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**The Effect of Welfare Policy and Gender Equality: Gendered Division of Domestic Labor in Germany, Sweden and Turkey**

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ABSTRACT

*This study discusses the relation of sexual division of domestic labor with gender equality under effect of social policies of different welfare regime types which followed through Germany, Sweden and Turkey. In this paper, the relationship between gender equality and gender division of housework is analyzed. Since, housework, chores have been mostly described as tasks of women whereas men are related within paid labor. Yet, rates of gender equality and sequences of countries have been measured due to public institutions and public politics towards gender relations to the exclusion of division of labor. Gender Inequality Index (GII) which is a report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to measure gender inequality of countries is used to evaluate gender inequality by using three important aspects of human development: reproductive health, empowerment and economic status, expressed as labor market participation. This study tries to associate GII with OECD statistics indicating time spent in unpaid and paid work by men and women. In light of these secondary quantitative data, the study seeks to relate these data with the Esping Anderson's classification of welfare states which give us different approaches towards gender equality. These three countries will be held as cases to be compared to each other according to their gender inequality index and unpaid employment hours of men and women in those countries. This study aims to analyze the causal relationship between these two variables. For this purpose, the study examines concurrency between gender equality policies and equal sharing housework between couples.*

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**Keywords:**