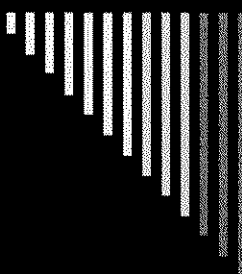


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## Diverse Families at Work

Dr JaneMaree Maher  
Centre for Women's Studies & Gender  
Research  
Monash University

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## Families, Fertility and the Future

- Women of all ages with and without children, men;
- Rural, regional and metropolitan voices;
- Broad range of educational, cultural and economic, ethnic backgrounds represented;
- In the midst of the paid maternity leave debate.

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Inquiry into Balancing Work and Family  
Maher 2006



## Policy Framework

- Social services, employment conditions, family payments, taxation all underpin work/family decisions;
- No single initiative will shape fertility or work/family balance: women and men evaluate the range of supports available;

Inquiry into Balancing Work and Family  
Maher 2006



## Moving Forward?

- More research on where work/life balance works for families: the workplaces, regions, services that deliver effectively;
- New models for the transitions between work and family – crisis and collision can only take us so far.

Inquiry into Balancing Work and Family  
Maher 2006