

# WOMEN'S DOUBLE BURDEN



**1. PAID WORK**  
**2. UNPAID HOUSEWORK**



## The proliferation of women's double burden of work

Developments that have increased their burden...



### Gendered division of labour

Shifts in household incomes mean that a greater number of women must earn a wage. And yet they still are subject to ideas that women should only perform certain roles.



### Rise of precarious contracts

Many women choose informal work to reconcile earning with family care responsibilities. In these jobs they have limited income and job security and often become overworked.



### Decreased state provision

Many aspects of social reproduction are increasingly being transferred from the state back to the home. These roles are marketized and redistributed on the shoulders of immigrant women.

## How to relieve the burden?

**1**

### Value unpaid work the same as formal work

The first step is to include unpaid domestic work in GDP calculations. This would then promote policy action on balance the unbalanced work load.

**2**

### Increased state responsibilities of child care and social care

Extension of child-care subsidies and expanded pre-school education.  
Social care reform to alleviate care of elderly relations.

### References

- Taylor, M and Rioux, S, *Global Labour Studies* (Cambridge, Polity, 2018).
- [https://www.oecd.org/dev/development-gender/Unpaid\\_care\\_work.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/dev/development-gender/Unpaid_care_work.pdf)
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