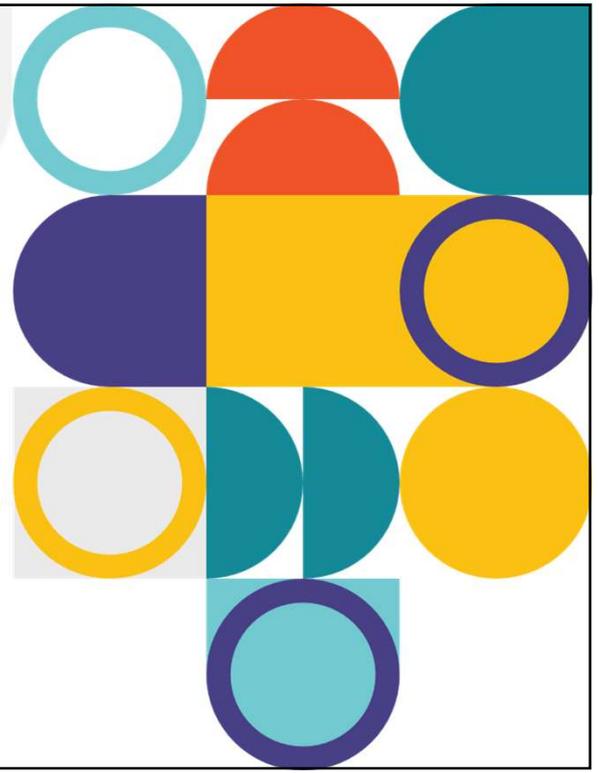


eminc: Engaging Men
in Nurturing Care

EMINC in Portugal: CES/Observatory on Masculinities

Marta Mascarenhas

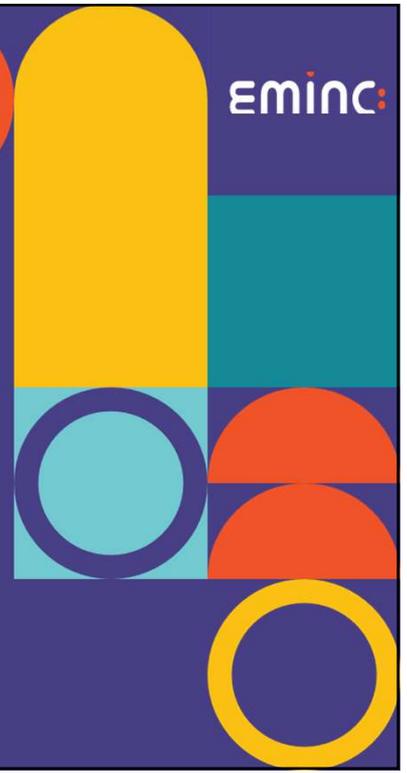
 masculinidades.pt

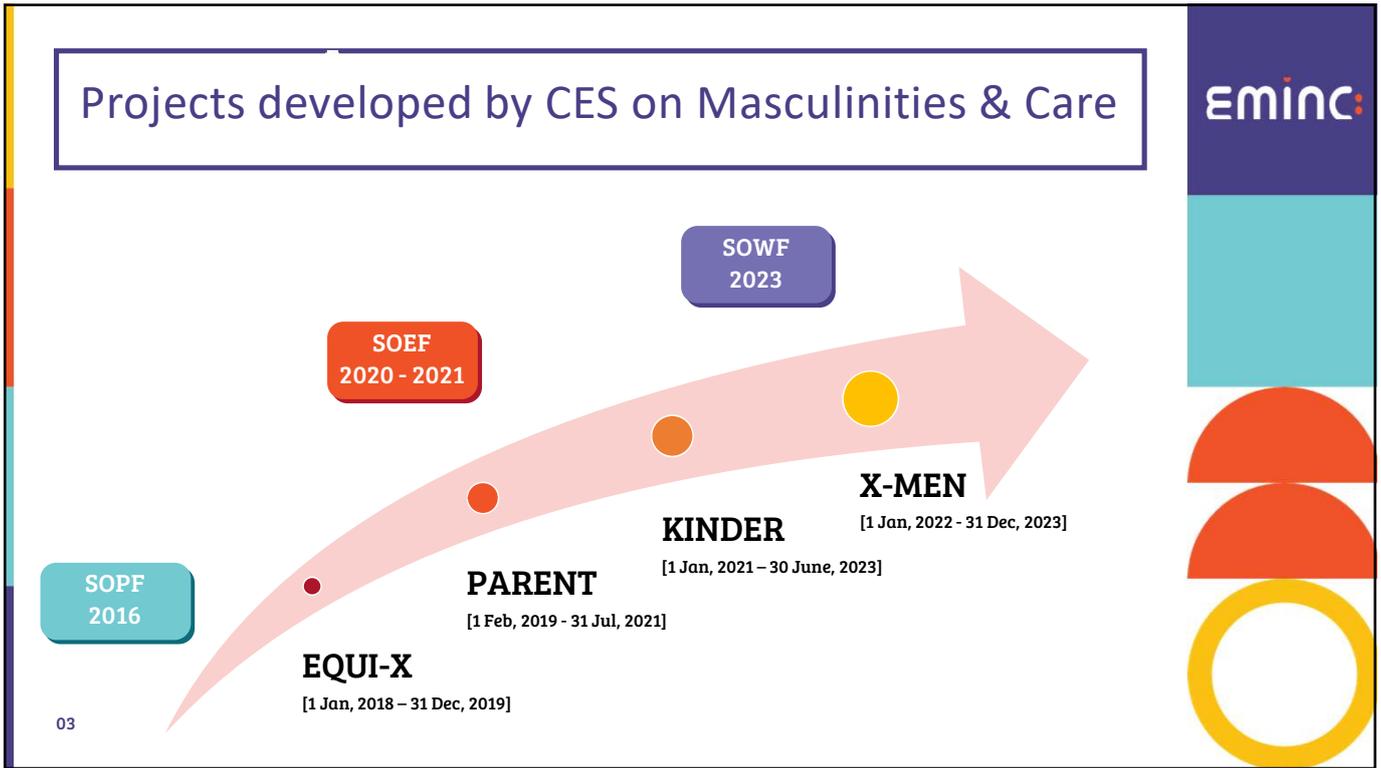


Previous Experience & Projects

- Centre for Social Studies -

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PARENT Project: Promotion, Awareness Raising and Engagement of Men in Nurture Transformations

Activities & Results

- Increased awareness and activities on the importance of engaging men in active fatherhood and gender-equitable caregiving to promote the eradication of violence against women and children
- Increased engagement of men as fathers, more gender-equitable attitudes and behaviors in caregiving and a decrease in violence against women and children

PARENT Deliverables

- ✓ 4 National level Program P-ECD
- ✓ 24 Training Courses
- ✓ 8 Education groups: 2 in each country
- ✓ 4 National Campaigns: 1 in each country
- ✓ 1 International MenCare Campaign

04

PARENT's Main Outcomes

- [PARENT European Manual](#)
- SOEF Report [State of Europe's Fathers: Men's Caregiving in the European Union 2020 - 2021]:
 - Concrete strategies for promoting gender equality in Europe;
 - Engagement of men in caregiving and unpaid care work as a way to prevent gender-based violence and promote healthy and more equal gender relations.
- National Campaigns

Project Website: [Parent. – Engaging men to promote change in social attitudes and behaviour regarding gender roles in caregiving. \(uc.pt\)](#)



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05

KINDER Project

kinder

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Partners: CES UC + CEPAIM (Spain) + Status M (Croatia) [ISSA as consultant - ECD]

KINDER aimed:

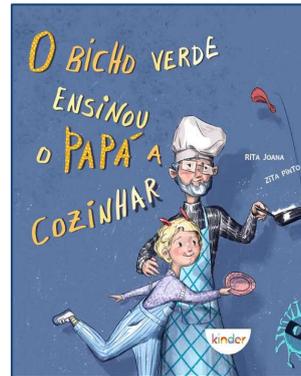
- To develop **transformative, gender-sensitive and gender-appropriate tools**, enabling Education professionals to address the specific needs of girls and boys in learning processes from a gender equality perspective
- To promote a **behavioral change** of unconscious transmission of gender stereotypes by education professionals.
- To support school management and national public authorities in integrating gender issues at **early age levels** (aged 3-6 and 7-12 years old).

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KINDER's Main Outcomes

- 3 country-map analysis (PT, ES, HR) + 1 EU map-analysis of the recent trends and gender mainstream in early education
- 3 national adapted Program K for education professionals: 2 curricula [3 to 6 years + 7 to 12 years old] + 1 EU Program K
- 1 Event of good practices exchange among education professionals;
- Online and face to face training sessions with education professionals [1215 professionals]
- 3 national KINDER campaigns
- 1 KINDER Toolkit (POR):
Animation + Children's books + Conversation Starters

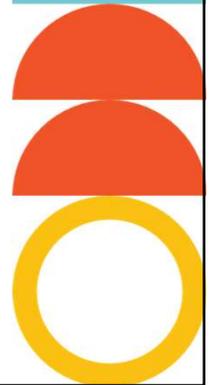
Project Website: [Kinder \(uc.pt\)](http://Kinder.uc.pt)



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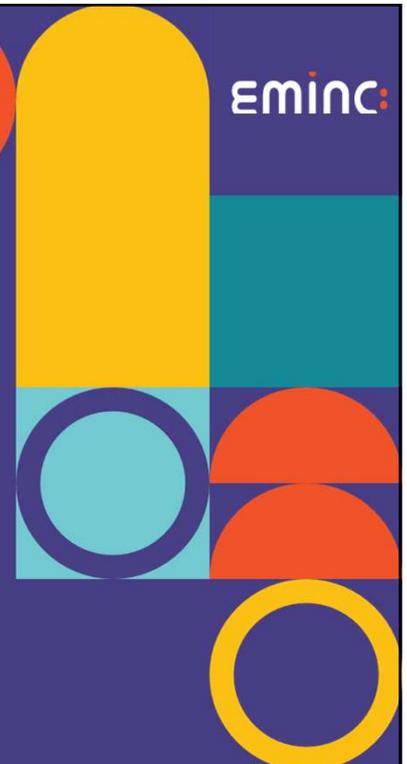
CAMPAIGNS
BE KINDER
2023 - Croatia, Portugal, Spain



07

Portugal's Perspective going into EMINC

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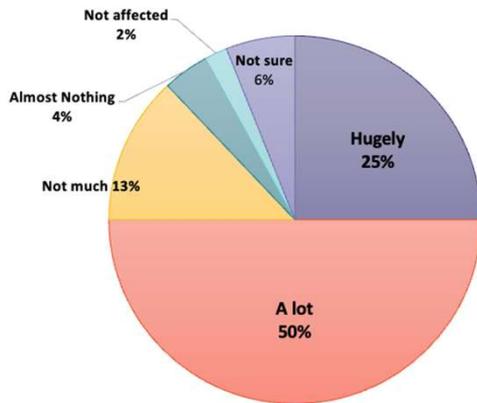


08

Parent's Perceptions on Gender Stereotypes



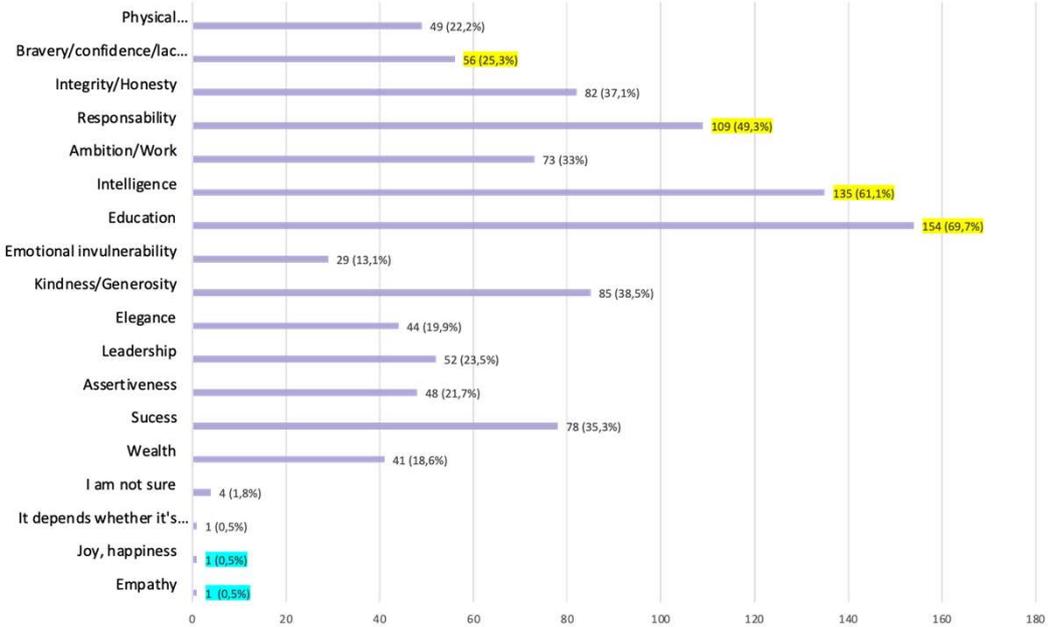
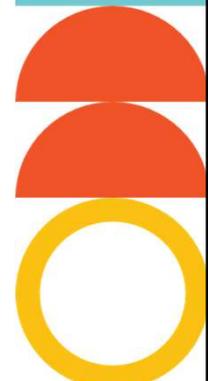
To what extent are children affected by gender stereotypes in their daily lives?



What characteristics of children are most valued by society, according to their parents?

09

Source: KINDER Questionnaire – Responses from Parents



10

Source: KINDER Questionnaire – Responses from Parents

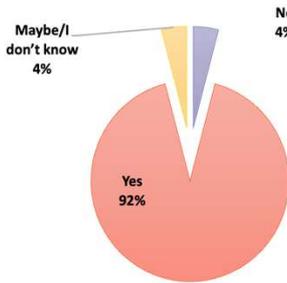


Influence of Gender Stereotypes on Children's Emotional Expression

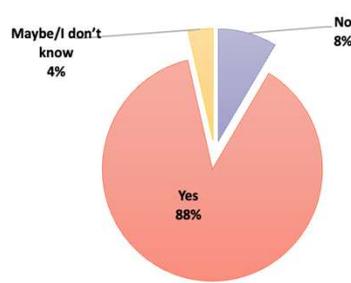
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For children it takes courage to...

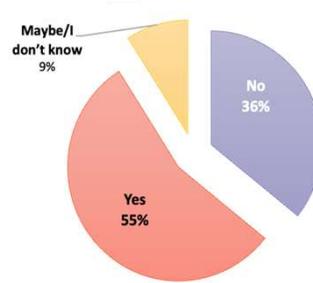
TO BE HER/HIMSELF DESPITE GOING AGAINST THE MAJORITY



ASK FOR HELP WHEN THEY FEEL INSECURE



CRY WHEN THEY FEEL LIKE IT



Source: KINDER Questionnaire – Responses from Parents

11

Education Professionals' View: Parents (Fathers) as a Allies & Challenges

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'For example, in pre-school, when a boy decides to try out the adopt a more feminine role/figurine, while role-playing, the parents (fathers) show discomfort and even express their displeasure at the activity to the teacher.'

[Kindergarten teacher – Focus Group]

CONSTRAINING FACTORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECTS AND/OR INITIATIVES ON GENDER EQUALITY

- "Families may not accept it; there is a culture of patriarchy that prevails in some families."
- "The preconceived ideas children already have are, often, a reflection of their family environment."
- "The educational community and even parents are not very receptive. They don't realise that this is an issue that has huge impacts on society, such as the figures for dating violence and domestic violence."
- "Resistance from parents and management, prejudices and unfounded fears."

Need to engage Fathers in Child Care Giving

Need to influence Practices (Health & Education) for Fathers' engagement

Need for Public Policies to support Equitable Parental/Care Leave

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Portuguese Fathers' Perceptions [SOPF, 2023]

- 1 third of respondents said they didn't have enough time to take on care responsibilities
- 43% of men who are fathers agree that they feel just as responsible for care tasks as their partner
- Only 30% of the female respondents stated they felt the same about their male partner (equal share of caring duties)

Portuguese Public Policies: Parental Leave

MOTHER'S EXCLUSIVE PARENTAL LEAVE	FATHER'S EXCLUSIVE PARENTAL LEAVE
Optional period of up to 30 days before childbirth	28 days of leave, followed or alternated
Mandatory 42 days (6 weeks) after childbirth	7 optional working days, taken at the same time as the mother's initial parental leave
PARENTAL LEAVE	
Initial parental leave = 120 days after birth fully paid/150 days paid at 80% (including mother and father's exclusive leaves)	
Shared Parental Leave (not at the same time): + 30 days fully paid	

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Challenges/Obstacles in Portugal: A preview

Health Sector

Key area for promoting more participative and co-responsible fatherhood

- The presence of fathers in health services has increased, especially at the time of childbirth. In Portugal, the sharing of parental leave went from 0.5% in 2005 to 34.1% in 2016. [CITE, 2016]

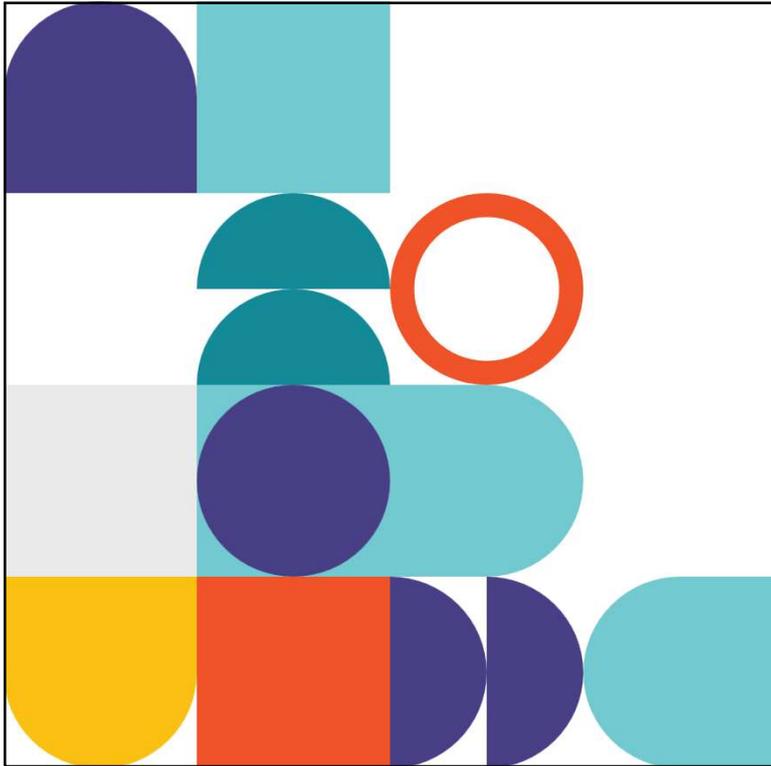
OLD AND NEW CHALLENGES EMERGE...

- Tendency to interact more with the mother [men participate little or not at all]
- Health Professionals' training for father engagement
- Discontinuation of the IMPEC initiative

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Thank you

Marta Mascarenhas

Centre for Social Studies/Observatory on
Masculinities

<https://masculinidades.pt/>