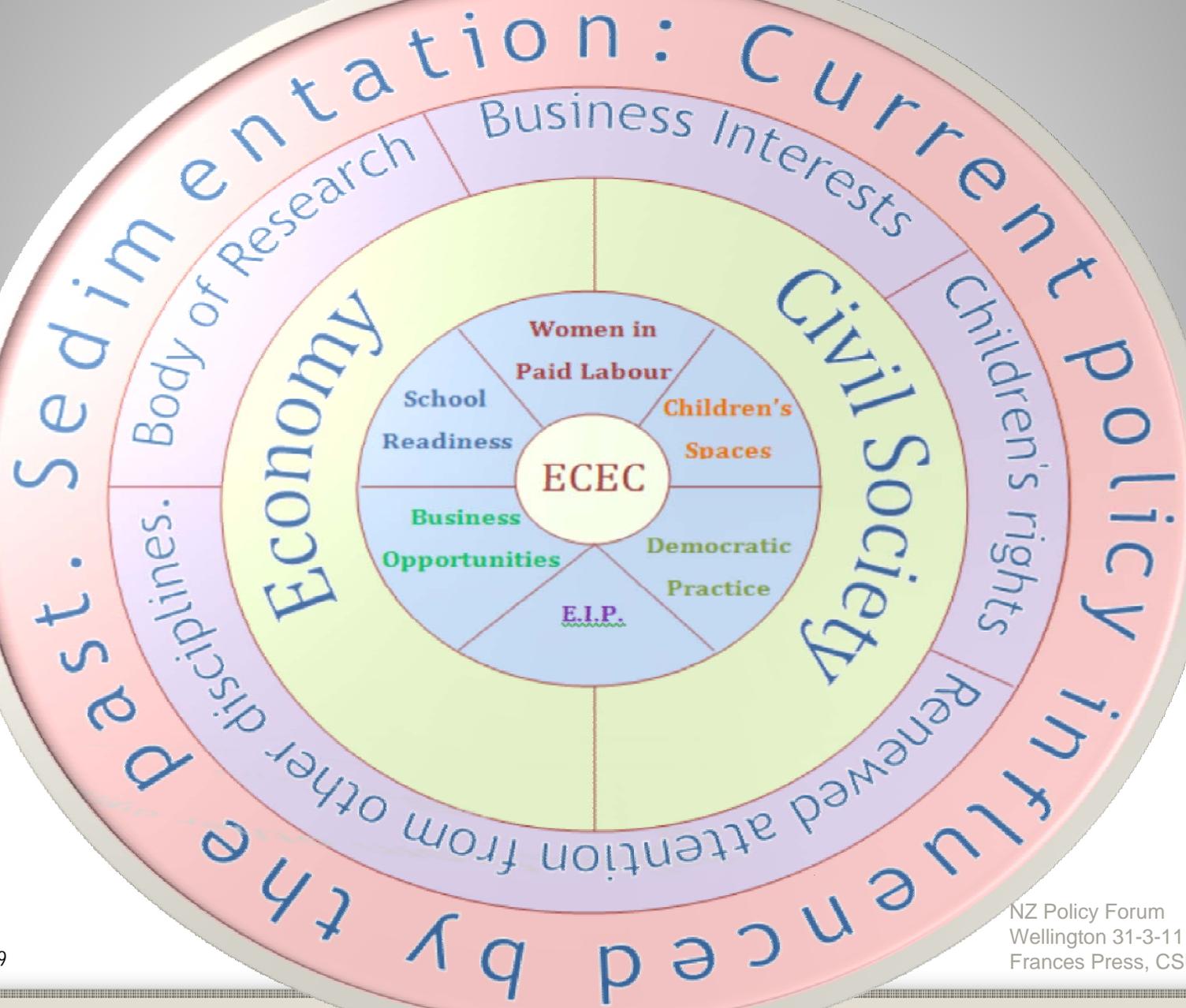
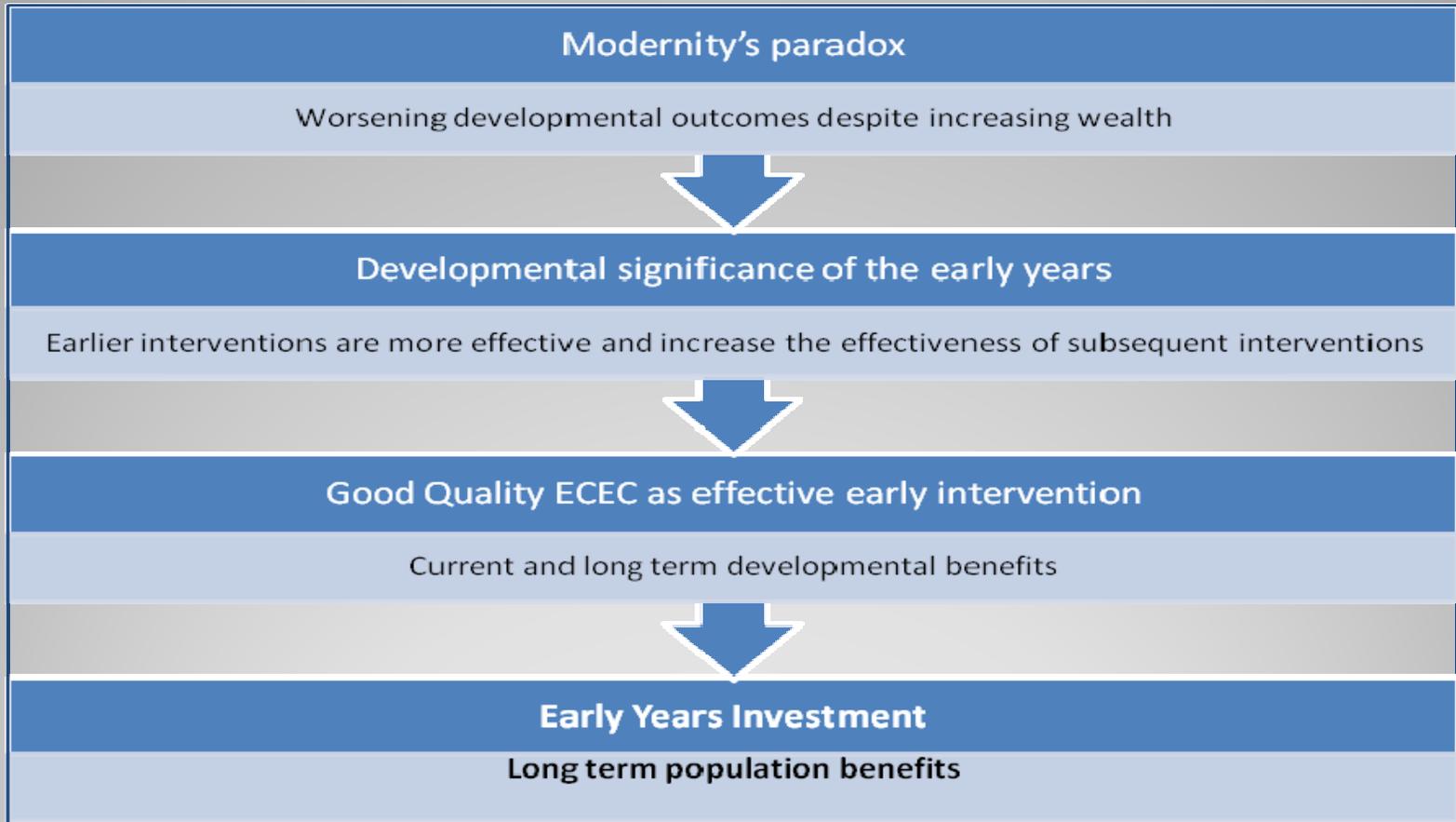


Children at the heart of early education and care

critical influences, issues and
debates

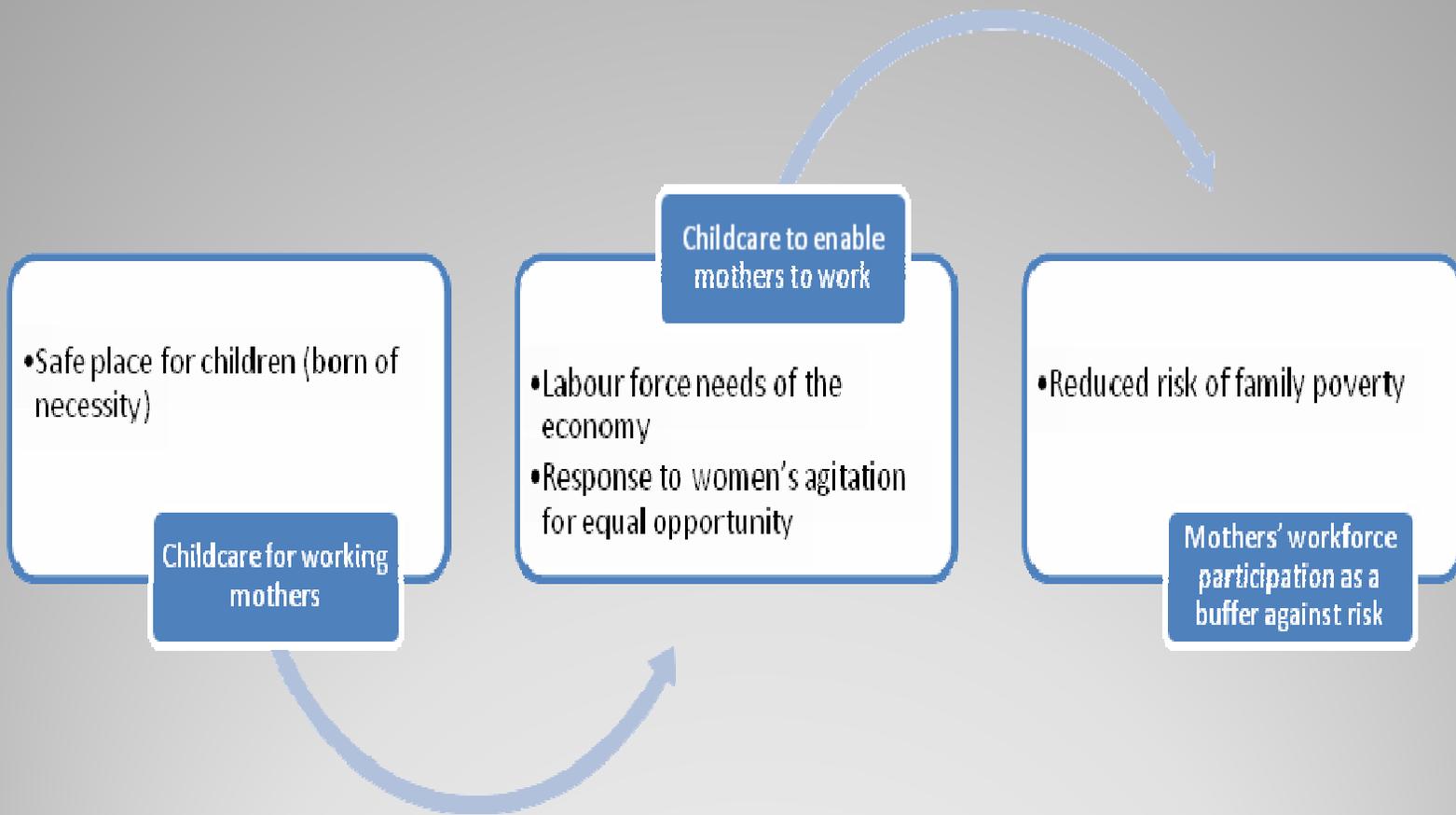




Investment rationale for early years' investment

` the education of young children is deeply embedded in a range of complex and contradictory 'adult' discourses and knowledges, including those of motherhood, politics, worker, citizen and the economy'

(Ailwood,2004, p.19).



The shifting association between child care provision and women's workforce participation

aspire to ECEC systems that
**support broad learning,
participation and
democracy** (OECD 2006).

Article 3.1 UNCROC

In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, **the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.**

UNCROC Article 29

- “the development of the child’s personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential”.

“the preparation of the child for responsible life in a free society, in the spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, equality of sexes, and friendship among all peoples”.

'I look happy because I played with all my friends and the teachers were lovely and they didn't tell everyone to go to sleep for 20 minutes'

(Elyse aged five)

I'm happy in this picture at the lucky, lucky preschool because it's not noisy there. There aren't too many kids.

(Bronte, aged four).

ACT Children's Plan

Children's perspectives on quality

a central project in the conceptualisation and implementation of ... reform is to envision a new future for the provision of early childhood education and care by asking 'how can it become an expression of a society that values children?'

(Press 2007, p.183).

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