

Fertility of the second-generation Moroccans in Belgium: their heterogeneous behaviors

Isaline Wertz

IGEAT – Université Libre de Bruxelles

iwertz@ulb.ac.be

Several studies claim that second-generation's fertility falls somewhere between the one of the first-generation and the one of the locals in the country of adoption. Moreover, while controlling for socio-economic status, differences with the locals seem to decrease and even sometime disappear. However, what does an average behavior hide? Could we speak about second-generation as a homogeneous group?

My presentation will answer these questions for the second-generation of Moroccan origin in Brussels and Antwerp.

First, I will present measures of second-generation's fertility and compare it with the fertility of the first-generation of migrants and with people of Belgian origin. Although second-generation shows similar level of fertility as Belgians, this average level hides a high diversity in fertility behavior. Secondly, I will analyze the heterogeneity in Moroccans second-generation's fertility and try to explain it using the influence of various factors. Finally, I will establish a typology of these fertility behaviors.