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The central research question of the current study is to understand the impact of nonstandard (evening, night, weekend) working time on family cohesion. The findings show that the way nonstandard schedule working time is regulated and organized politically, occupationally and individually is shaping the meaning, prevalence, locations and the consequences of nonstandard schedule work on workers and families. Institutional regulations can soften the disruptive impact of work in these unhealthy days and hours by controlling and neutralizing the negative consequences. It can also boost the negative consequences even more when work in these schedules is of marginal nature. Although occupation is still the main characteristic explaining engagement in nonstandard schedules, work in these schedules is also a household issue. In the Netherlands, combining nonstandard schedules and parenthood appears to allow parents to increase parent-child interactions depends on which of the parents is engaged in nonstandard schedules; and while gaining in personal parent-child interaction, parents often spend ess time in joint family activities. Although the findings show that in The Netherlands, there is no predominantly negative effect of nonstandard schedules on partnership quality, in a long run, work in nonstandard schedules tends still to increase the partnership quality, in a long run, work in monstandard schedules tends still to increase the partnership dissolution risk. Contrary to expectations, the impact areas only very modestly shaped by the divorce culture and the labor market and welfare regime context of the country.

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Out of sync?

The determinants and consequences of nonstandard schedules for family cohesion: The Netherlands within a comparative perspective



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