

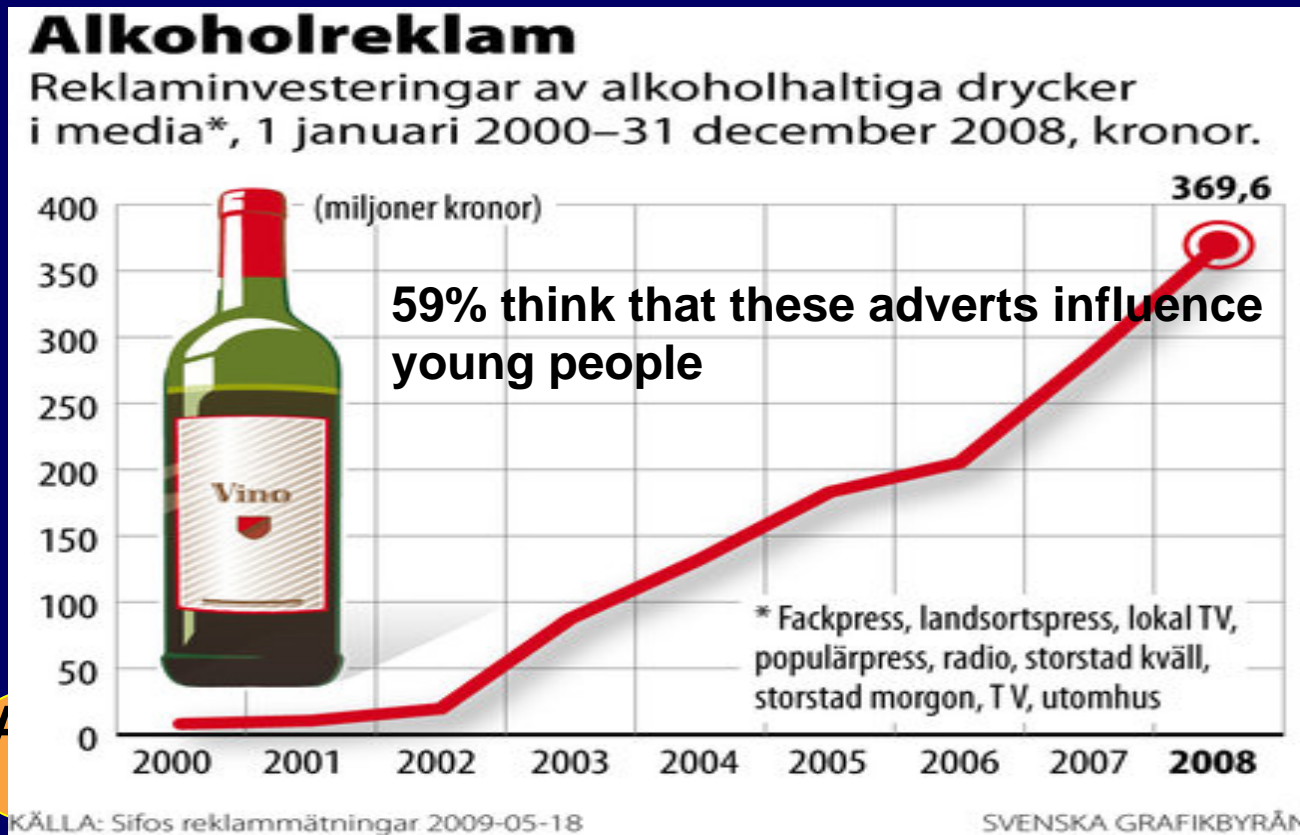


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Strategies to enhance child and youth health in Sweden



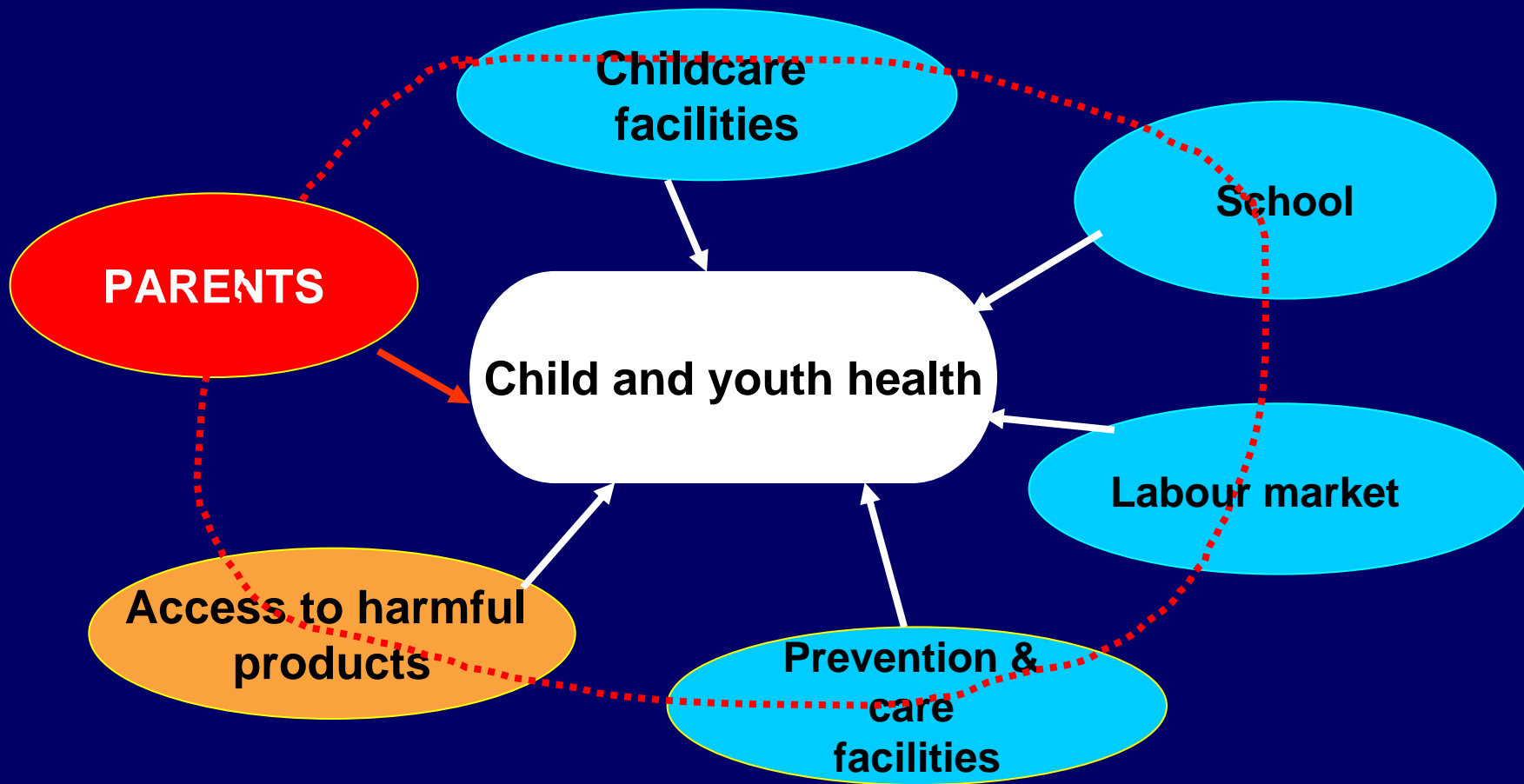
school

market

care facilities



Strategies to enhance child and youth health in Sweden



The Swedish National Strategy to support parents with children 0-17 years

Launched April 2009

Aim

- To offer all parents support during the whole child development
 - Giving parents knowledge on child health, emotional, cognitive and social development and strengthen parents' social networks



Responsive parenting: interventions and outcomes

Neir Eshel,^a Bernadette Daelmans,^b Meena Cabral de Mello,^b & Jose Martines^b

Abstract In addition to food, sanitation and access to health facilities children require adequate care at home for survival and optimal development. Responsiveness, a mother's/caregiver's prompt, contingent and appropriate interaction with the child, is a vital parenting tool with wide-ranging benefits for the child, from better cognitive and psychosocial development to protection from disease and mortality. We examined two facets of responsive parenting — its role in child health and development and the effectiveness of interventions to enhance it — by conducting a systematic review of literature from both developed and developing countries. Our results revealed that interventions are effective in enhancing maternal responsiveness, resulting in better child health and development, especially for the neediest populations. Since these interventions were feasible even in poor settings, they have great potential in helping us achieve the Millennium Development Goals. We suggest that responsiveness interventions be integrated into child survival strategies.

Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2006;84:992-999.

Voir page 997 le résumé en français. En la página 998 figura un resumen en español.

نظرة على الملخص بالعربية في صفحة 998.

Introduction

With only a decade left to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the status of the world's children remains grim. Every year, 10.6 million children

child behaviour the caregiver — most often the mother — is responding to: a sign of illness, a verbal overture, a facial expression or an exploratory initiative. In each case, however, the mother's ac-

and social wellbeing of children, as well as the efficacy of interventions directed at enhancing maternal responsiveness

Methods

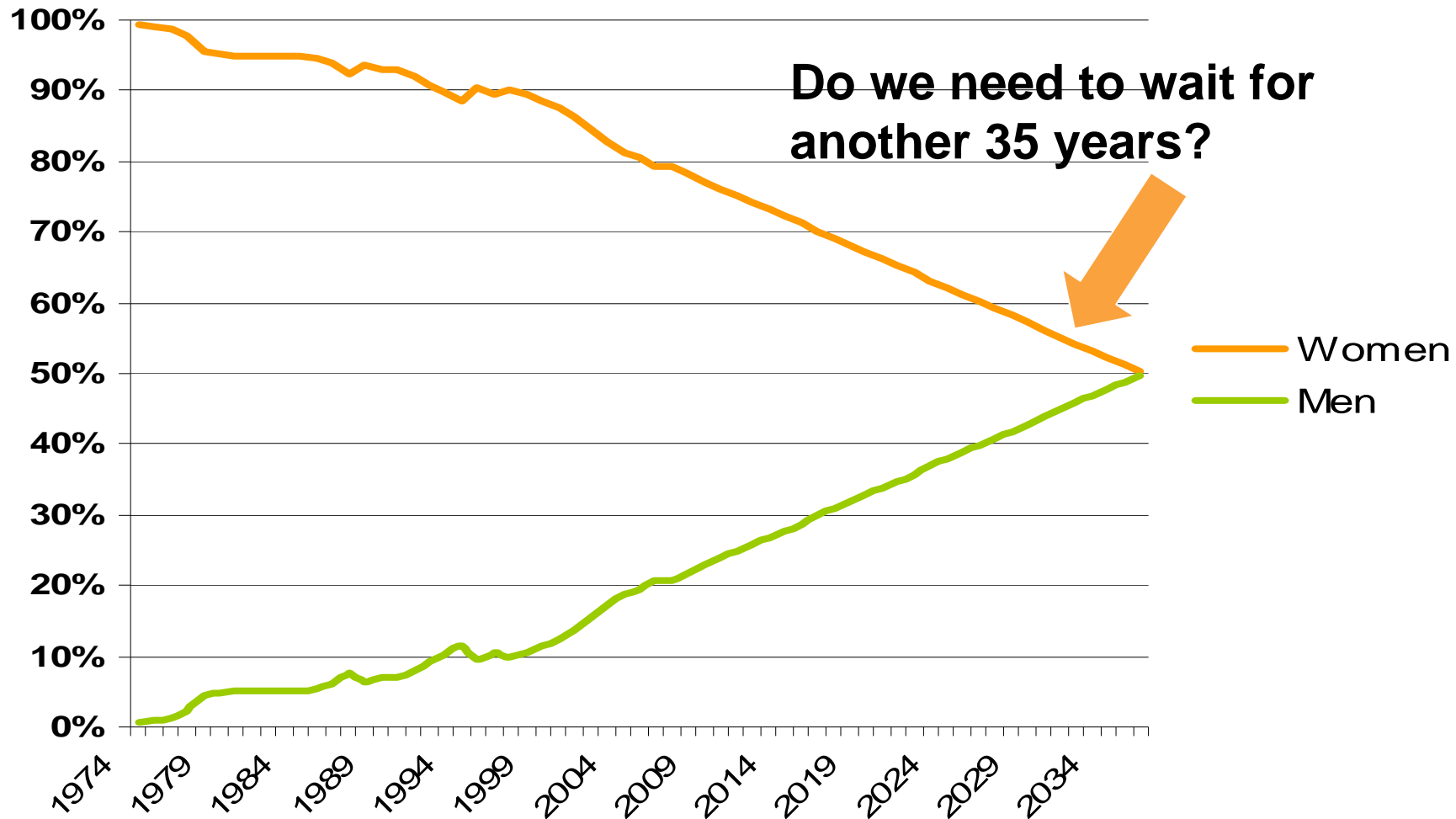
The Swedish "paternity leave" reform of 1974

Some strategies

- 1) Paid parental leave (13 months) + 6 months
- 2) Implementation of the parental insurance system that also permitted fathers to take paid parental leave.
- 3) An extended and publicly funded child-care system for all,



How do we get here?



Good father = good children?

Sarkadi et al. Acta Paediatrica. 2005: 97(2)

An active father figure:

- Reduces problem behaviour in boys and psychological problems in girls
- Reduces criminality in low-income families
- Increases cognitive abilities in children
- Contributes to lower rates of substance use among children



Scientific evidence of public health benefits from engaging men in parenthood

Men who took paternity leave:

- had 14.1 fewer sick days off work than men who did not
- had 80% lower risk for alcohol-related care and disability
- had a 25 % decrease in premature mortality risk compared to men who did not



Special attention need to be given
to young people with intellectual
disability

Engage more young men in public
health practice and policies





Young people need to take the
leadership in strategies that
enhance the health of children –
the young people of tomorrow