

# Family and Faith in the Romani Community in Slovakia

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# Family and faith...

- religion as „family“ issue
- One of the functions of the family is religious functions (Mitterauer, Seder 1982)
  - religious socialization
  - commitment to the faith of family, kinship, and community
- V. Bengtson (2013) for the successful transmission highlights parental warmth, role of grandparents

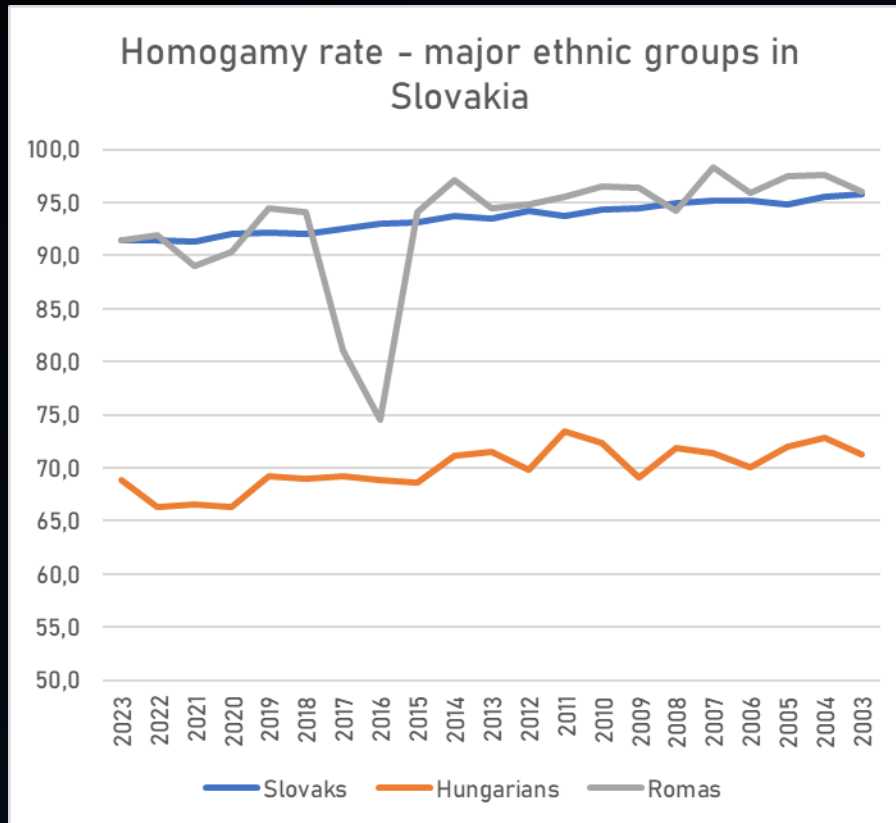
# Family and faith

- 3 types of nontransmission – religious rebels, zealots and prodigals (188)
- According to the 2021 Census, 60.7 % of Romani people are Roman Catholics and 17 % are nones (the population of Slovakia – 55.8 % Roman Catholics, 23.8 % nones)

## Family and faith...

- homogamy decreases the salience of cultural distinctions in future generations and that individuals marrying a spouse of a different denomination may lose negative attitudes toward that group, thus, possibly interconnecting the social networks of both partners (Kalmijn 1998)
- shared views on fertility aspirations, family size, marital stability
- Preference of marrying within the community (response to ethnic segregation, and a cultural choice with social and economic advantages (Gamella 2005))

# Faith and families



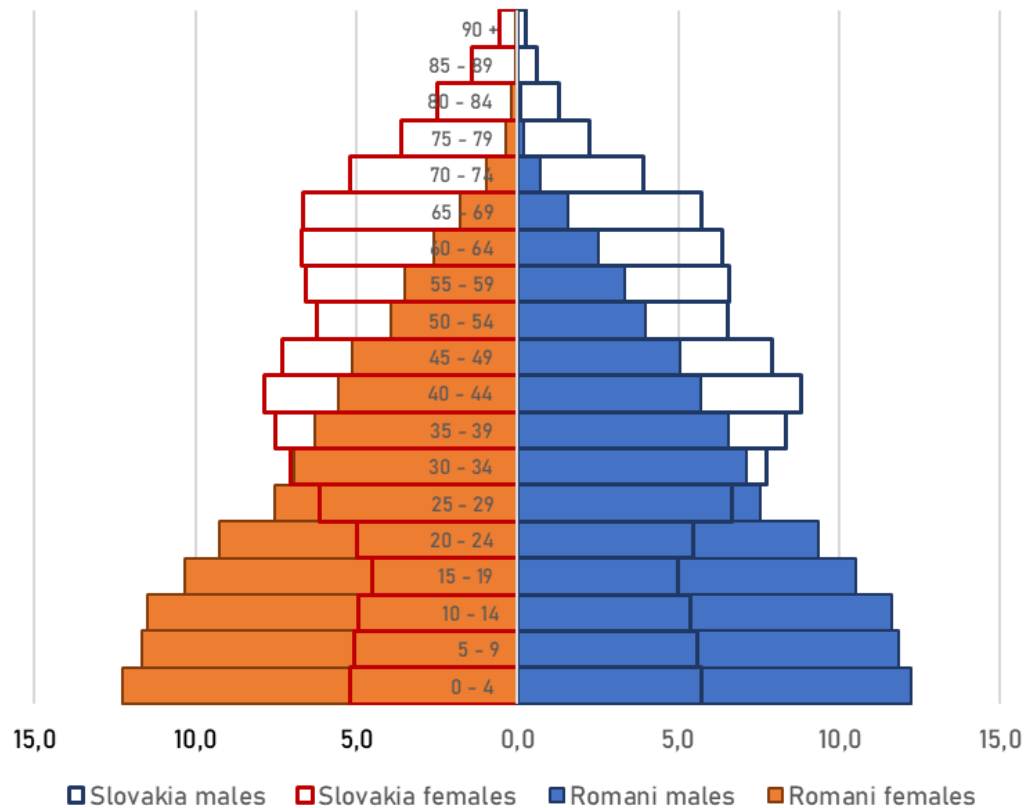
- 88 % of Romani couples are religiously homogamous, 14,9 live in cohabitations
- 73,8 % of the couples in Slovakia is religiously homogamous

# The „none“ Romani couples

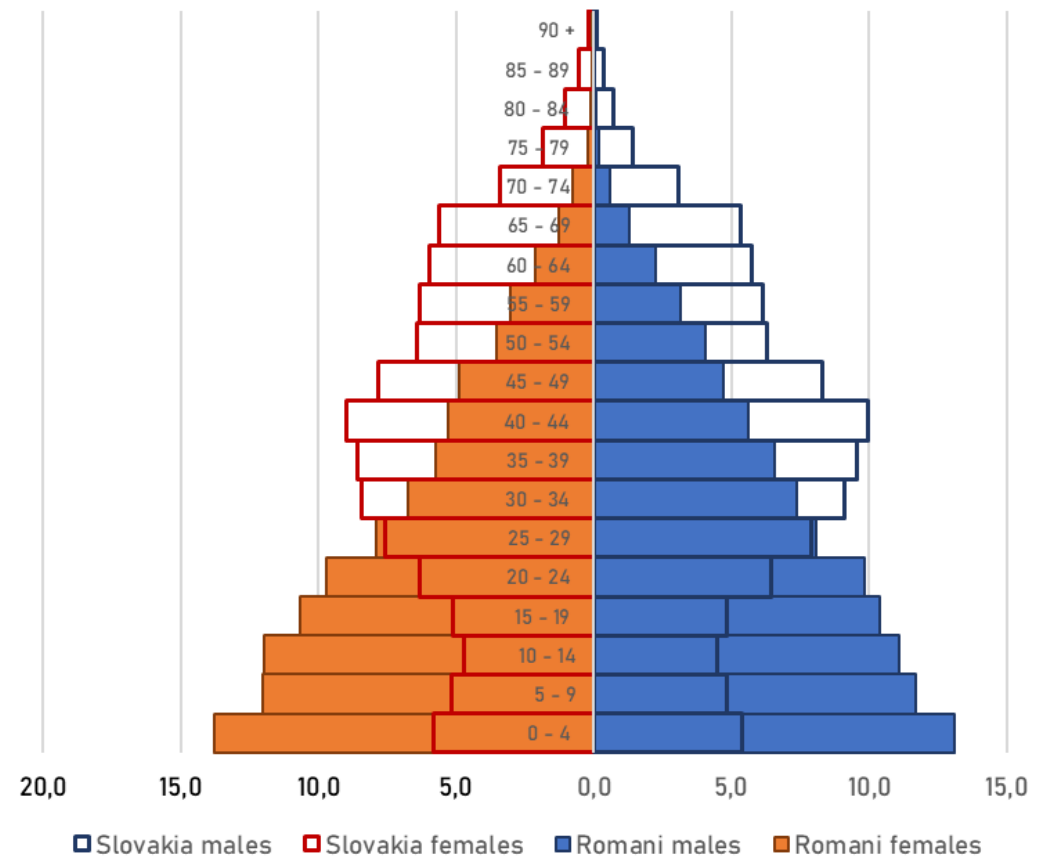
- There is around 1.578 homogamous non-affiliated Romani couples (10 % of all homogamous Romani couples) (around ¼ are cohabiting partners)
- 1.380 couples compound nuclear families
  - with 4000 children, of which 82 % are nones and 8 % are Roman Catholics
  - 33 % of them live in Southern Central Slovakia, 55 % in Eastern Slovakia
  - 74% of males and 79.7 % accomplished only elementary school

# Faith and families

Total population and Romani population of Slovakia in 2021



Not affiliated population of Slovakia in 2021



# Families and Faith...

denomination of Romani parents	proportion of deconverted children
Roman Catholic	6.9 %
Byzantine Catholic	12.5 %
Lutheran	32.8 %
nones	17.6 %

denomination of Romani parents	intergenerational index	average number of children
Roman Catholic	+34%	2.88
Byzantine Catholic	+29%	2.86
Lutheran	-7%	2.66
nones	+19.5 %	2.83



# Families and Faith...

denomination of all parents in Slovakia	proportion of deconverted children
Roman Catholic	14.7 %
Byzantine Catholic	12.1 %
Lutheran	16 %
nones	14.2 %

denomination of all parents	intergenerational index
Roman Catholic	-18.9%
Byzantine Catholic	-13%
Lutheran	-30%
nones	+1.6 %