

The maintenance collection agencies, instruments of a policy to support single-parent families

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Plan

Presentation of the MREIC study about maintenance collection agencies:

<https://www.cairn.info/revue-informations-sociales-2022-3-page-83.htm>

Presentation of ARIPA's missions in France



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Presentation of the MREIC study about maintenance collection agencies

Introduction

A panel of countries: Germany, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Quebec and Australia.

– countries that have developed a public system for recovering maintenance payments entrusted to a public administrative body

Analysis of the origins of these agencies, their role, their institutional form and their development



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Reasons for public intervention

An increase in single-parent families

A high prevalence of poverty among these families

The cost of public spending on assistance for these families

Judicial procedures deemed ineffective



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Diverse institutional forms

Within the social security system

Dedicated agency

Within the tax system

Responsibility of local players



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Beyond similar prerogatives, there are two main models:

A model of broad intervention and intermediation,
without a public guarantee

→ Australia, United Kingdom, Quebec

A model centred on intervention in the event of
non-payment, with a public guarantee

→ Sweden, Germany, France



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Relatively stable systems

Adjustments in most of the countries

Refocusing for the UK from 2012

France's move towards a systematic intermediation model



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Aripa's missions in France



Aripa's missions in France

Key figures

426,000 separations every year

= contentious divorces + divorces by mutual consent + dissolutions of PACS and common-law unions

25% of families are single-parent families

The poverty rate among these families is high

900,000 to 1 million parents receive maintenance payments

Nearly 25% of maintenance payments are totally or partially unpaid



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History of implementation

A mission entrusted to the Caf since 1984

The creation of ARIPA in 2017

Gradual roll-out of intermediation from 2018 onwards



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Aripa's missions

Helping parents calculate child support

Delivering an enforcement order to separated,
unmarried parents

Acting as an intermediary between parents for the
payment of child support

Recovering unpaid maintenance

Paying advances in the event of non-payment



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The results of intermediation deployment

432,900 applications for financial intermediation registered by 2023

Recovery rate increased from 68% in 2020 to 70% in 2023

Direct debit for 85% of payments

A very favourable perception of mothers

Measured effects in terms of calming relations between parents



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