2191	1 913	1 867	1 717	1 674	1 770	1 708	1671
Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Nurseries	48	49	46	46	46	46	44	n.a.
Places in nurseries	1567	1587	1413	1419	1452	1425	1401	n.a.

Source: ÚZIS



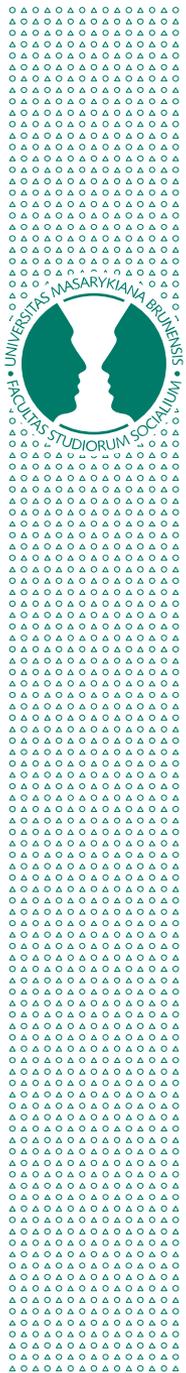
# Daycare facilities

## Kindergartens

- Pre-school education for children (3 to 6)
- Run by municipalities or churches
- Governed by Ministry of Education
- Lack of capacities, especially in big cities

## Private kindergartens

- Childcare as business activity
- Often in big cities, higher demand



# Share of children attending kindergartens by age group

Age /year	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01
<b>Up to 3 years</b>	20,57%	15,61%	12,22%	10,98%	14,26%	16,89%	20,76%
<b>3-years old</b>	69,95%	66,80%	55,67%	58,41%	61,03%	66,48%	70,02%
	2002/03	2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
<b>Up to 3 years</b>	24,46%	25,30%	26,50%	25,40%	23,00%	23,00%	24,80%
<b>3-years old</b>	76,36%	80,00%	77,30%	74,60%	76,60%	75,30%	76,50%

Source: database ÚIV + Kuchařova 2010

\* In the 2003/04 and 2004/05 school years, including schools in health facilities.

\*\* Children older than 5 years of age in 2003/04 and 2004/05.

# Childcare preferences

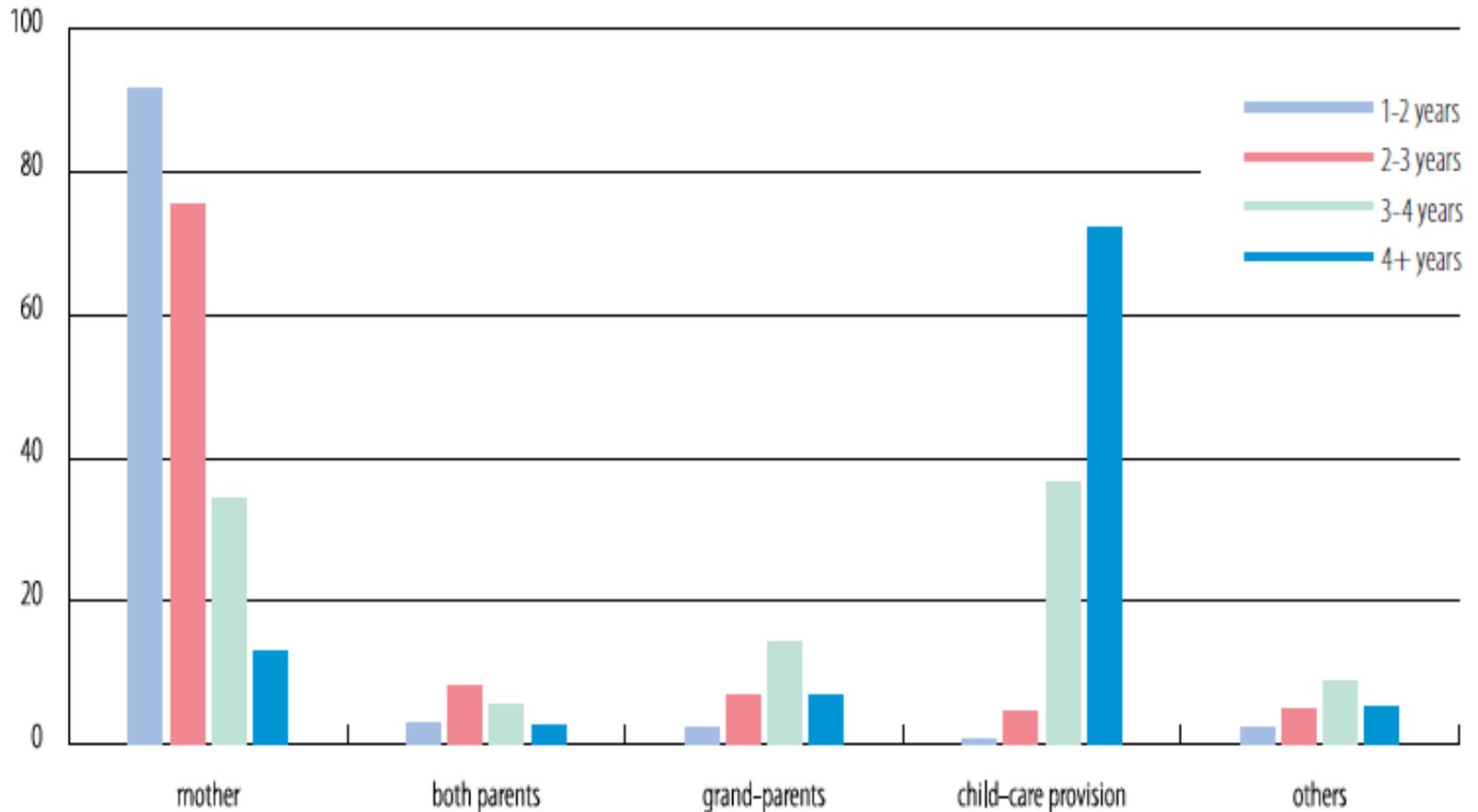


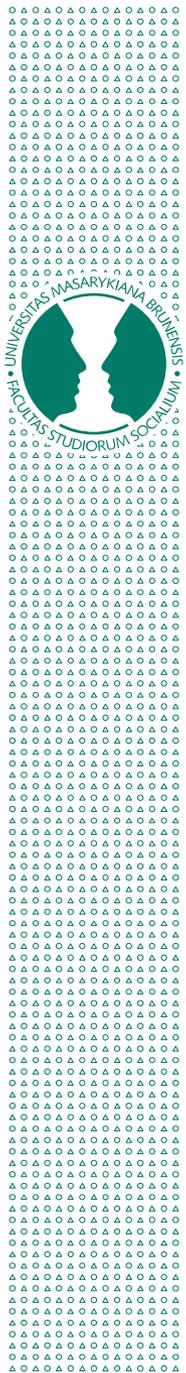
Figure 1. Preferred forms of caring for children by parents of small children

Source: RZV06

Source: Kuchařová, V. 2010. Supply and demand for children's day-care facilities and its determinants in the Czech Republic. In: *Manka goes to work. Public Child Care in Visegrad Countries.* - Budapest : Budapest Institute for Policy Analysis.

# Implemented childcare arrangements

- predominant: mother = full-time caregiver until the child is 3, then kindergarten
- exceptions working part-time before the child was 3:
  - Combining care with other family member
  - Use of public nursery
  - Use of private babysitter

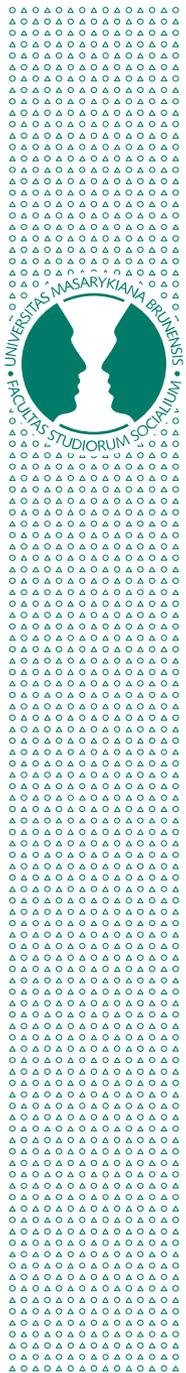


# Implemented childcare arrangements

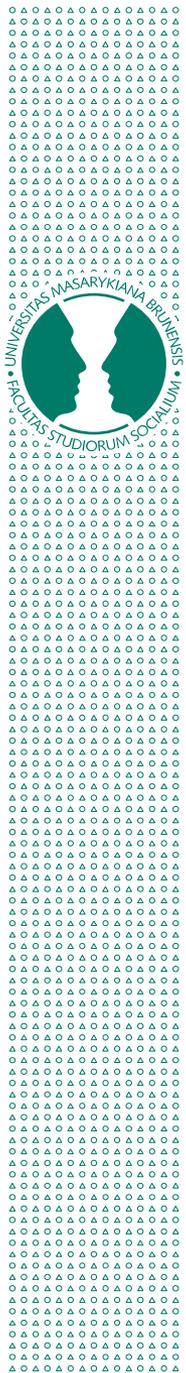
## - Diverse experience with public nursery

*“Actually, I considered taking advantage of the day care centre for those 5 days a month, but when I went to look at the place, it was catastrophic. It looked like an institute from the 70’s. There were those special overalls and nurses who never let you in past the room where you could pick up the children.” (mother - WPMC1, 32 years, university education, divorced, 1 child, Prague)*

*“Excellent. Completely fantastic! We even wrote them a commendatory letter because there were just two nurses and one helper for ten children. They always had enough for the children to do for the whole week. It was rather a motherly type of care where they held the children, cuddle with them, it was... It wasn’t as if they just had ten children that they needed to handle. They were fantastic. Excellent.” (mother, FBRMC2, 32, university degree, married, 2 children, Brno)*

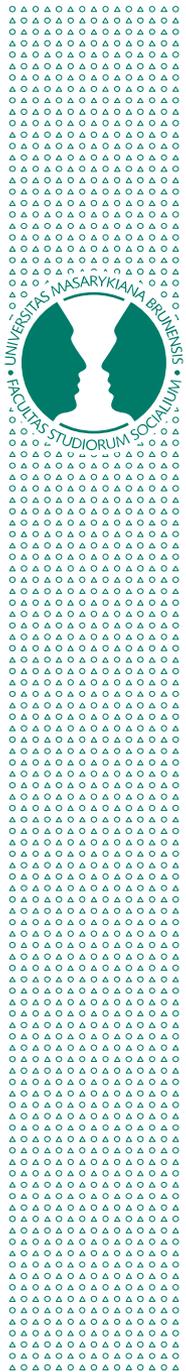


# Influence of institutions and cultural values



- Strong influence of institutions - reference to the existing status quo, poor ability to think outside the existing framework
- Some middle-upper class women would prefer to work part-time before the child is 3 (and some in fact did) but still would not use public nursery
- Unique refusal of the „either-or“ model – requirement for higher flexibility in work and care

# Influence of institutions and cultural values

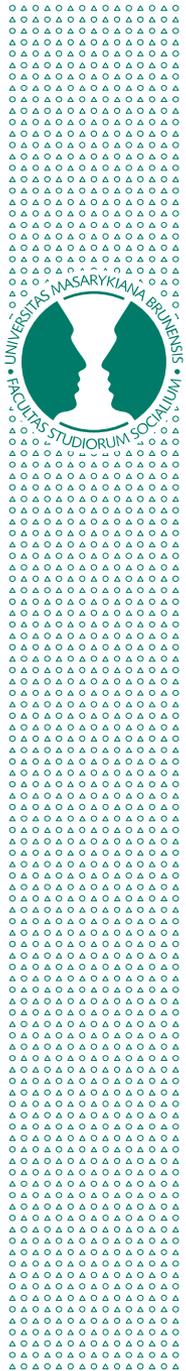


- Ideal age to start preschool attendance 3

Reasons that parents stated as important to define the ideal age for preschool care correspond with popular psychological discourse (Hašková, Mudrák, Saxonberg 2012) stating that:

- child under 3 should be brought up in family, by the “close” person, namely mother;
- child under 3 is not mature enough for join a group, does not need other children to interact or play with etc.;
- special education is perceived as necessary for socialisation of the child from 3, only exceptionally earlier but not under 2 years of age.

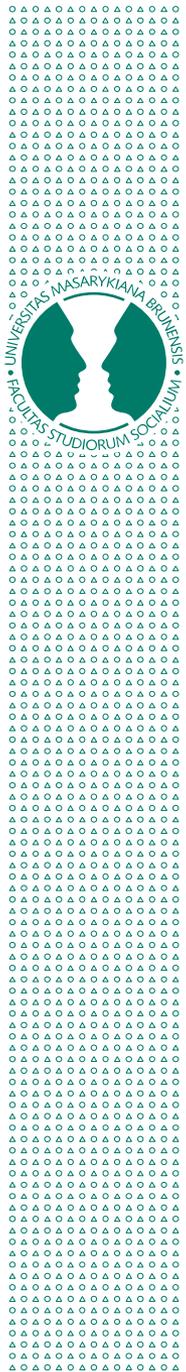
# Money (sometimes) matter



## Situation 1: No parental leave is available

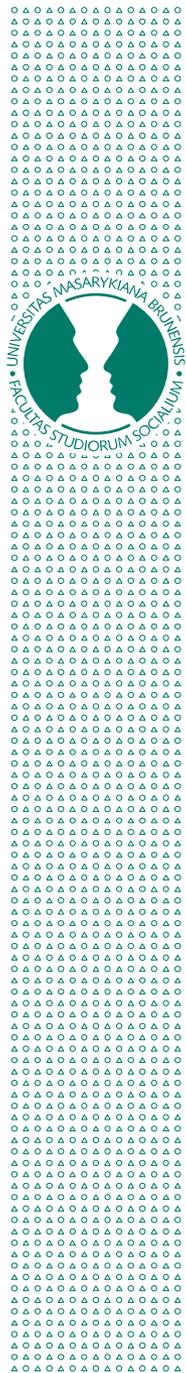
- Most parents revealed it would not change anything in their way of arranging childcare
- Men confirmed their readiness for the breadwinner role
- Rational choice – parent with lower income would be the key caregiver (which only in one case would mean a swap between parents)
- Mothers would prefer to start working earlier but only on part time basis

# Money (sometimes) matter



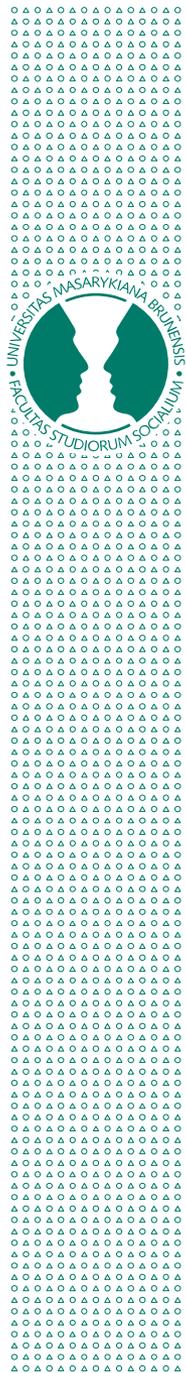
Situation 2: parental leave = 100% of the previous income

- Better accepted by men, in particular those from working class
- Refusal from most women – both working and middle-upper class
- Some middle-upper class women wanted to share the leave but under 2 conditions: (1) they would stay from the birth of child and exchange later when the child is older (1+), (2) they would stay longer than fathers



# Conclusion

- Strong influence of institutions on views of people and cultural values
- Strong refusal of institutional care for children below 3 (even despite good experience)
- Cuts in parental leave would strengthen unequal gender contract in families
- Raise in parental leave could motivate some fathers to use it, if allowed by their female counterparts



# Thank you for your attention!

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