

The Concept of Unpaid Care Work – a Feminist Input into Economic Thought

Anna Zachorowska-Mazurkiewicz
Jagiellonian University in Krakow
Poland

The concept of care work

- Care and work
- Gender division of work

Minutes of work daily—paid and unpaid—by gender, region, and income group

Region	Unpaid care work		Paid work		Total work	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
World	265	83	183	322	448	404
Low-income countries	262	89	193	290	455	378
Middle-income countries	267	66	192	346	460	412
High-income countries	257	135	154	249	411	384

Addati, Laura, Umberto Cattaneo, Valeria Esquivel, and Isabel Valarino. 2018.
Care Work and Care Jobs for the Future of Decent Work. Geneva:
International Labour Organization.

Unpaid care work in economic thought

- Early economics
- Mainstream economics
- Critical schools
- Feminist economics

„If women’s activities are made invisible by the categories and taxonomies that economists develop, it would be surprising if the analysis and actual policy prescriptions following from that framework ended up serving the interests of women or the interests of society very well”

Grapard U. (1996), *Feminist economics: let me count the ways*, in: *Beyond Neoclassical Economics; Heterodox Approaches to Economic Theory*, F.E. Foldvary (ed.), Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, pp. 100–114.

Inclusion of Care Work

- Care work as an essential part of the economy
- Social provisioning
- Different ways of allocation of goods and services

