Studying Family Formation Trajectories’ Deinstitutionalization in Russia Using Sequence Analysis

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Theoretical pre-conditions

Soviet Union Collapse:

Early and Universal marriage
(The average age at marriage has remained practically unchanged since the late 19th century: 24.2 years for men and 21.4 for women in 1989; only 3.7 percent of men and 3.5 percent of women aged 45-49 were never married in 1989)
Small proportion of cohabitations
(6.6% of matrimonial unions are cohabitations in 1994)
Not large proportion of divorces
(3.8 divorces per 1000 population in 1989)
TFR = 2.02 in 1989
190 abortions per 100 live births in 1985
Patriarchal family, both spouses work, wife is a householder
(institutionalized life course)

The rise of average marital age
(The average age at marriage was 27.4 years for men and 25 years for women in 2010)
The rise of proportion of cohabitations
(13% of matrimonial unions are cohabitations in 2010)
More significant proportion of divorces
(5.2 divorces per 1000 population in 2010)
TFR = 1.57 in 2010
66 abortions per 100 live births in 2010
Partner family, husband can be a householder
(deinstitutionalized life courses)

Second Demographic Transition
Our aim was to demonstrate how family formation trajectories of men and women from different Russian generations were transforming.

**Group 1. Gender:**
- Women take steps to family earlier than men
- Women stay alone with children more often than men
- Women experience more family formation events than men

**Group 2. Generations:**
- De-standardization of family formation trajectories was demonstrated first by representatives of the first “Modern” generation (1970-79 birth cohort)
- “Modern” generations experience more varied matrimonial and reproductive events than the representatives of “Soviet” generations
**Data Description**


### Proportions of men and women in Russian generations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>GGS</th>
<th>PFS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Absolute numbers</td>
<td>Percentages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930-1939</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940-1949</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950-1959</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960-1969</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-1979</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1986(89)</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-1995</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology: Sequence Analysis

- Individual life courses can be represented as a sequence of events
- Every event can be coded with a letter and the built “word” can describe the state of an individual at every point of a chosen time window

Alphabet of partnership and fertility states

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC0</td>
<td>Single, no children</td>
<td>M1C0</td>
<td>First marriage, no children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC1</td>
<td>Single, 1 child</td>
<td>M1C1</td>
<td>First marriage, 1 child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC2</td>
<td>Single, 2 children</td>
<td>M1C2</td>
<td>First marriage, 2 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1C0</td>
<td>First cohabitation, no children</td>
<td>M2C0</td>
<td>Second marriage, no children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1C1</td>
<td>First cohabitation, 1 child</td>
<td>M2C1</td>
<td>Second marriage, 1 child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1C2</td>
<td>First cohabitation, 2 children</td>
<td>M2C2</td>
<td>Second marriage, 2 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2C0</td>
<td>Second cohabitation, no children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2C1</td>
<td>Second cohabitation, 1 child</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2C2</td>
<td>Second cohabitation, 2 children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Empirical Results

Women Take Steps to Family Earlier than Men (1)
Women Stay Alone with Children More Often than Men Do (1)

Family formation trajectories of Russians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GGS:</strong></td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Graphs" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Graphs" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PFS:</strong></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Graphs" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Graphs" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Censored
- Single, no children
- Single, 1 child
- Single, 2 children
- First cohabitation, no children
- First cohabitation, 1 child
- First cohabitation, 2 children
- Second cohabitation, no children
- Second cohabitation, 1 child
- Second cohabitation, 2 children

Higher School of Economics, Moscow, 2016
Empirical Results

Women Take Steps to Family Earlier than Men (2)
Women Stay Alone with Children More Often than Men Do (2)

Mean time spent in status

- Single, no children
- Single, 1 child
- Single, 2 children
- First cohabitation, no children
- First cohabitation, 1 child
- First cohabitation, 2 children
- Second cohabitation, no children
- Second cohabitation, 1 child
- Second cohabitation, 2 children
- First marriage, no children
- First marriage, 1 child
- First marriage, 2 children
- Second marriage, no children
- Second marriage, 1 child
- Second marriage, 2 children

Mean duration of being in status, months
- GGS: women
- GGS: men
- PFS: women
- PFS: men

Higher School of Economics, Moscow, 2016
Empirical Results

Women Experience More Family Formation Events than Men

Number of family formation events by gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>GGS</th>
<th>PFS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>4.12*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>4.04*</td>
<td>4.12*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The difference is statistically significant (p<0.001)
Empirical Results

De-standardization of Family Formation Trajectories Was Demonstrated First by Representatives of First “Modern” Generation

Entropy by generations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GGS:</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="GGS Men Chart" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="GGS Women Chart" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFS:</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="PFS Men Chart" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="PFS Women Chart" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend

- 1930-1939
- 1940-1949
- 1950-1959
- 1960-1969
- 1970-1979
- 1980-1986(89)
- 1990-1995
Empirical Results

De-standardization of Family Formation Trajectories Was Demonstrated First by Representatives of First “Modern” Generation

Distribution of partnerships and fertility statuses by gender and generation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Soviet” generations</th>
<th>“Modern” generations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GGS: 1930-39

GGS: 1940-49

GGS: 1950-59

GGS: 1960-69

PPS: 1970-79

GGS: 1980-86

PPS: 1980-89
The research revealed several points about family formation trajectories of Russians:

- women start to entry into first matrimonial events earlier than men
- women stay alone with children more often than men do
- women and men experience equal number of family formation events
- generations born after 1970 started to exhibit de-standardized family formation trajectories
- the number of events for men and women in different generations remains stable

Matrimonial and reproductive behavior is becoming diverse, proving that Russia fully displays Second Demographic Transition
Thank you for your attention!

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