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**Marriage, parenthood and perceived fairness: Changes over the life course**

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This paper investigates changes in perceptions of housework fairness as men and women transition from cohabitation to marriage and into parenthood. Our previous research has found that women's time on housework increases after marriage and the birth of children, whereas men's time on housework remains the same or decreases slightly with these life course transitions. There is also considerable evidence from previous research that women tend to report that housework divisions are fair even though they undertake the bulk of this work. We use 4 waves of data from the Negotiating the Life Course study to investigate how men's and women's perceptions of housework fairness change in relation to marital status and parenthood transitions. We first present descriptive data on perceptions of housework fairness for men and women and then report the results of a random effects model predicting fairness perceptions controlling for time spent on housework and other key variables. Our analyses enable comparisons of perception of fairness for men and women across family type, but also shows how perceptions change in relation to life course transitions.