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ABSTRACTS

Céline LE BOURDAIS, Ghyslaine NEILL et Nicole MARCIL-GRATTON : *L'effet du type d'union sur la stabilité des familles dites « intactes »*

Does the fact of whether or not Mummy and Daddy are married when the first child is born have any effect on the risk of the family's splitting up? To answer this question, we examine how the variable developments in the modes of formation of families in Québec and elsewhere in Canada influence the probability of so-called "intact" families splitting apart, and we aim at a detailed analysis of the mechanisms connected with the different risks observed between the types of union and between regions of residence.

Martine PAQUETTE : *La Conférence sur le devenir social et économique. Le Québec au temps néo-libéral*

The Conference on the social and economic future of Québec, which was held in March 1996, provided an opportunity to debate the current socioeconomic issues specific to Québec. Although it is important to distinguish between the political and economic spheres, there is some overlap between the two. However, at the Summit, they seemed to be on parallel tracks, and ethics, the link between the two, suffered as a result. The renewal of the social pact, the ultimate goal of the meeting between the Québec government and its "partners", was thus in continual confrontation with the constraints of neo-liberalism. What portrait of Québec society was thus drawn in the discourse of the Summit?

Fernande ROY et Jean DE BONVILLE : *La recherche sur l'histoire de la presse québécoise. Bilan et perspectives*

This article presents an assessment of research on the history of the press in Québec, and draws an outline of a research program on this subject. The authors advocate a social history of the press that would place the social actors at the centre of the analysis and that would take into account the "media-space" in all its dimensions. The proposed orientations are grouped into three areas, namely the production of messages, by journalists and by enterprises, the messages themselves, both in terms of editorial and advertising content and in terms of their presentation, and finally, the reception of these message, which involves the readership, but also the role of and freedom of the press.