

**CHILDREN'S
WORLDS**



INTERNATIONAL SURVEY OF CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING (ISCWeB)

Family structure and family relationship from the child well-being perspective

Findings from comparative analysis

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Family concept and Children's Worlds

- Relationships within the family are important for the development of well-being of children, as well as for their overall satisfaction.
- “Children's Worlds” assesses subjective appraisals towards family from a children's point of view.
- Initially, it is about describing and assessing the frame conditions of family and ultimately, about “exterior” characteristics of the chosen family type, number of persons living in the same household, activities in and with the family, and happiness about the persons the child lives with.
- Additionally, questions of deprivation and deprivation experiences give important information about material scope of action within the family and for children.

Family concept and Children's Worlds

- Yet, what exactly is considered as a family?
- There is no such thing as a standard family or the *one* concept.
- A more appropriate question could be, what makes up a family and who would consider it as a family?
- So, on the one hand, there seems to be barely another “institution” so crucially dependent on social, historical, cultural and religious conditioned notions.

On the other hand, the elementary care of the exceedingly depending family members is central nearly everywhere. In particular, the perspective of children on family and their experiences are suggesting this.

Both, the importance of differences between the children's comprehension of care and the similarity of expectations of care turn out to be relevant.

- **What types of care are related to the concept of family?**

Family concept and Children's Worlds

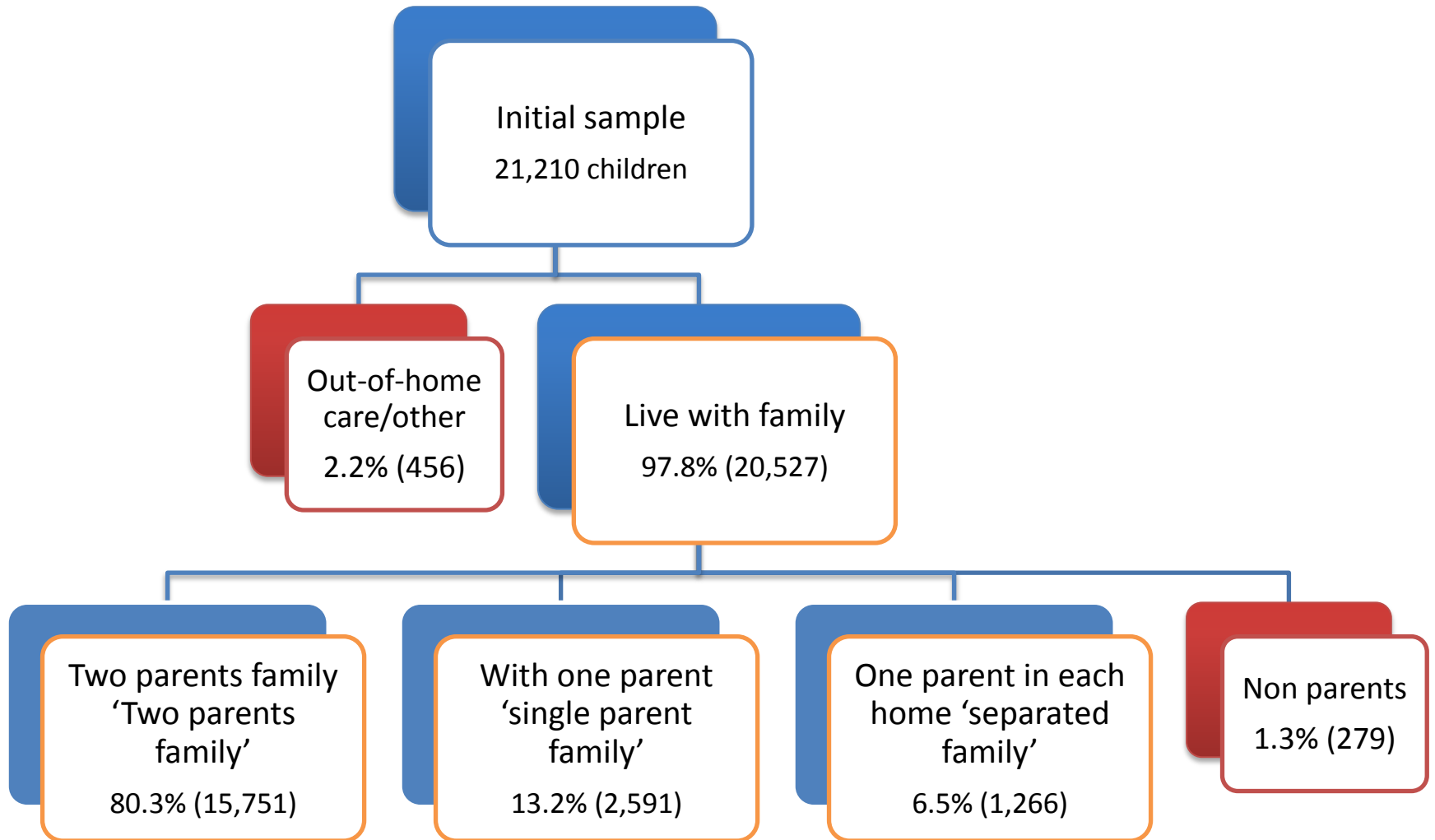
- How can **family** be conceptualized based on the framing and findings of the Children's Worlds Study?
 1. The systematic connection between Child Well-Being and Family Well-Being
 2. Reference to the new socio-philosophical debate is possible: Family is understood as an intergenerational communion of adults and children with a unifying, distinctive concern for each other. Continuing with the concept of “doing family” based on experiences and connected norms
 3. Exploring different living situations/families in different countries

Research questions

1. How different family structures vary in different countries and socio-economic characteristics?
2. Are there differences between the various family structures in family relationship?
3. Are there differences between the various family structures in global subjective well-being?

We explore each of the questions **in general** and comparison of **10 countries**

Sample



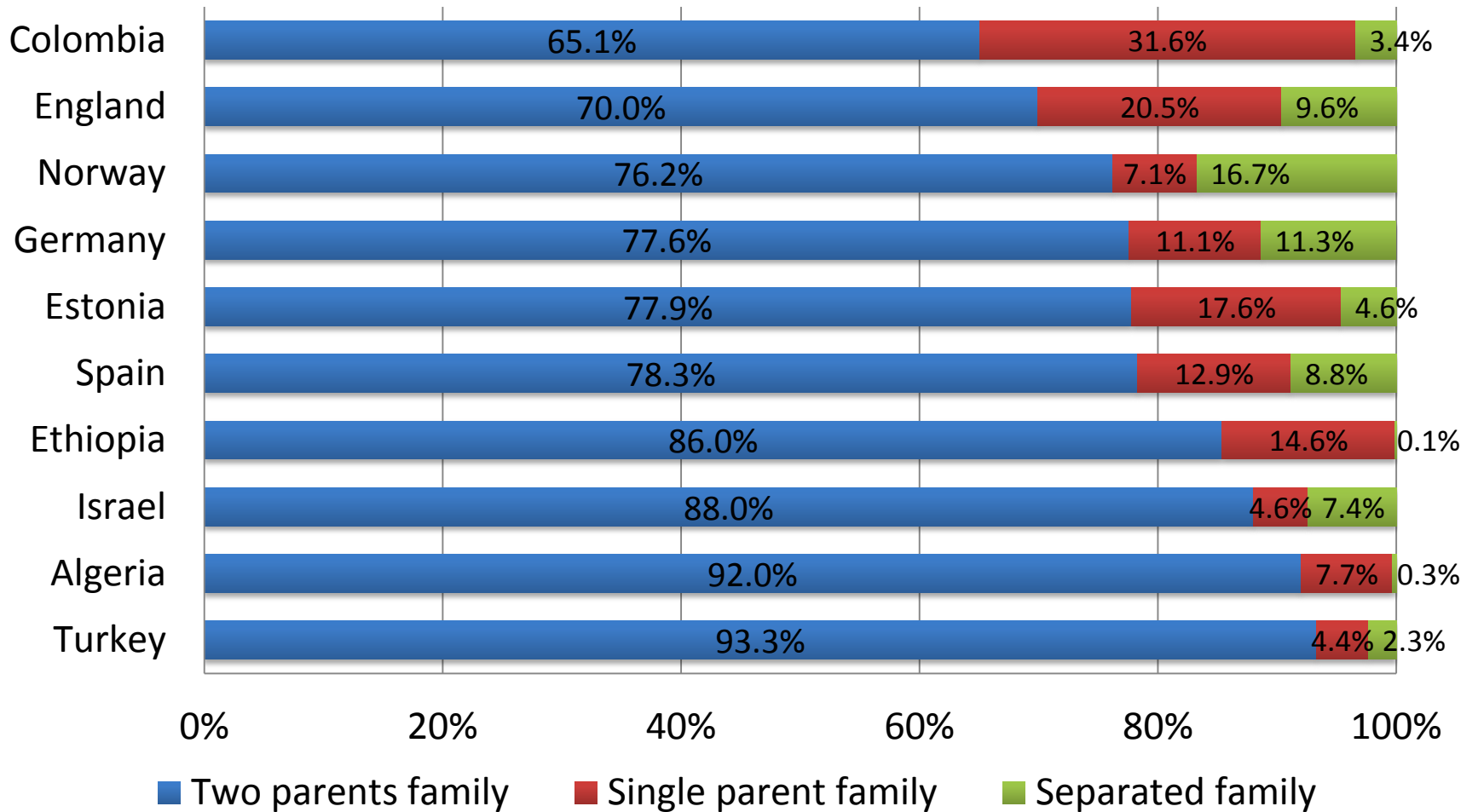
Methods

- Chi-square test for differences in demographic characteristics
- Non-parametric analyses
 - Differences between the three groups were assessed using Kruskal–Wallis test
 - post-hoc tests were conducted using Mann-Whitney's U test to assess the differences between each pair of groups
 - The means and standard deviations are presented, although they were not used in the calculations, to display differences more clearly

Focus of comparative findings

1. Family structure and relationships
2. Socioeconomic findings on single parents
3. Global subjective well-being

Family structures in different countries



1. Family structure and family relationships

- Safety
- Child rearing and everyday family life
- Family subjective well-being (satisfaction)

1. Family structure and family relationships

I feel safe at home

0=I do not agree, 1= Agree a little bit, 2= Agree somewhat, 3= Agree a lot, 4= Totally agree

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	3.60	3.39	-
Estonia	3.75	3.67	3.58
Spain	3.72	3.62	3.59
Colombia	3.73	3.65	3.47
Turkey	3.58	3.57	3.32
Ethiopia	2.92	2.73	-
Germany	3.64	3.62	3.49
UK	3.73	3.59	3.57
Israel	3.71	3.75	3.70
Norway	3.77	3.70	3.62
Total	3.61	3.53	3.57

1. Family relationships

My parents treat me fairly

0=I do not agree, 1= Agree a little bit, 2= Agree somewhat, 3= Agree a lot, 4= Totally agree

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	3.61	3.54	-
Estonia	3.54	3.47	3.23
Spain	3.64	3.39	3.45
Colombia	3.72	3.61	3.47
Turkey	3.04	2.87	2.93
Ethiopia	2.24	2.06	-
Germany	3.38	3.32	3.11
England	3.56	3.43	3.32
Israel	3.57	3.64	3.41
Norway	3.65	3.57	3.36
Total	3.49	3.42	3.31

1. Family structure and family relationships

Frequency of having fun together with family

0= Not at all, 1= Once or twice, 2= Most days, 3= Every day

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	2.36	2.18	-
Estonia	1.92	1.80	1.71
Spain	2.06	1.91	1.83
Colombia	2.09	1.94	1.89
Turkey	2.06	1.92	1.91
Ethiopia	1.79	1.74	-
Germany	2.25	2.04	2.01
UK	2.19	2.04	2.00
Israel	1.99	2.05	1.87
Norway	2.18	2.10	2.13
Total	2.10	1.95	1.96

1. Family structure and family relationships

Frequency of learning together with family

0= Not at all, 1= Once or twice, 2= Most days, 3= Every day

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	2.39	2.43	-
Estonia	1.62	1.50	1.40
Spain	2.01	1.71	1.73
Colombia	2.22	2.09	2.08
Turkey	2.21	2.21	1.76
Ethiopia	1.61	1.78	-
Germany	1.67	1.33	1.44
UK	1.73	1.55	1.47
Israel	1.64	1.64	1.34
Norway	1.90	1.84	1.74
Total	1.93	1.78	1.61

1. Family structure and family relationships

Satisfaction with your family life

0= Not at all satisfied – 10 = Totally satisfied

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	9.58	9.24	-
Estonia	9.31	8.84	8.29
Spain	9.32	8.61	8.45
Colombia	9.54	9.25	9.23
Turkey	9.68	9.59	8.47
Ethiopia	8.61	7.95	-
Germany	9.26	8.58	8.29
UK	9.22	8.53	8.53
Israel	9.39	9.10	8.76
Norway	9.41	9.17	8.90
Total	9.34	8.81	8.60

1. Family structure and family relationships

Satisfaction with the people you live with

0= Not at all satisfied – 10 = Totally satisfied

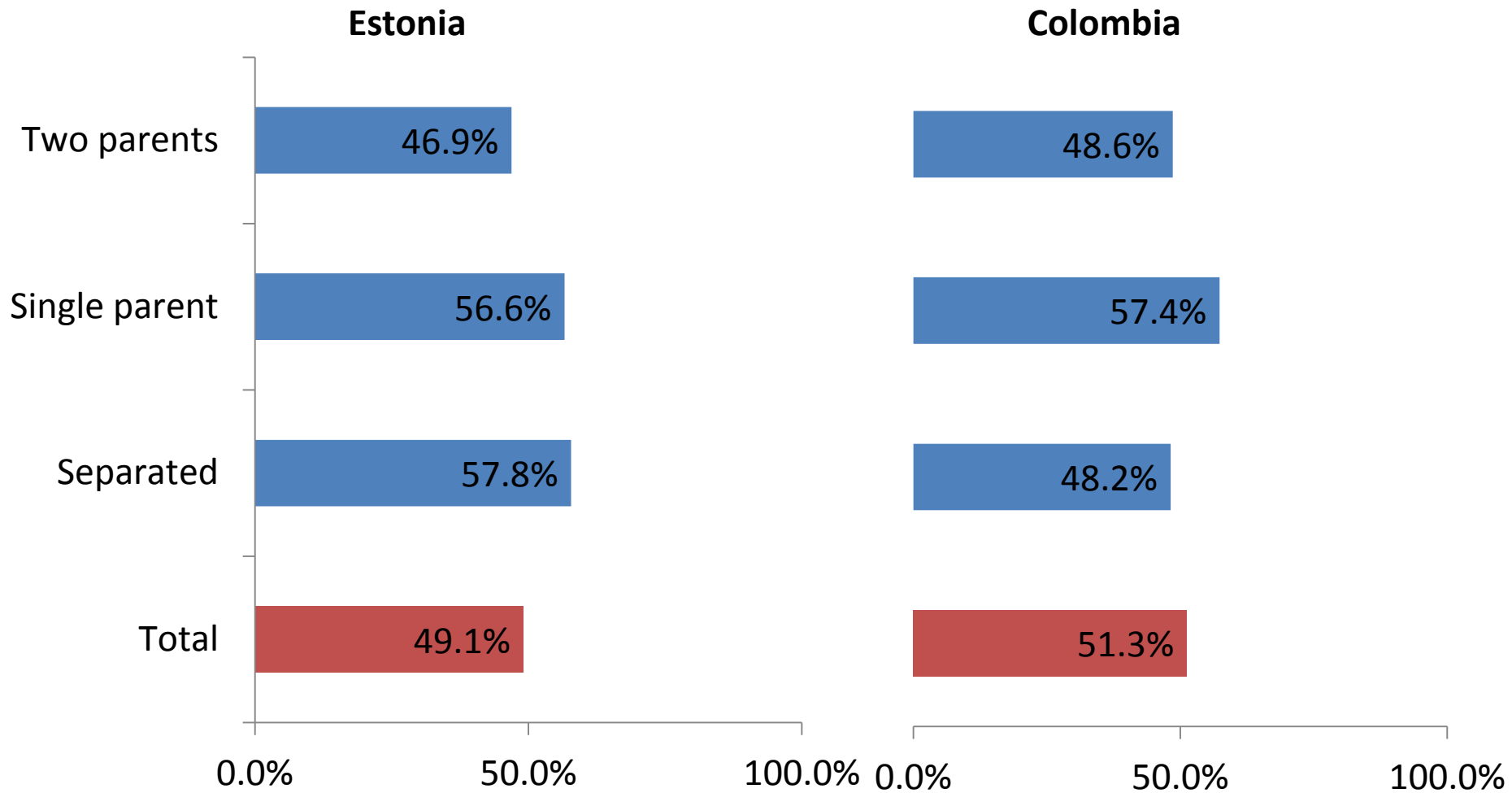
Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	9.17	9.08	-
Estonia	9.28	9.02	8.26
Spain	9.39	8.75	8.82
Colombia	9.39	8.91	9.13
Turkey	9.58	9.62	8.85
Ethiopia	8.57	8.11	-
Germany	9.32	8.95	8.62
UK	9.28	8.96	8.63
Israel	9.31	9.19	8.85
Norway	9.53	9.42	9.01
Total	9.28	8.90	8.78

2. Socioeconomic findings about single parents

- Gender
- Migration
- Deprivation/Money

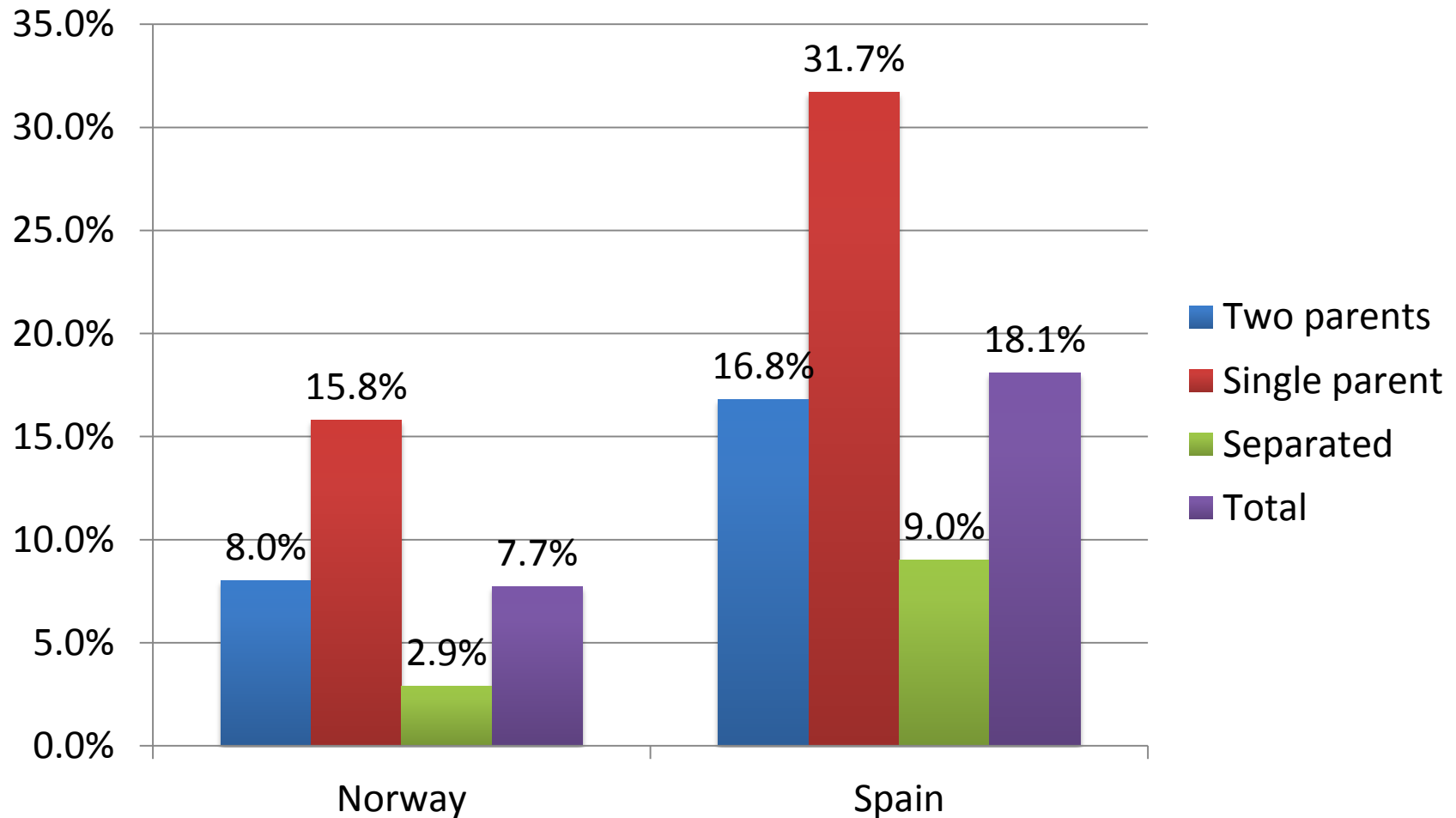
2. Socio-demographic differences

Percentage of boys



2. Socio-demographic differences

Percentage of children not born in the country



2. Socio-demographic differences

Worry about how much money family has

0=Never, 1= Sometimes, 2=often, 3= Always

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	0.82	0.83	-
Estonia	1.05	1.21	1.39
Spain	1.50	1.57	1.67
Colombia	1.63	1.64	1.68
Turkey	0.70	0.75	1.00
Ethiopia	1.20	1.32	-
Germany	0.68	1.01	1.16
Israel	0.77	1.14	1.11
Norway	0.65	0.85	0.98
Total	1.00	1.30	1.25

3. Global subjective well-being

Student Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS-5 modified)

0= Not at all agree– 10 = Totally agree, transformed into 0-100

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	87.27	85.24	-
Estonia	85.06	79.70	78.44
Spain	89.04	83.07	81.97
Colombia	90.69	87.87	88.92
Turkey	90.20	87.01	76.72
Ethiopia	82.41	76.38	-
Germany	86.63	79.30	76.94
UK	86.95	81.85	80.74
Israel	89.22	86.65	87.47
Norway	91.10	84.88	85.11
Total	87.81	82.81	82.00

3. Global subjective well-being

Personal Well-being Index-School Children (PWI-SC9)

0= Not at all satisfied – 10 = Totally satisfied, transformed into 0-100

Country	Two parents	Single parent	Separated
Algeria	87.61	86.36	-
Estonia	87.51	84.26	84.07
Spain	88.63	85.75	86.41
Colombia	92.93	91.99	91.92
Turkey	92.51	91.36	88.12
Ethiopia	82.82	79.66	-
Germany	88.34	84.63	83.40
UK	86.88	83.89	83.25
Israel	89.28	87.55	88.10
Norway	90.71	89.76	87.95
Total	88.57	86.21	86.06

Conclusions

Family structure and family relationship

- Children living with **both parents** are happier with their **family relationships and family life** in all countries
 - Parents attitudes and child rearing styles are relevant
- There are **some differences** between children living in single families and separated families
 - Children living in **separated families** are less satisfied with the **people they live with**
 - Children living in **separated families** tend to feel **less safe at home**
 - Children living in **separated families** agree least that their **parents treat them fairly**

Conclusions

Single parents

- Children living with single parents are affected by socio demographic factors
- Single parents tend to have severe pressure in their life (e.g. migration)
- Structural deprivation and disadvantage (e.g. social security system in Germany)

Conclusions

Global SWB

- The global SWB of children **living with both parents** is **higher** than the other two groups.
- There is **no difference** between children living in single parent families and separated families.

Discussion

Why?

- Changes in life
- Two parents offer more opportunities from a children's point of view
- Being different than most other children
- Children tend to be conservative
- Economic hardship
- Social parents-biological parents

Thank you!

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