

3.3 SUBSIDIARITY: POLICIES ON THE FAMILY /

POLICIES WITH THE FAMILY

CHALLENGES

In their relationship with the State, families can be considered as groups of social subjects, holders of their own ability to act and generate relational goods.

A relational family policy, which attributes protagonism to families in their relations with the State, does not intend to disassemble the welfare intervention system of the welfare state, but rather to define a new configuration of the connections between the State, the market, the third sector and the families themselves as active players.

SUGGESTIONS

Family policies must result within a set of measures that make families more capable and more autonomous in generating relational goods. Policies must activate and promote the role of families as active contributors to social and community well-being. For families to be able to do their work, they must enjoy their own rights, complementary to the individual rights of their members.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- clearly defining the fields and scope of the State as a provider of the common good and family welfare, in relation to other agencies that produce the common good
- considering the non-profit sector as a partner in appropriate public policy and, as a result, supporting non-profit sector initiatives aimed at families
- supporting social initiatives that open spaces for coexistence and education, which create supportive communities with families with limited economic means
- promoting models of social and family intervention that involve families in co-producing responses to their needs
- promoting the establishment of family associationism
- promoting mechanisms that allow families freedom of choice regarding the type of education they desire and consider most appropriate for their children

Guidelines for family-focused university research

Further research should be conducted on:

- the principle of subsidiarity, its place within the Social Doctrine of the Church, its generativity within social dynamics, with an interdisciplinary approach
- assessments of the degree of subsidiarity of micro and macro public policies
- organizational and operational models of welfare based on the principle of subsidiarity
- the role and specific characteristics (added value) of non-profit entities



FAMILY
GLOBAL
COMPACT