The Family Impact Analysis: A Model for the Assessment of family policies. Application in the Italian Context

Maria Letizia Bosoni, Sara Mazzucchelli, Matteo Moscatelli, Elisabetta Carrà, Catholic University of Milan, marialetizia.bosoni@unicatt.it

There is an increasing international debate around the opportunity to assume a family perspective in policy and practices, in particular concerning the impact of policies on family wellbeing. In line with this perspective, the Family Impact Analysis is a process of assessment, design and implementation of policies and practices that allows to trigger a virtuous and circular dialogue between policymakers, professionals and researchers, with the aim of devising interventions that are able to positively "impact" on the different living conditions and well-being of families. This contribution will present the Family Impact Lens, a model firstly developed in the US, that is based originally on five evidence-based principles (Bogenschneider et al., 2012; Belletti, Bramanti, & Carrà, 2018). Moreover, some applications of the US model in the Italian context will be presented and discussed with reference to the method used and results: a Participatory Action Research led by the Catholic University of Milan to improve the Family Centres (FC) in Lombardy Region (Italy) and an analysis of the Italian leave policies. This research enabled the creation of an ad hoc version, the FamILens, based on six principles, which is continually updated and applied across various contexts.