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FORCED DIGITALIZATION AND FERTILITY: OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS AND STATISTICS

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Abstract. This article is devoted to studying the COVID-19 pandemic impact, which caused the rapid development of remote employment based on the labor activities digitalization, on family and parental well-being and fertility. The research problem formulation determines the novelty of the study due to the lack of subject matter knowledge. The purpose of this paper is to summarize discussions, studies and statistics on the remote employment impact on family and parental well-being and fertility. The authors reviewed Russian and foreign sources on the employment digitalization impact on fertility and marriage statistics during the pandemic. There is a decrease in the family institution's role and status as a value-oriented sphere; the key motivation for creating a family is not the demographic aspect, but the socio-psychological one. Forced remote and hybrid employment remain ambiguous factors influencing relationships within families; therefore, a deeper study is needed. We concluded that overcoming negative demographic trends lies in the plane of creating conditions for the parental well-being. It is substantiated that the parental well-being concept needs to be clarified in its content, in addition, it is important to determine the concept and methodology for its measurement and monitoring.

Keywords: digital employment; remote employment; family and parental well-being; fertility; family and marriage institution; COVID-19 pandemic; hybrid employment.

JEL codes: J49; J13.

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