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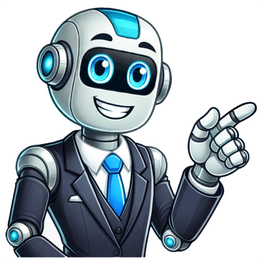

Germany is diverse. And this diversity is also reflected in the families who live there. According to the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, nowadays almost one in three children lives in a family in which at least one parent immigrated to Germany or has foreign citizenship. Just shy of 4.1 million children are growing up with more than one language and culture. For families who have come to Germany as expats, international schools are an interesting option, as indeed they are for pupils planning to continue their education or professional career abroad. Their curricula and qualifications are based on the school system of the home country, which is why they often differ considerably from the German school system. Classes are taught primarily in English or the language of the home country. These days there are numerous international schools across Germany, and the qualifications obtained there are also recognised at many German universities. Strengthening children’s rights But school is not everything. What do children’s lives look like otherwise? Children have a right to a non-violent upbringing; this has been enshrined in Germany’s Basic Law (constitution) since 2000. In addition, Germany ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child nearly 30 years ago. As a result, the country is committed to ensuring the well-being of all children and protecting their rights. They should be well looked after and grow up in dignity. It also involves respecting their opinions and enabling participation. That children’s rights should also be enshrined in the Basic Law is a question that has been discussed in Germany for a long time. In its coalition agreement, the Federal Government has decided that this should now happen. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child © www.deutschland.de/en Women in GermanyJulie Wilhelmine Hagen-Schwarz'sSelf portrait (before 1870)General StatisticsMaternal mortality (per 100,000)6Women in parliament36.9%Women over 25 with secondary education96.4% [M: 97.0%]Women in labour force73% [M: 83%]Gender Inequality Index[1]Value0.073 (2021)Rank19th out of 191 Global Gender Gap Index[2]Value0.801 (2022)Rank10th out of 146 Part of a series onWomen in society Society Women's history (legal rights) Woman Animal advocacy Business Female entrepreneurs Gender representation on corporate boards of directors Combat Diversity (politics) Diversity, equity, and inclusion Economic development Explorers and travelers Education Feminism Womyn Government Conservatives in the US Heads of state or government Legislators Queen regnant List Health Journalism Law Law enforcement Military Mother Nobel Prize laureates Piracy Positions of power Reproductive rights Sex segregation Feminist In Islam Venture capital Violence and abuse Voting rights Workforce Exchange of women ScienceTechnology Computing Engineering Geology Medicine dentistry in the United States Organizations Science Science, technology, engineering and mathematics Space Telegraphy ArtsHumanities Architecture Arts Art history field Women's cinema Dance Film "Chick flicks" Fine arts Literature Science fiction Philosophy Feminist philosophy Photographers Music Jazz Punk rock In Shakespeare's works Religion Theological figures Bahá’í Faith Bible Buddhism Christianity Catholicism Mormonism Opus Dei Hinduism Islam Imams Mahr Segregation Women's testimony Judaism Sikhism Taoism Zoroastrianism Popular culture Comics Portrayal in American comics Film industry Music Fictional pirates Speculative fiction Video games Gender representation in video games Women in the video game industry Sports Auto racing Baseball Basketball Boxing Cricket Curling Cycling Fastpitch softball Football / soccer Golf Gymnastics Ice hockey Lacrosse Mixed martial arts Netball Paralympic Games Rodeo Roller derby Rowing Surfing Swimming Tennis Track and field Volleyball Winter sports See also: List of sports By country Afghanistan Albania Algeria Andorra Angola Argentina Armenia Australia Azerbaijan Bahrain Bangladesh Belgium Benin Bhutan Bolivia Bosnia Brazil Brunei Bulgaria Cambodia Chad Chile China Colombia Comoros Croatia Cuba Cyprus (North) Denmark DR Congo Dominican Republic Ecuador Egypt El Salvador Ethiopia FS Micronesia Fiji Finland France Georgia Germany Ghana Greece Guatemala Guyana Haiti Honduras Iceland Italy India Indonesia Iran Iraq Israel Ivory Coast Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan Laos Lebanon Libya Madagascar Malaysia Maldives Mali Marshall Islands Mauritania Mauritius Mexico Mongolia Morocco Myanmar Nepal New Zealand Niger Nigeria North Korea Oman Pakistan Palau Panama Paraguay Peru Philippines Poland Portugal Puerto Rico Qatar Russia Saudi Arabia Senegal Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Spain Somalia South Africa South Korea South Sudan Sudan Suriname Sri Lanka Sweden Syria Taiwan Tajikistan Thailand Timor-Leste Tonga Tunisia Turkey Turkmenistan Tuvalu Trinidad and Tobago Uganda Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom United States Uruguay Uzbekistan Vanuatu Vatican City Venezuela Vietnam Yemen vte The roles of German women have changed throughout history, as the culture and society in which they lived had undergone various transformations. Historically, as well as presently, the situation of women differed between German regions, notably during the 20th century, when there was a different political and socioeconomic organization in West Germany compared to East Germany.[3] In addition, Southern Germany has a history of strong Roman Catholic influence.[4] The traditional role of women in German society was often described by the so-called "four Ks" in the German language: Kinder (children), Kirche (church), Küche (kitchen), and Kleider (clothes), indicating that their main duties were bearing and rearing children, attending to religious activities, cooking and serving food, and dealing with clothes and fashion. However, their roles changed during the 20th century. After obtaining the right to vote in 1918, German women began to take on active roles previously performed by men. After the end of World War 2, they were labeled as the Trümmerfrauen or "women of the rubble" because they took care of the "wounded, buried the dead, salvaged belongings", and participated in the "hard task of rebuilding war-torn Germany by simply clearing away" the rubble and ruins of war.[5] :) Although conservative in many ways, Germany nevertheless differs from other German-speaking regions in Europe, being much more progressive on women's right to be politically involved, compared to neighbouring Switzerland (where women obtained the right to vote in 1971 at federal level,[6] and at local canton level in 1990 in the canton of Appenzell Innerrhoden[7]) and Liechtenstein in 1984. In Germany, there are also strong regional differences; for instance Southern Germany (particularly Bavaria) is more conservative than other parts of Germany; while former East Germany is more supporting of women's professional life than former West Germany.[8] Family law in West Germany, had, until recently, assigned women a subordinate role in relation to their husbands. It was only in 1977 that legislative changes provided for gender equality in marriage; until that date, married women in West Germany could not work without permission from their husbands.[9][3] In East Germany, however, women had more rights. In 1977, the divorce law in West Germany underwent major changes, moving from a fault based divorce system to one that is primarily no fault. These new divorce regulations, which remain in force today throughout Germany, stipulate that a no-fault divorce can be obtained on the grounds of one year of de facto separation if both spouses consent, and three years of de facto separation if only one spouse consents. There is also provision for a "speedy divorce" which can be obtained on demand by either spouse, without the necessary separation period, if it is proved in court that the continuation of the marriage would constitute an unreasonable hardship for the petitioner for reasons related to the behavior of the other spouse; this exemption requires exceptional circumstances and is considered on a case-by-case basis.[10][11] In recent years, in Germany, as in other Western countries, there has been a rapid increase in unmarried cohabitation and births outside of marriage.[12] As of 2014, 35% of births in Germany were to unmarried women.[13] There are, however, marked differences between the regions of the former West Germany and East Germany: significantly more children are born out of wedlock in eastern Germany than in western Germany: in 2012, in eastern Germany 61.6% of births were to unmarried women, but in western Germany only 28.4%.[8] The views on sexual self-determination, as it relates to marriage, have also changed: for instance, until 1969, adultery was a criminal offense in West Germany.[14] It was only in 1997, however, that Germany removed its marital exemption from its rape law, being one of the last Western countries to do so, after a lengthy political battle that started in the 1970s.[15][16] Specifically, before 1997, the definition of rape in Germany was: "Whoever compels a woman to have extramarital intercourse with him, or with a third person, by force or the threat of present danger to life or limb, shall be punished by not less than two years’ imprisonment".[17] In 1997 there were changes to the rape law, broadening the definition, making it gender-neutral, and removing the marital exemption.[18] Before, marital rape could only be prosecuted as "Causing bodily harm" (Section 223 of the German Criminal Code), "Insult" (Section 185 of the German Criminal Code) and "Using threats or force to cause a person to do, suffer or omit an act" (Nötigung, Section 240 of the German Criminal Code) which carried lower sentences,[15] and were rarely prosecuted.[19] Gender pay gap in average gross hourly earnings in the EU member states, according to Eurostat 2014.[20] Germany has one of the largest gender pay gaps in the EU. While women in East Germany were encouraged to participate in the workforce, this was not the case in West Germany in the 1950s, when a woman's primary role was understood to be at home, taking care of her family. This division can be traced back to the postwar reconstruction era when West Germany emphasized traditional family structures as a cornerstone of societal recovery.[21] Postwar policies, such as financial incentives for large families and legislation limiting married women's access to full-time jobs, were designed to reinforce the role of women as mothers and homemakers. These measures not only aimed to rebuild national stability but also served as a cultural counterpoint to East Germany's socialist promotion of gender equality in labor. However many women, particularly war widows and displaced individuals, entered the workforce out of economic necessity, driven by introduction of the new currency Deutsche Mark, the black market collapse, and the shift from a subsistence economy to wage labor.[22][23] The tension between societal expectations and economic realities continues to shape gender dynamics in modern Germany. In recent years, more women are working for pay. Although most women are employed, many work part-time; in the European Union, only the Netherlands and Austria have more women working part-time.[24] One problem that women have to face is that mothers who have young children and want to pursue a career may face social criticism.[25][26] In 2014, the governing coalition agreed to impose a 30% female quota for Supervisory board positions from 2016 onwards.[27] Compared to other Western and even non-Western countries, Germany has a low proportion of women in business leadership roles, lower even than Turkey, Malaysia, Nigeria, Indonesia, Botswana, India.[28] One of the reasons for the low presence of women in key positions is the social norm that considers full-time work inappropriate for women. Especially Southern Germany is conservative regarding gender roles. In 2011, José Manuel Barroso, then president of the European Commission, stated "Germany, but also Austria and the Netherlands, should look at the example of the northern countries [...] that means removing obstacles for women, older workers, foreigners and low-skilled job-seekers to get into the workforce".[29] A 2013 UN study[30] of 202 world jurisdictions found that in Germany 47.3% of homicide victims are female, the 10th highest percentage of female victims of all jurisdictions, and considerably above the world average of 21.3%. The percentage of female victims was also high in neighboring Switzerland (50%) and Austria (40.2 %) (see Homicide statistics by gender). According to a 2023 survey by children’s charity Plan International Germany, a third of young men (aged 18-35) in Germany found violence against women to be acceptable.[31] The maternal mortality rate in Germany is 7 deaths/100,000 live births (as of 2010).[32] The HIV/AIDS rate is 0.1% of adults (aged 15–49) – estimates of 2009.[33] The total fertility rate (TFR) in Germany is 1.44 births per woman (2016 estimates), one of the lowest in the world.[34] Childlessness is quite high: of women born in 1968 in West Germany, 25% stayed childless.[35] Abortion in Germany is legal during the first trimester on condition of mandatory counseling, and later in pregnancy in cases of medical necessity. In both cases there is a waiting period of 3 days. Sex education in schools is mandated by law.[36] The German Constitutional Court, and in 2011 the European Court of Human Rights, rejected complaints from several Baptist parents against Germany's mandatory school sex education.[37] Alice Schwarzer Angela Merkel Feminism in Germany Gender roles in post-communist Central and Eastern Europe List of German queens List of German women artists List of German women photographers List of German women writers List of German women's football champions List of Germany women's international footballers Open Christmas Letter (To the Women of Germany and Austria) Women in German Women in German history series Women in German Studies Women in Nazi Germany ^ "Human Development Report 2021/2022" (PDF). HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORTS. Retrieved 14 October 2022. ^ "Global Gender Gap Report 2022" (PDF). World Economic Forum. Retrieved 9 February 2023. ^ a b "Women in Germany's east earn close to what men do. Can we thank socialism for that?". The World from PRX. ^ "Startseite www.ekd.de". www.ekd.de. 8 September 2023. ^ Women In German Society, German Culture, germanculture.com ^ Bonnie G. Smith, ed. (2008). The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History. Oxford University Press. pp. 171 vol 1. ISBN 9780195148909. ^ "Naked Swiss hikers must cover up". 27 April 2009. Retrieved 17 April 2018 – via news.bbc.co.uk. ^ a b Andreas Klärner (22 July 2015). "The low importance of marriage in eastern Germany – social norms and the role of peoples' perceptions of the past" (PDF). Demographic Research. pp. 239–272. ^ Reconciliation Policy in Germany 1998–2008, Construing the 'Problem' of the Incompatibility of Paid Employment and Care Work, by Cornelius Grebe; pg 92: "However, the 1977 reform of marriage and family law by Social Democrats and Liberals formally gave women the right to take up employment without their spouses' permission. This marked the legal end of the 'housewife marriage' and a transition to the ideal of 'marriage in partnership'."[1] ^ "Current Legal Framework: Divorce in Germany - impowr.org". www.impowr.org. Archived from the original on 6 May 2017. Retrieved 17 April 2018. ^ Dieter Martiny; Dieter Schwab (October 2002). "Grounds for Divorce and Maintenance Between Former Spouses" (PDF). ceflonline.net. ^ Ostner, I. (1 April 2001). "Cohabitation in Germany - rules, reality and public discourses". International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family. 15 (1): 88–101. doi:10.1093/lawfam/15.1.88. ^ "Eurostat - Tables, Graphs and Maps Interface (TGM) table". ec.europa.eu. Retrieved 17 April 2018. ^ "Summary: Adultery in Germany - impowr.org". www.impowr.org. Archived from the original on 14 October 2017. Retrieved 17 April 2018. ^ a b "Microsoft Word - 1Deckblatt.doc" (PDF). Jurawelt.com. Archived from the original (PDF) on 20 October 2013. Retrieved 16 July 2016. ^ Breaking Male Dominance in Old Democracies.Oxford University Press 2013. Edt Drude Dahlerup and Monique Leyenaar; pg 205: "Concerning gender equality issues, some policies improved; for example, marital rape was finally prohibited. Germany was until 1997 one of the few post-industrialized countries where marital rape was not forbidden. The law was forced by female politicians from all parties and women's rights activists. In fact, it was one of the few instances where women from all parties supported a proposal, finally convincing the male MPs of their parties to agree. Women had been lobbying for this law for years, but were not heard until the late 1990s, when the number of women in all parties had increased."[2] ^ "Kunarac, Vukovic and Kovac - Judgement - Part IV". Retrieved 22 August 2015. ^ "GERMAN CRIMINAL CODE". Retrieved 22 August 2015. ^ Kieler, Marita (2002). 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Wikimedia Commons has media related to Women of Germany. :) Retrieved from " 1.3.1 Proportion of mothers with newborns receiving maternity cash benefit. 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (Per 100,000 live births). 3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years). 5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months. Age 15-49. 5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%) Recruitment of skilled labour “Building trust is essential” At the invitation of the Federal Foreign Office, international journalists and researchers came together to explore how skilled labour migration can be managed in a way that benefits all sides. For centuries, a woman’s role in German society was summed up and circumscribed by the three “K” words: Kinder (children), Kirche (church), and Küche (kitchen). Sometimes the fourth “K” is mentioned: Kleider (clothes). Throughout the 20th century, however, women have gradually won victories in their quest for equal rights. In 1919 they received the right to vote. Profound changes also were made by World War II. During the war, women assumed positions traditionally held by men. After the war, the so-called Trümmerfrauen (women of the rubble) tended the wounded, buried the dead, salvaged belongings, and began the hard task of rebuilding war-torn Germany by simply clearing away the rubble. In West Germany, the Basic Law of 1949 declared that men and women were equal, but it was not until 1957 that the civil code was amended to conform with this statement. Even in the early 1950s, women could be dismissed from the civil service when they married. After World War II, despite the severe shortage of young men that made marriage impossible for many women, traditional marriage once again became society’s ideal. Employment and social welfare programs remained predicated on the male breadwinner model. West Germany turned to millions of migrants or immigrants–including large numbers of GDR refugees–to satisfy its booming economy’s labor requirements. Women became homemakers and mothers again and largely withdrew from employment outside the home. In the east, however, women remained in the workforce. The Soviet-style system mandated women’s participation in the economy, and the government implemented this key objective by opening up educational and vocational opportunities to women. As early as 1950, marriage and family laws also had been rewritten to accommodate working mothers. Abortion was legalized and funded by the state in the first trimester of pregnancy. An extensive system of social supports, such as a highly developed day-care network for children, was also put in place to permit women to be both mothers and workers. Emancipated “from above” for economic and ideological reasons, women in the east entered institutes of higher learning and the labor force in record numbers while still maintaining the household. East Germany had to rely on women because of its declining population; the situation was made more critical by the fact that most of those fleeing to West Germany were men. Because of these developments, about 90 percent of East German women worked outside the home. They made up about half the membership in the two most important mass organizations of the former GDR–the Free German Trade Union Federation (Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund–FDGB) and the Free German Youth (Freie Deutsche Jugend–FDJ). In 1988 slightly more than one-third of the membership of the ruling Socialist Unity Party of Germany (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands–SED) consisted of women. In contrast, only about 4.4 percent of West German women were members of a political party. After several decades of conforming to traditional social patterns, West German women began to demand changes. Following patterns in Europe and the United States, emancipation in the Federal Republic originated “from below,” with women themselves. In the 1970s, the women’s movement gathered momentum, having emerged as an outgrowth of student protests in the late 1960s (see Citizens’ Initiative Associations, ch. 7). Rallying around the causes of equal rights (including the right to abortion, which was somewhat restricted in West Germany), the movement succeeded in having legislation passed in 1977 that granted a woman equal rights in marriage. A woman could work outside the home and file for divorce without her husband’s permission. Divorce was permitted when the marriage partners could no longer be reconciled. Women also made gains in education in both Germanys. By the mid-1960s, East German women accounted for about half of all secondary school graduates who had prepared to study at institutes of higher learning in the GDR; by the 1975-76 academic year, they were in the majority (53 percent). To assist women in completing their studies, an extensive support system, including supplementary payments and child care, was provided. Expanded educational opportunities for West German women were slower in coming and never equaled the levels reached in the east. Only in the early 1980s did West German women qualify for admission to universities in the same numbers as men. Although fewer than that number pursued college and university studies, between 1970 and 1989 the percentage of female students increased from 31 percent to 41 percent. Two factors were believed to be responsible for the discrepancy between eastern and western rates of attendance at institutes of higher learning: West German women had a stronger orientation toward traditional familial relations; and they had dimmer prospects for admission to particular academic departments and for professional employment after graduation. Despite significant gains, discrimination remains in united Germany. Income inequalities persist: a woman’s wages and salaries range between 65 percent and 78 percent of a man’s for many positions. In most fields, women do not hold key positions. Generally, the higher the position, the more powerful is male dominance. For example, women are heavily represented in the traditional care-giving fields of health and education, but even in such fields there is a wide disparity between the number of females working in hospitals (75 percent of total staff) and schools (more than 50 percent) and the number of female physicians (4 percent) and principals (20 percent in the west and 32 percent in the east). In the late 1980s, only 5 percent of university professors in West Germany were women. Although substantial barriers to equality of the sexes in Germany remain as a result of a persistently patriarchal family structure and work environment, women have managed to gain isolated high-profile victories. A separate national office for women’s affairs was created in West Germany in 1980, and similar agencies have been established in most Länder in united Germany. Since the mid-1980s, offices responsible for working toward women’s equality have been active, first in West Germany and after unification in the new Länder . The Equality Offices (Gleichstellungstellen) have as one of their tasks ensuring that women occupy a more equitable share of positions in the public sector. Some women have succeeded in reaching positions of power. One of the most successful women in politics in the 1990s is Rita Süssmuth, president of the Bundestag. In the field of industry, Birgit Breuel assumed the leadership, following the assassination of Detlev Rohwedder in April 1991, of the Treuhandanstalt (Trust Agency), the powerful agency charged with privatizing the former East German economy. Other influential and prominent German women in the mid-1990s are Marion von Dönhoff, coeditor of Die Zeit, and Elizabeth Noelle-Neumann, director of the Allensbach Public Opinion Institute. Yet despite this progress, a 1991 article in an influential weekly magazine made it clear how far women must go to achieve equality. The magazine’s list of the 100 most powerful people in Germany included only four women. Almost all segments of eastern German society encountered tremendous difficulty in the unification process, but women suffered the most. Some reports indicated that two-thirds of working women in the new Länder were unemployed, and many more were turned into part-time workers as a result of privatization, downsizing of firms, and elimination of support services such as day-care and after-school centers. To improve their prospects for employment, some women in eastern Germany reportedly were resorting to sterilization, one of the factors contributing to the steep decline in births from twelve per 1,000 in 1989 to 5.3 per 1,000 in 1993. While women in East Germany were encouraged to participate in the workforce, this was not the case in West Germany, where a woman’s primary role was understood to be at home, taking care of her family. In recent years, more women are working for pay. Although most women are employed, many work part-time; in the European Union, only the Netherlands and Austria have more women working part-time. One problem that women have to face is that mothers who have young children and want to pursue a career may face social criticism. In 2014, the governing coalition agreed to impose a 30% female quota for Supervisory board positions from 2016 onwards. Among the issues that demonstrated differences between women of the old and new Länder, one of the most contentious was abortion. In 1991 there were about 125,000 registered abortions performed in Germany, about 50,000 of which were in the east. Although the number of registered abortions in both parts of Germany had been declining in recent years, the actual number of abortions was estimated at about 250,000. For a time following unification, the restrictive western and permissive eastern legislation on abortion continued in force. In June 1992, however, the Bundestag voted to ease abortion restrictions and to permit the procedure during the first twelve weeks of pregnancy with compulsory counseling. Resorting to what had been a successful policy in the early 1970s, those opposed to the new law, including Chancellor Helmut Kohl, appealed to the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe to nullify the new law. Just before it was scheduled to take effect, the law was blocked when the court issued an injunction. Subsequently, a new restrictive law came to apply in all of Germany. In recent years, in Germany, as in other Western countries, there has been a rapid increase in unmarried cohabitation and births outside of marriage. As of 2014, 35% of births in Germany were to unmarried women. There are, however, marked differences between the regions of the former West Germany and East Germany: significantly more children are born out of wedlock in eastern Germany than in western Germany: in 2012, in eastern Germany 61.6% of births were to unmarried women, but in western Germany only 28.4%. Related articles: German Society: Traditions, Modernity, and Cultural Identity German Women – Scientists and Inventors German Power Women that Have Changed the World Marriage and Family in Germany Women in Nazi Germany Women in Post-War Germany German Women and 3 K’s What are the best jobs in Germany? Do foreigners have a chance of getting a job in Germany? And how do I apply? You will find the answers to all these questions – and much more – here.The new Skilled Immigration Act, which eases the entry of non-EU foreigners with professional training into the German labour market, has been in force since March 2020. We show you what career opportunities international skilled people have in Germany and how you can find the right job. What do you want to learn more about? Working as a skilled professional Skilled job-seekers from abroad have very good opportunities in certain professions. For example, there are many jobs for engineers, doctors, nurses, as well as in the manual trades. Here you can find useful tips and experience reports for international applicants. Migration Recruitment of skilled labour “Building trust is essential” Skilled workers Skilled personnel welcome Asia Skilled workers Career opportunities in Germany Open to new ideas Highly qualified and immigrated Helping people The German labour market needs well-trained women and men. Foreign skilled staff have good chances in jobs where there are many vacancies. What do you want to learn more about? Working as a skilled professional Homeworking, remote work, job sharing, co-working: digitisation is creating new working models and changing the labour market in Germany. These trends are being additionally accelerated by the pandemic. Jutta Allmendinger, president of the Berlin Social Science Center, gives her views of how our world of work will look in the future. Robert Habeck, Germany’s minister for economic affairs and climate action, assesses the impact these developments will have on companies. In addition, we present a number of individuals who have the courage to pursue new working models, introduce you to some leading future laboratories and show you what the Federal Agency for Disruptive Innovation is working on. “The transformation has begun” “It’s definitely not a case of one or the other” Scientists, doctors and engineers are among the best-paid vocational groups. However, in Germany, how much you earn depends not only on your profession. There are also regional differences in salaries. We show you how much people earn in Germany. If you're looking for work in Germany, you can contact the job centre or use the job portals and important business networks. Alongside the established job forums, innovative apps offer a surprising way of accessing the labour market. We have plenty of tips on applying for jobs, for example which documents and certificates you should prepare and how to compile a CV for German companies. And we also know which mistakes you should definitely avoid in your application.If you're invited to go for an interview, you should know what impresses German HR managers. We have put together a list of what to expect in the interview – with the best tips from preparation to the dress code. How to apply for a job in Germany This is what awaits you in the job interview It can also do no harm for you to know the five most important rules of business etiquette in Germany. And we let you in on the ultimate workplace terms and rituals. Business etiquette in Germany German for the workplace If you are not yet a skilled professional but would like to undergo vocational training or further education in Germany, there are also plenty of opportunities for you. Here you can find information about the dual training scheme and tips for finding a training placement: Quiz What do you know about dual vocational training in Germany? Which of the following is not a state-recognised occupation requiring vocational training? In 2022, what percentage of apprentices and trainees were taken on by their firm once they qualified? How many recognised occupations requiring vocational training are there in Germany in 2025? Which vocational training pays best, with a monthly salary of approx. 3,000 euros? How many international trainees and apprentices were there in Germany in 2023? Career start in Germany Starting a career: training in the EU You may have heard that the German tax system is a science in itself. Here we explain the most important aspects of income tax in Germany. How the German tax system works Learning German? Have fun! The multilingual portal make-it-in-germany.com bundles information especially for foreign professionals about work permits and visas, job hunting, qualifications, German language skills, language courses, the working environment and formalities in everyday life. Gender equality is a fundamental human right. Every person, regardless of their gender identity, should have the same access to opportunities, enjoy the same level of respect and be free from violence, coercion or discrimination. These principles are written into Germany’s constitution, and the expansion of women’s rights in Germany in the last several decades alone is encouraging. Nevertheless, despite relentless campaigning and huge strides forward, actual gender equality remains an aspiration. But change begins with knowledge, so let’s review a brief history of developments in Germany and a rundown of the current state of affairs. History of gender equality in Germany Gender equality in Germany today History of gender equality in Germany The movement for women’s suffrage, generally accepted as the starting point for modern feminism, began in Wilhelmine Germany at the turn of the 20th century. Though the outbreak of the First World War in some ways put the suffrage campaign on hold, it also set the stage for further progress. While the men were off fighting, women stepped into roles that they had never before filled. After the First World War, the Weimar Republic was established. Article 109 of the Weimar Constitution granted all Germans, men and women alike, equality before the law and universal suffrage. In the first elections of the Weimar Republic in 1919, 10% of the seats in the Reichstag (German parliament) were filled by women. The 1920s are remembered as the era of the Neue Frau (new woman). We might recognize this figure now as a “flapper”: a modern woman who showed disdain for conventional manners and enjoyed a relatively free lifestyle. But this was not the reality for all German women. The majority of German women continued to adhere to the old German adage on the place of women in society: “Kinder, Küche, Kirche” (children, kitchen, church). This was particularly true in rural areas. Nazi rule in Germany brought with it, among other evils, a cult of masculinity that asserted old patriarchal ideas of the fundamental superiority of men and propagated regressive ideas about the place of women in society. In the wake of World War II, a large proportion of German men were dead, wounded or in prisoner-of-warcamps. The post-war years were a difficult time for women, with much of the burden of reconstruction falling on women’s shoulders. The so-called Trümmerfrauen (rubble women), who either volunteered or were conscripted to clear tons of rubble, came to symbolize the struggle of women at this time. Conflicts often erupted when men returned from prisoner-of-war camps and wished to step back into the domineering roles they held during the Nazi period. The film Das Wunder von Bern (The Miracle of Berne), set in 1954 during the run-up to Germany’s victory in the World Cup, illustrates the difficulties of this dramatic role conflict. Across much of the western world, the post-war years were a time of heightened social policing of traditional gender roles. While West German constitutional law guaranteed men and women the same rights as citizens, women were still assumed to be natural homemakers and mothers. This patriarchal order was increasingly challenged in the mid-to-late 1960s, as second-wave feminism and the sexual revolution swept the country. Feminists of this generation rejected the patriarchal, authoritarian values of their parents, which they associated with the crimes of the Nazi generation. Women’s centers became important sites of feminist organizing and provided critical resources for women struggling with abusive relationships and homelessness. Second-wave feminism was less pronounced in East Germany, where efforts to promote equality included incorporating women in the public working world and encouraging men to take on a larger burden of housework. Nevertheless, women continued to shoulder a heavier burden of household labor. In the reunified Germany of the late 20th century, new waves of feminism brought more diverse and nuanced understandings of gender politics. This included a focus on “intersectionality,” by which discrimination on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability or class “intersect” to create detrimental dynamics and effects. Traditional gender roles persist in Germany today. This is particularly true outside of urban areas, where women still bear the brunt of housework, childcare and other unpaid labor. Nevertheless, women are increasingly present in positions of power and authority. Angela Merkel was the first woman elected Chancellor of Germany in 2005. She became one of the most powerful women in the world and remains a symbol of expanding gender equality on the global stage. By the European Institute for Gender Equality’s Gender Equality Index, Germany scored 68.7 as of 2022, putting them 12th in the EU. Although the German score is slightly better than the EU average (68.6), the country still ranks below the likes of Sweden, Denmark, Belgium and France. Although Germany has made some progress in gender parity, there are still some pressing improvements to be made. Women in Germany are still spending far more time and labor on childcare and domestic work than men. As of 2021, the gender pay gap in Germany was 18%, though the German government has set the target of reducing this to 10% by 2030. There is still a significant under-representation of women in leadership positions in the workplace and at the head of major businesses. Germany is also making progress for those who do not want to live with the gender identity assigned to them at birth. Germany added a third legal gender option — divers (diverse) — to official forms and has passed legislation to recognize and protect intersex people. There is growing understanding and respect for those who identify as nonbinary or genderqueer, as well. While transphobia remains a problem, there is support available through community networks throughout much of the country and some legal protections for those facing discrimination. Germany is also on the verge of adapting legislation to ease the legal gender and name-change process for those transitioning. Gender roles, the rights of women and attitudes regarding gender-nonconforming people have changed greatly in the past hundred years and are continuing to evolve swiftly in Germany. While there is still much work to be done to achieve true gender parity, the hard work of advocates and campaigners gives good reason for optimism. If you want to engage further with the history of civil rights movements in Germany, it can be helpful to read primary texts and speak with people on the ground. You can start learning German with Lingoda today. Women in business Be they entrepreneurs, company directors, scientists or experts, women play an important role in German business. According to figures published by the Federal Statistical Office, Germany has the third-highest rate of female employment in the EU. In 2023, 77.2 percent of women aged between 20 and 64 were in gainful employment. The male employment rate is around 85 percent. As far as their earnings are concerned, there is an imbalance between men and women. The gender pay gap was 16 percent in 2024. Even if structural differences such as part-time work are discounted, women still earn six percent less than men in comparable positions and with comparable qualifications. The landscape of gender roles in Germany has undergone significant transformation over the past few decades. From the post-war period to the present day, societal attitudes, laws, and cultural norms have all contributed to a redefined understanding of gender and equality. This article explores the evolution of gender roles in modern Germany, examining key milestones, contemporary challenges, and future directions. Historical Context Post-War Era and the Traditional Family After World War II, Germany faced the challenge of rebuilding its society and economy. The traditional family model, characterized by a clear division of labor, emerged during this period. Men were primarily seen as breadwinners, while women were expected to take on domestic responsibilities, often sacrificing their careers for family life. This traditional view of gender roles was reinforced by societal expectations and cultural narratives that glorified motherhood and homemaking. The 1960s and the Women’s Movement The 1960s marked a turning point as the feminist movement gained momentum, both in Germany and globally. Women began to demand equal rights, better educational opportunities, and the right to work. Legislative changes, such as the introduction of the Equal Opportunities Act in 1977, aimed to eliminate gender discrimination in the workplace. This era also saw the rise of women’s liberation groups, which challenged the traditional notions of femininity and pushed for societal change. Current Trends Gender Equality Legislation Today, Germany is known for its progressive stance on gender equality. The country has implemented various policies aimed at promoting equal opportunities in both professional and personal spheres. The Act on Equal Participation of Women and Men in Leadership Positions, enacted in 2015, mandates gender quotas for women in leadership roles within publicly listed companies. Such measures reflect a growing commitment to dismantling gender-based barriers in the workplace. Changing Family Dynamics The notion of family in Germany has evolved significantly. Increasing numbers of women are pursuing higher education and careers, leading to a rise in dual-income households. Men are also becoming more involved in domestic duties and childcare, reflecting a shift towards more equitable distribution of responsibilities. Paternity leave has gained popularity, allowing fathers to take time off work to care for their children, which challenges traditional stereotypes about masculinity. Contemporary Challenges Gender Pay Gap Despite advancements in gender equality, challenges persist. The gender pay gap remains a pressing issue, with women earning significantly less than their male counterparts in many sectors. This discrepancy highlights the need for continued advocacy and policy reforms aimed at achieving true equality in the workplace. Societal Attitudes and Stereotypes Cultural stereotypes surrounding gender roles continue to influence perceptions and behaviors in Germany. Women are often still viewed as primary caregivers, which can impact their career progression. Conversely, men may face societal pressure to conform to traditional masculine roles, limiting their involvement in family life and emotional expression. Changing these deeply ingrained attitudes requires ongoing education and awareness-raising efforts. The Future of Gender Roles Towards a More Inclusive Society The future of gender roles in Germany looks promising, as society increasingly embraces diversity and inclusivity. Movements advocating for LGBTQ+ rights and gender nonconformity have gained visibility, contributing to a broader understanding of gender beyond the binary framework. As these discussions evolve, there is potential for a more nuanced and inclusive approach to gender roles. Education and Awareness Education will play a crucial role in shaping future generations’ perceptions of gender. Integrating gender studies into school curricula can foster understanding and respect for diverse identities and experiences. Encouraging open conversations about gender roles, stereotypes, and equality can help cultivate a society that values individuality over conformity. The evolution of gender roles in modern Germany reflects a complex interplay of historical, cultural, and legislative factors. While significant progress has been made towards achieving gender equality, challenges remain. As society continues to adapt and evolve, it is essential to foster an environment that promotes inclusivity, understanding, and respect for all individuals, regardless of gender. By embracing change and challenging stereotypes, Germany can pave the way for a more equitable future. Women at the top help women to get to the top: that’s the idea behind “Female Founders”. Nina Wöss is one of the founders of this European network that connects, promotes and trains women in the areas of digitisation and entrepreneurship. With a community of more than 40,000 business women, “Female Founders” is one of Europe’s most relevant and fastest-growing organisations for female founders and entrepreneurs. “As we can see every day, the world we live in is facing many challenges. That is why we firmly believe that a change is needed in business and society, a change brought about by creative and innovative individuals”, says Wöss, a “Digital Female Leader Award 2021” finalist. In her opinion, it is “time finally to take advantage of the untapped creativity, passion and economic potential offered by women.” Janina Kugel, top manager , the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit. 112,025 active editors 7,010,659 articles in English Ian Carmichael (18 June 1920 – 5 February 2010) was an English actor who had a career that spanned seventy years. Born in Kingston upon Hull, he trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, but his studies—and the early stages of his career—were curtailed by the Second World War. After initial success in revue and sketch productions, he was cast by the film producers John and Roy Boulting to star in a series of satires, starting with Private's Progress in 1956 through to I'm All Right Jack in 1959. In the mid-1960s he played Bertie Wooster for BBC Television for which he received positive reviews, including from P. G. Wodehouse, the writer who created the character of Wooster. In the early 1970s he played another upper-class literary character, Lord Peter Wimsey, the amateur but talented investigator created by Dorothy L. Sayers. Carmichael was often typecast as an affable but bumbling upper-class innocent, but he retained a disciplined approach to training and rehearsing. (Full article...) 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Archive Start a new article Nominate an article Melissa Hortman In the US state of Minnesota, state representative Melissa Hortman (pictured) is assassinated and state senator John Hoffman is injured. Former president of Nicaragua and first elected female president in the Americas Violeta Chamorro dies at the age of 95. Israel launches multiple airstrikes across cities in Iran, killing various nuclear scientists and military officials, including IRGC commander-in-chief Hossein Salami. Air India Flight 171 crashes in Ahmedabad, India, killing 279 people. Ongoing: Gaza war Russian invasion of Ukraine timeline Sudanese civil war timeline Recent deaths: Stella Chen Franzo Grande Stevens Sly Stone Mohammad Bagheri Fereydoon Abbasi Stu Wilson Nominate an article June 18: Autistic Pride Day Cadaver Tomb of René of Chalon 1898 – The Cadaver Tomb of René of Chalon (pictured) in Bar-le-Duc, France, was designated a monument historique. 1958 – English composer Benjamin Britten's one-act opera Noye's Fludde was premiered at the Aldeburgh Festival. 1967 – American musician Jimi Hendrix burned his guitar on stage at the end of a performance at the Monterey International Pop Festival in California. 1981 – The Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk, the first operational aircraft to be designed around stealth technology, made its maiden flight. 1994 – The Troubles: Ulster Volunteer Force members attacked a crowded bar in Loughinisland, Northern Ireland, with assault rifles, killing six people. Rogier van der Weyden (d. 1464)Ambrose Philips (d. 1749)Lou Brock (b. 1939)Stephanie Kwolek (d. 2014) More anniversaries: June 17 June 18 June 19 Archive By email List of days of the year About The Garni Temple is a classical colonnaded structure in the village of Garni, in central Armenia, around 30 km (19 mi) east of Yerevan. Built in the Ionic order, it is the best-known structure and symbol of pre-Christian Armenia. It has been described as the "easternmost building of the Greco-Roman world" and the only largely preserved Hellenistic building in the former Soviet Union. It is

conventionally identified as a pagan temple built by King Tiridates I in the first century AD as a temple to the sun god Mihr (Mithra). It collapsed in a 1679 earthquake, but much of its fragments remained on the site. Renewed interest in the 19th century led to excavations in the early and mid-20th century. It was reconstructed in 1969–75, using the anastylosis technique. It is one of the main tourist attractions in Armenia and the central shrine of Hetanism (Armenian neopaganism). This aerial photograph shows the Garni Temple in the winter. Photograph credit: Yereventsi Recently featured: Igor Stravinsky Sabella pavonina Magna Carta (An Embroidery) Archive More featured pictures Community portal – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements. Village pump – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues. Site news – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement. Teahouse – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Help desk – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Reference desk – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics. Content portals – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia. Wikipedia is written by volunteer editors and hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation, a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other volunteer projects: CommonsFree media repository MediaWikiWiki software development Meta-WikiWikimedia project coordination WikibooksFree textbooks and manuals WikidataFree knowledge base WikinewsFree-content news WikiquoteCollection of quotations WikisourceFree-content library WikispeciesDirectory of species WikiversityFree learning tools WikivoyageFree travel guide WiktionaryDictionary and thesaurus This Wikipedia is written in English. Many other Wikipedias are available; some of the largest are listed below. 1,000,000+ articles العربية Deutsch Español فارسی Français Italiano Nederlands 日本語 Polski Português Русский Svenska Українська Tiếng Việt 中文 250,000+ articles Bahasa Indonesia Bahasa Melayu Bân-lâm-gú Български Català Čeština Dansk Eesti Ελληνικά Esperanto Euskara עברית Հայերեն Magyar Norsk bokmål Română Simple English Slovenčina Srpski Srpskohrvatski Suomi Türkçe Oʻzbekcha 50,000+ articles Asturianu Azərbaycanca ᨅᨔᨘᨕᨗᨑᨚᨕᨗᨑᨚᨕᨗᨑᨚ

Hippolyte et Aricie, first opera by Jean-Philippe Rameau 1741: Goldberg Variations for harpsichord published by Bach 1742: Messiah, oratorio by Handel premiered in Dublin 1749: Mass in B minor by J.S. Bach assembled in current form 1751: The Art of Fugue by J.S. Bach 1762: Orfeo ed Euridice, first "reform opera" by Gluck, performed in Vienna 1786: The Marriage of Figaro, opera by Mozart 1787: Don Giovanni, opera by Mozart 1788: Jupiter Symphony (Symphony No. 41) composed by Mozart 1791: The Magic Flute, opera by Mozart 1791–1795: London symphonies by Haydn 1798: The Pathétique, piano sonata by Beethoven 1798: The Creation, oratorio by Haydn first performed ^ Volkov, Sergey. Concise History of Imperial Russia. ^ Rowe, William T. China's Last Empire. ^ Anderson, M. S. (1979). Historians and Eighteenth-Century Europe, 1715–1789. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-822548-5. OCLC 185538307. ^ Ribeiro, Aileen (2002). Dress in Eighteenth-Century Europe 1715–1789 (revised ed.). 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For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Fact Checked Content Last Updated: 30.04.2024 13 min reading time Content creation process designed by Content cross-checked by Content quality checked by Save Article Save Article Delving into the topic of gender roles in Germany today offers a fascinating glimpse into how societal norms and personal beliefs interplay in shaping contemporary life. The evolution of these roles over time mirrors broader global trends, while also highlighting unique aspects of German culture and policy.Modern Germany presents a complex and evolving landscape when it comes to gender roles. Influenced by historical events, legal changes, and socio-cultural shifts, the country's approach to gender equality and roles has undergone significant transformation.Key components of this landscape include:Legal Framework: Germany has enacted several laws aimed at promoting gender equality, including measures to reduce the gender pay gap and increase female representation in top corporate positions.Cultural Shifts: There is a growing acceptance of non-traditional gender roles and identities. Social movements and public discourse contribute to challenging and redefining perceptions of masculinity and femininity.Work-Life Balance: Policies such as parental leave and flexible working hours are indicative of an evolving approach towards balancing professional and personal responsibilities among all genders. Gender Pay Gap: The difference in average gross earnings between women and men within the economy. For instance, Germany's initiative to introduce a quota for women in board positions of major companies aims to address systemic imbalances and promote gender equality at the highest levels of business. Young Germans today exhibit a diverse range of views on gender roles, reflecting a departure from more traditional perspectives. This generational shift is evident in various aspects of society:Equality and Diversity: There is a strong emphasis on equality, with many young people advocating for gender-neutral language and inclusive policies.Personal Identity: Young Germans increasingly resist stereotypical gender norms, exploring and expressing their identities in fluid and diverse ways.Family and Career: The expectation to balance family life with a career is prevalent among both genders, often leading to discussions about childcare responsibilities and domestic chores.Surveys suggest that young Germans value flexibility and gender equality in their professional and private lives more than previous generations.The evolution of gender roles in Germany from the past to the present reflects significant societal changes:PastPresentDefined roles within the family and workplace, with a clear division between male breadwinners and female homemakers.Increasing acceptance of diverse family models and career paths, alongside a push for gender equality in all spheres of life.Lower levels of female participation in the workforce and higher educational institutions.Higher female participation in both areas, supported by policies promoting gender equality.Limited legal protections against gender discrimination.Comprehensive legal framework addressing gender discrimination, pay inequality, and promoting equal opportunities.The shift in gender roles can largely be attributed to broader global influences, such as the women’s liberation movement, as well as local socio-political changes including German reunification. These events not only challenged traditional gender norms but also led to the implementation of policies designed to foster gender equality. The impact of these changes is evident in the legal, professional, and social arenas, underscoring a commitment to creating a more inclusive society.The history of gender roles in Germany offers a rich tapestry that reflects profound changes through the ages, influenced by social, economic, and political transformations. Understanding this evolution provides insight into the current state of gender roles in Germany and sets the foundation for examining future trends.The evolution of gender roles in Germany traces back to early societal structures where divisions of labour were stark, through to the dynamic changes of the 20th and 21st centuries. Key phases include:Traditional pre-industrial society roles where men worked in fields or crafts while women were primarily homemakers and caretakers.The impact of industrialisation, which saw women entering the workforce, albeit in roles deemed suitable for their gender.Significant shifts during the World Wars as women assumed roles in manufacturing and other sectors due to male conscription.The post-war era and the division of Germany, which led to differing approaches to gender roles in East and West Germany, with the East promoting more equal participation in all aspects of society.The historical journey of gender roles in Germany is marked by several milestones:1919Women gain the right to vote, a significant step towards political equality.1949The Grundgesetz (Basic Law) of the Federal Republic of Germany declares men and women equal before the law.1977Reform of the marriage law abolishes the husband's role as the 'head' of the German family.1990sThe reunification of Germany merges different gender role perceptions from East and West, leading to new challenges and opportunities.21st centuryContinuing evolution with increased emphasis on gender equality, parental leave policies, and combating the gender pay gap.Several movements have been instrumental in reshaping gender roles in Germany, each contributing to the progressive transformation of societal norms. These include:The women's movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, advocating for voting rights and legal equality.The feminist movements of the 1960s and 70s, which focused on broader issues including sexual freedom, reproductive rights, and equal pay.The recent #MeToo movement, which has highlighted sexual harassment and discrimination, pushing for cultural and legal changes towards more respectful and equal treatment regardless of gender.The division of Germany into East and West had a lasting impact on attitudes towards gender roles, with the East generally adopting more progressive policies.The reunification of Germany in 1990 created a unique social experiment by merging two societies with vastly different approaches to gender roles. East Germany (GDR) had heavily promoted women's participation in the workforce and politics, partly out of ideological commitment and partly due to economic necessity. West Germany, however, maintained more traditional gender roles until societal pressures and changing attitudes began to shift norms in the late 20th century. This merging of ideologies has contributed to a complex but forward-moving narrative on gender equality in unified Germany.Exploring the differences in gender roles between East and West Germany offers insight into how historical, social, and political contexts have shaped contemporary understandings and practices of gender. This exploration reveals the complex interplay between ideology and gender roles within differing governmental systems.The division of Germany post-World War II into East Germany (GDR) and West Germany (FRG) created not only a physical barrier but also a psychological and cultural divide that significantly impacted gender perceptions. Each state adopted starkly differing ideologies that shaped the roles and expectations of men and women within society.In East Germany, the socialist government promoted the equality of sexes, pushing for both men and women to participate equally in the workforce, politics, and education. Conversely, West Germany maintained more traditional gender roles, with a focus on the male breadwinner model and women’s role largely confined to homemaking and child-rearing. Socialist Gender Equality: The principle promoted by socialist governments that advocates for equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for men and women. For example, in East Germany, women were encouraged to pursue careers in engineering and other fields traditionally dominated by men, significantly altering gender perceptions in the workforce. The legacy of the division between East and West Germany continues to influence today's gender roles within the unified country. Studies and surveys suggest that attitudes towards gender equality and the distribution of roles in the household and workplace still reflect historical divisions.In regions formerly part of East Germany, there is often a more egalitarian approach to gender roles, with higher female participation in the workforce and a more equitable sharing of domestic duties. In contrast, regions that were part of West Germany tend to adhere more to traditional gender roles, although this is gradually changing due to evolving societal norms and policies aimed at gender equality.Attitudes towards gender equality in Germany vary significantly, with younger generations across the country showing a more progressive stance compared to older generations.Since the reunification of Germany in 1990, there has been a gradual convergence in gender roles across the former East and West regions. This process has been facilitated by nationwide policies aimed at promoting gender equality, such as parental leave and child care support, which have challenged traditional gender norms.However, the convergence is not uniform, and disparities persist. For instance, the gender pay gap and the underrepresentation of women in leadership positions remain challenges throughout Germany. Nonetheless, the trend towards gender equality exhibits a blending of the more egalitarian values of the East with the slowly evolving traditionalism of the West, creating a unique dynamic in the context of German gender roles.The impact of reunification on gender roles in Germany is a testament to the resilience and adaptability of societal norms in the face of significant political and economic change. Post-reunification policies that promote gender equality are not just about rectifying disparities but also about crafting a new, unified identity that incorporates the strengths of both the former East and West. This ongoing evolution reflects the complexities of merging two distinct societies and the role of policy and societal attitudes in shaping gender roles within a unified Germany.The impact of feminism on gender roles in Germany has been significant and multifaceted, reflecting a complex interplay of social movements, legislative changes, and shifts in societal attitudes over the decades.The wave of feminism in Germany has been instrumental in initiating changes in gender roles. Spanning from the late 19th century to the contemporary third and fourth waves, each phase of the feminist movement has contributed distinctively towards challenging traditional gender norms and advocating for equality.Key achievements include:Increased awareness and discussion around gender equality.Legislative reforms aimed at reducing gender-based discrimination.Greater representation of women in various sectors including politics, business, and academia.Feminism has had a profound influence on shaping gender equity policies in Germany. Through persistent advocacy and activism, feminist movements have significantly contributed to the development of a legal and policy framework that supports gender equality. This includes policies such as:The Gender Equality Act, aimed at preventing gender discrimination in the workplace and other areas.Introduction of parental leave policies that encourage shared responsibility between parents.Laws facilitating easier access to childcare, thereby supporting working parents.Germany’s move to ban advertisements that depict harmful gender stereotypes is a recent example of how feminism continues to influence policy.Several notable feminist figures have played pivotal roles in reshaping gender roles in Germany. Their contributions have been instrumental in advancing the cause of gender equality. Noteworthy individuals include:Alice Schwarzer, a leading figure in the German feminist movement, who founded the feminist magazine EMMA and has been a vocal advocate for women's rights since the 1970s.Clara Zetkin, known for her role in establishing International Women's Day and advocating for women's rights within the socialist movement in the early 20th century.Hedy Lamarr, an Austrian-born American actress and inventor, who, though not primarily known as a feminist, broke gender stereotypes through her significant contributions to science and technology.The history of feminism in Germany exemplifies how the sustained efforts of individuals and movements can challenge entrenched societal norms and influence the course of social policy. By examining the contributions of these feminist figures, one gains a clearer understanding of the multifaceted approach required to effect change. From legislative reforms to cultural shifts, the impact on gender roles in Germany underscores the importance of persistence, advocacy, and strategic activism in advancing gender equality. Gender Roles in Germany Today: Reflect an evolving landscape influenced by legal, cultural, and policy changes promoting gender equality and challenging traditional norms. Legal Framework for Gender Equity: Includes laws to reduce the gender pay gap, introduce quotas for women in board positions, and other measures for gender equality in Germany. History of Gender Roles in Germany: Marked by milestones such as women's suffrage in 1919, legal equality in the Grundgesetz of 1949, and the impact of movements such as the feminist movements of the 60s and 70s on societal norms. Differences in Gender Roles in East and West Germany: East Germany promoted egalitarian roles while West Germany had traditional roles, affecting contemporary attitudes and policies post-reunification. Impact of Feminism: Feminism in Germany has influenced gender equity policies and societal attitudes, with feminism advancing reforms and increasing awareness and representation for women in various sectors. How have gender roles in Germany evolved over time? Gender roles in Germany have significantly evolved, particularly post-World War II, moving from traditional roles with men as breadwinners and women as homemakers, to a more equal distribution of domestic and professional responsibilities. Legal reforms and societal changes from the 1970s onwards, including improved access to education for women and gender equality laws, have further supported this shift. Today, although disparities exist, there is a growing emphasis on shared parenting and career opportunities. What are the current legal protections for gender equality in Germany? In Germany, gender equality is constitutionally guaranteed, with Article 3 of the Basic Law mandating equal rights and prohibiting gender discrimination. The General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) further protects against discrimination in employment and everyday life. Additionally, laws on equal pay, parental leave, and quotas for female representation in corporate board positions reinforce legal protections for gender equality. What impact do cultural attitudes have on gender roles in Germany? Cultural attitudes in Germany significantly shape gender roles, influencing perceptions and expectations around work, caregiving, and personal behaviour. Traditional views linger, advocating distinct roles for men and women, yet progressive attitudes foster greater gender equality, challenging stereotypes and promoting equal opportunities in professional and domestic spheres. How does the German educational system address gender roles and equality? The German educational system addresses gender roles and equality through curricula that integrate gender studies and equality values across subjects. Schools are encouraged to challenge traditional gender roles and promote equal opportunities. Additionally, specific programmes and initiatives focus on empowering girls in STEM subjects and ensuring inclusive environments for all genders. How does the division of labour in German households reflect traditional gender roles? The division of labour in German households often mirrors traditional gender roles, with women predominantly handling household chores and childcare, while men are primarily responsible for breadwinning. Despite progress towards equality, these traditional roles remain prevalent, reflecting societal expectations and historical familial structures in Germany. Save Article Access over 700 million learning materials Study more efficiently with flashcards Get better grades with AI Sign up for free Already have an account? Log in Good job! Keep learning, you are doing great. Don't give up! Next Open in our app At StudySmarter, we have created a learning platform that serves millions of students. Meet the people who work hard to deliver fact based content as well as making sure it is verified. Lily Hulatt is a Digital Content Specialist with over three years of experience in content strategy and curriculum design. She gained her PhD in English Literature from Durham University in 2022, taught in Durham University’s English Studies Department, and has contributed to a number of publications. Lily specialises in English Literature, English Language, History, and Philosophy. Get to know Lily Gabriel Freitas is an AI Engineer with a solid experience in software development, machine learning algorithms, and generative AI, including large language models’ (LLMs) applications. Graduated in Electrical Engineering at the University of São Paulo, he is currently pursuing an MSc in Computer Engineering at the University of Campinas, specializing in machine learning topics. Gabriel has a strong background in software engineering and has worked on projects involving computer vision, embedded AI, and LLM applications. Get to know Gabriel StudySmarter is a globally recognized educational technology company, offering a holistic learning platform designed for students of all ages and educational levels. Our platform provides learning support for a wide range of subjects, including STEM, Social Sciences, and Languages and also helps students to successfully master various tests and exams worldwide, such as GCSE, A Level, SAT, ACT, Abitur, and more. We offer an extensive library of learning materials, including interactive flashcards, comprehensive textbook solutions, and detailed explanations. The cutting-edge technology and tools we provide help students create their own learning materials. StudySmarter’s content is not only expert-verified but also regularly updated to ensure accuracy and relevance. Learn more Via her “Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy” in particular, she is therefore fighting for a shift in mindset, for a new interpretation of what we mean by security, and for feminism and peace. “Power resources are currently primarily in the hands of privileged men. A feminist foreign policy involves wanting to dismantle these patriarchal structures in foreign and security policy”, Lunz said in a deutschland.de interview. She explained that this form of leadership also requires foreign policy to focus not on military strength but on human safety. The centre she founded intends to bring together leading thinkers and practitioners from the area of feminist foreign policy, to support grassroots projects and to stand up against global inequalities. Utopias rather than realpolitik Lunz also sheds light on the patterns of male dominance in her new book “Die Zukunft der Außenpolitik ist feministisch” (i.e. The future of foreign policy is feminist) and explains that a fair and safe world could be created if we succeeded in breaking through these patterns. She calls for more utopias rather than realpolitik and wants to question the status quo that has been in place for hundreds of years – the aim being to make foreign policy more human, effective and inclusive. She is the first woman and the youngest person ever to head the Federal Foreign Office: Annalena Baerbock of the Green party is the new foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany. Together with Robert Habeck, the future economics and climate minister, Baerbock, who is the first candidate for chancellor of the Greens, achieved her party’s best result in a national election so far: 14.8 percent. The Foreign Office has already been run by one member of the Greens before her: namely by Joschka Fischer from 1998 to 2005. The climate crisis: an international challenge When the new governing coalition of the SPD, Greens and FDP presented their coalition deal, Baerbock described the climate crisis as the “greatest challenge of our time”, saying that it is an issue that affects all fields of policy, including international cooperation, foreign and security policy. This is why she believes that protecting the climate is a key topic for German diplomacy. “We can only achieve climate neutrality by working together with a globalised world”, she said in an interview with the TV channel ARD: “It is important not to think of climate policy in national terms.” Deeper cooperation in Europe Baerbock has been calling for years for the European Union to show greater commitment in the world. In their coalition agreement, the SPD, FDP and Greens are aiming to achieve a “genuine joint foreign, security and defence policy in Europe” – including greater cooperation between the national armies. She once said that Europe must play a “peace role” in the world. This is a stance that has long characterised German politics. The new foreign minister can therefore be expected to show great continuity when it comes to German positions: championing multilateralism and the strengthening of the United Nations, resolute commitment to the European Union and to deepening the community, and a foreign policy that gives primacy to human rights. Annalena Baerbock was born in Hannover in 1980. A former competitive trampoline gymnast, she studied political science in Hamburg and obtained a master’s degree in public international law at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her dissertation, which she abandoned to pursue her political career, also had an international subject, exploring humanitarian aid and international law. The mother of two daughters, she has been a member of the Greens since 2005 and a member of the German Bundestag since 2013. © www.deutschland.de Although women’s rights have come a long way over the last 100 years, there are still aspects of society in which equality is lacking. It was not, in fact, until 1977 that women in Western Germany were allowed to enter employment (outside of the home) without the permission of their husband, and when it comes to average wages men are still consistently out-earning women. As in many other countries, the life of women in Germany is connected to an enormous spectrum of various experiences. These experiences, in turn, are further based on personal values, upbringing, social interaction at different ages and in different situations, educational opportunities, employment, political legislation, health care, safety considerations, families, and relationships – the list continues. The German population is almost evenly split by gender, though as of 2022 there were more women than men. Encouragingly so, the unemployment rate for women in the country has been generally dropping year after year since 2005, with 5.5 percent recorded in 2023. Since the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a small increase in unemployment numbers. Germany still has some catching up to do, though, in terms of the share of women in leadership positions. Healthcare was the only profession in which over 35 percent of leadership positions were held by women. The construction and engineering industries did not even have a female leadership share of ten percent. When comparing countries globally, Germany had one of the lowest shares of female entrepreneurs.Women and relationships Romantic relationships are no longer dominated by the idea of marriage and children, or at least it has become more socially acceptable if these events do not take place. Many women may find themselves in long-term relationships and have children with their partner down the line, possibly getting married afterwards, to make just one example. On average, women in Germany got married at 33 years old. While in the 90s most women got married in their twenties, this figure steadily went up in later years. Most women have their first child around their thirtieth birthday. These developments are all part of a broader change in demographics that has been taking place in Germany, as well as increasing diversity in how gender roles are perceived and lived. Although many women may still feel pressure to have a family, there is a movement to create a culture in which women can choose how they want their life to look, whether that is having a family, focusing on a career, or something else entirely and are free of judgement. 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