

## **THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON WOMEN POVERTY AND PRECARIOUSNESS OF THE WOMEN IN FRANCE**

Education, Culture and Science Commission

What is a poor person ? It's a person who lives in a family whose standard of living is lower than 60% of the standard of living median.

In France, as in the most European countries, the poverty rate of women is higher than the one of men : 15% to 13,3%. The average annual pay of women is lower of 27% than the one of men.

4,7 million women and 3,9% million men have a standing of living which is lower than the poverty line. Either they are particularly in the age bracket 18-34 years with a difference of 4 points, or they are older than 75 with a difference of 5 points.

It should be noted that in this bracket more than 70% are women. Why ? Because of the fact that men who need more aid and who have a life expectancy lower than the one of the women, are partly deceased. Furthermore many women who are the same age, never worked and receive very low pensions, a small survivor's pension or the basic state pension.

Some family-configurations which concern the women particularly, are directly affected by the poverty. 34,5 parents of single-parent families, especially women, have a standard of living which is lower than the poverty line. It's constantly increasing. The difference is significant with the men when they are under 35. Under the line with 60%, 91% are women. They are often unmarried mothers who receive the « R.S.A. » or part-time pay : both are under the poverty line (around 950 € at the moment for a parent and his child).

70% poor economic workers are women.

Women represent 75% salaried employees with low pay. Among the women who have a job, 29,9% does it part-time (men : 6,9%). So they receive very low pensions. Her monthly pension is 1165 € gross compared to 1749 € for men. That is to say a difference of 33 €.

Women have 80% household-jobs. Please note that they devote to the housework 3,52 hours daily.

Obviously to study at University is practically impossible for these women.

We can notice by the way that in France for equal qualification or diploma women's pay is 19,7% lower than the one of men : problem of access to responsibilities, they are limited by the persistent « glass ceiling ». They hold only 32% executive and management jobs in the Public Service. Only 33% are a member of Boards of directors. Her access to the mandates and the elective functions is more limited than the one of men. The part of women as entrepreneurs is 30%.

### **What happens with the children who grow in this poverty ?**

In France the poverty line of children is 17,7%. It is more important than among adults. Children are more affected by the poverty. This precariousness-condition is always increasing.

Who are these children ? Either they are born in single-parent families and especially as the parent is non-working or in large families.

What are the impacts of the poverty in the families on the living-conditions of the children ?

Poor performance at school, academic failure, learning difficulties and problems to accede to a higher education.

Their objective and horizon are straightaway limited.

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Sources :- Ministère des Droits des Femmes et de l'Égalité

« Chiffres-Clés » :L'égalité entre les femmes et les hommes »

- CCAS Besançon