Fux, Beat (Zürich) 1994

Familienwandel und Familienpolitik. Die Schweiz im internationalen Vergleich (Family Change and Family Policy in Switzerland)

The study is embedded in a broader project aiming at analysing family changes and family policies in a long-term comparative view. This framework project was launched by Prof. Peter Flora (MZES, University of Mannheim), Prof. Sheila Kamerman and Prof. Alfred Kahn (Co-lumbia University School of Social Work, New York, USA). Results will be published in a series of 5 volumes with 18 country studies and 2 comparative volumes. In addition, a data-base on family policies in Europe will be developed as a major source for comparative analy-ses and family policy indicators. The database will be made available to the academic public after the conclusion of the project. The first volume, containing the country reports for Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand and the United States, was published in 1997 by Clarendon Press in Oxford. The second volume, entitled 'Family Change and Family Policies in Consociational Democracies' will appear in late 2001 and contains the country reports for Belgium, Switzerland and The Netherlands. The country report for Switzerland is written by Dr. B. Fux (Institute of Sociology, University of Zurich).

The objective of the project is to examine the main variations, and their origins, developments and consequences, in the institutional context in which in all Western countries the family and the welfare state have substantially changed and thus today pose major problems of institu-tional adjustment.

The report for Switzerland (130 p, 6 synopses, 9 figures, 25 tables) consists of an introduction on the historical roots of family policy and five chapters focusing on 1) the formation of families, 2) families and the division of labour, 3) the income of families, 4) families in the social services, and 5) The politics of family policy.