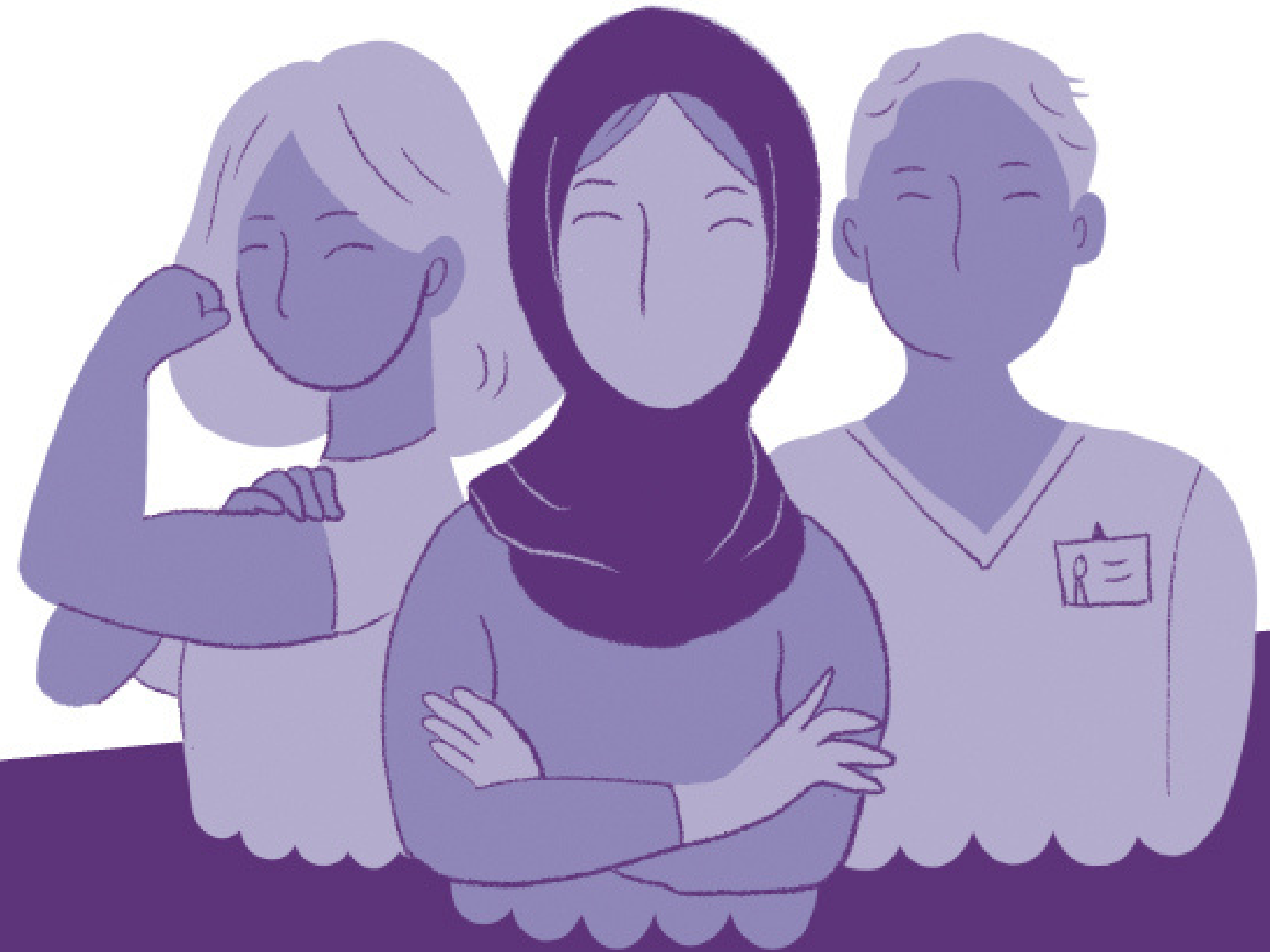




**Nordic Feminisms, Pay  
Equity in Finland,  
- Time Use Survey, unpaid  
labor and care work -**



Fatim Diarra,  
Chair of The Coalition of  
Finnish Women's Associations NYTKIS



# Time Use Survey

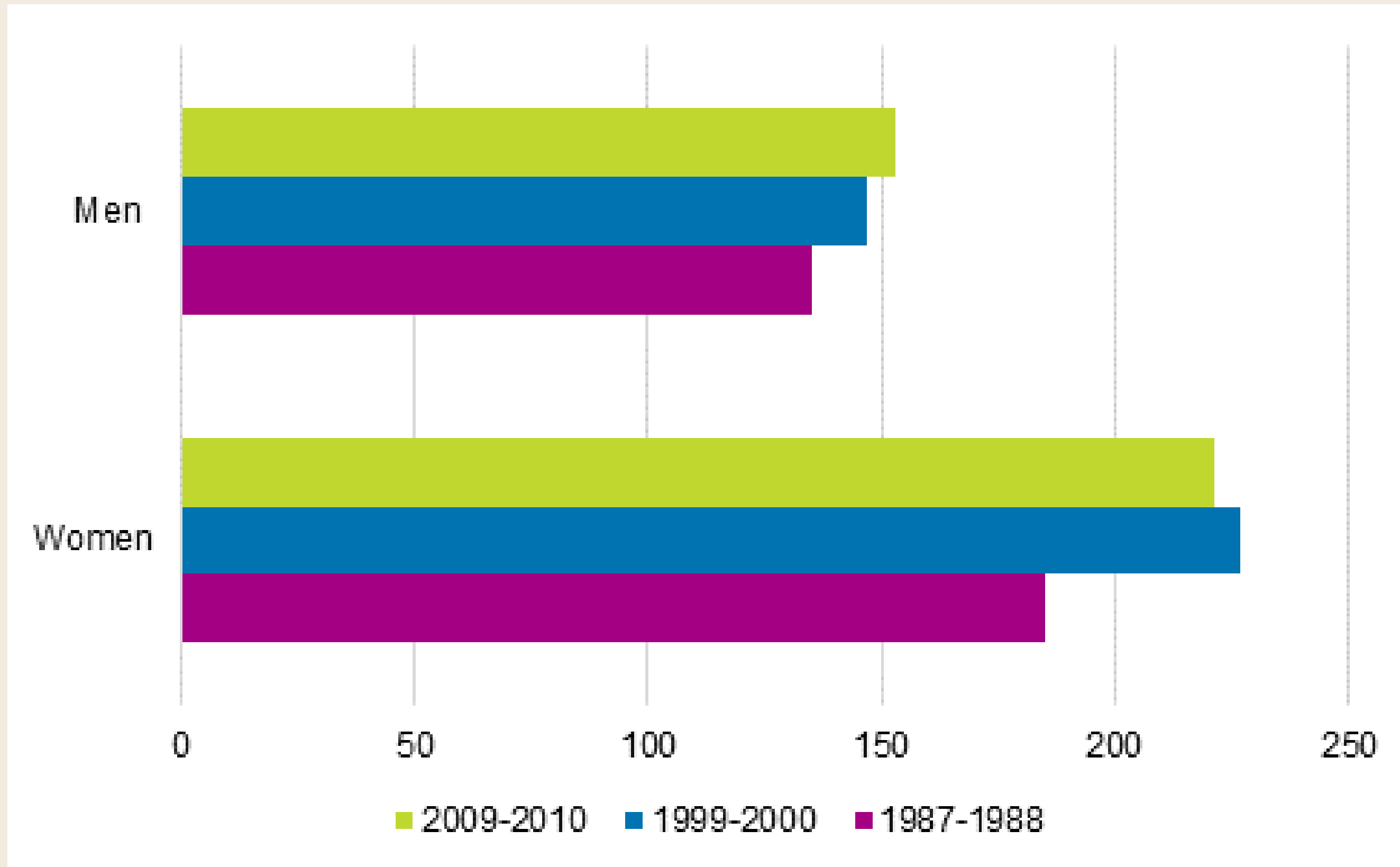
- Question of the division of domestic work is essential when discussing gender equality and pay equity.
- It affects not only women's status within the workforce but also women's pensions and the gender roles seen "natural" within the family and work contexts.
- Statistics Finland has conducted Time Use Surveys since 1979, approximately every ten years. The data for the latest Time Use Survey were collected from 2009 to 2010.
- Those participating in the survey keep a diary of their time use over a two-day period. The interviews are conducted as telephone interviews.

- Survey enables to have a close look at the way housework and carework at home are divided and the time women and men spend on unpaid domestic work.
- New Time Use Survey is being published this year, the first results will be released in June. It is interesting to see the effects of the pandemic on the time used on domestic work by different sexes.
- Collection of the data started in the autumn of 2020 so the possible effects of the pandemic should be visible within the results.

## What we know? (12 years ago)

- The latest Survey (2009-2010) shows that regardless of the family status, women do more domestic work than men.
- According to the 2009 to 2010 Time Use Survey, women performed, on average, 221 minutes domestic work per day and men 153 minutes.
- The time used by women on domestic work has increased since the end of the 1980s but has remained roughly at the level seen at the turn of the millennium.
- The overall time used on domestic work has grown throughout the years
- The time used on domestic work by men has increased slightly.

# Time use for domestic work, 1987 to 1988, 1999 to 2000 and 2009 to 2010, minutes per day



Source:  
Statistics  
Finland 2010

# The different fields of domestic work are gendered

- The most common domestic work performed by women was cooking, shopping and errands, cleaning and child care.
- For men, the most common domestic work was shopping and errands, cooking, cleaning, gardening or pet care.
- Men used more time than women on renovation and construction, heating and water supply maintenance, and vehicle maintenance and repair.
- Women performed other domestic work more than men.

(2009-2010)

# Notes

- Time Use Survey creates the possibility to compare decades and the gendered divisions of domestic work between them
- A ten year period can include big societal changes, Survey doesn't grasp the shifts on the micro level
- What are the effects of pandemic and has the increase of working from distance shifted any of the gendered divisions of unpaid labour?

## Other timely topics on pay equity in Finland

- The parental leave reform 2022
  - In the Nordic comparisons Finnish men are almost least likely to use their parental leave days
  - fifth of the Finnish fathers don't use any of the parental leave days they could use
  - the reform enables longer time for fathers / or other parents to stay with the baby (160 days for each parent)
  - reform also recognises the needs and situations of diverse families



## Other timely topics on pay equity in Finland

- Nurses and early childhood educators battle for better pay.
  - Nurses unions Tehy and SuPer have given a strike warning
  - Strike is supposed to start 1.4.2022
  - The minister of employment and economy pushed the starting day of the strike by two weeks
  - 25 000 people / nurses within strikers
  - both fields suffer from lack of workforce and it is difficult to find substitutes
  - majority of nurses and early childhood educators are women

# Other timely topics on pay equity in Finland

- Effects of the coronavirus pandemic on gender equality.
  - nurses and health care workers as key workforce and the ongoing shortage of hands in the field
    - > care crisis
  - the fields where women are the majority of workforce have also been affected more by the lay-offs caused by lockdowns

Thank you for  
your attention!

