

Imagining Families: Gender, Youth, and Diversity in Chile

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Feminist scholarship highlights the key role the family plays in promoting or hindering gender equality. This article explores how young university students (N = 1,038) imagine their future regarding family arrangements in the Maule region (Chile). Quantitative and qualitative data suggest young people recognize and value diversity in family ideals, with significant gender differences. However, Chilean legislation and public social policy take the traditional family as the blueprint for state action, jeopardizing those projects that depart from the traditional one. Public policy and social work need to acknowledge the multiplicity of family ideals held by the younger generations to promote gender equality. © 2017, © The Author(s) 2017.

family status

gender/identity

mixed methods

Chile

female

feminism

gender identity

human

juvenile

law

major clinical study

male

public policy

sex difference

social work

university student