Both Sweden and the US have been styled as world leaders in gender equality initiatives, and feminists from these countries participate in dialogues about gender equality and family policies, working to gain recognition and support for both women and men as employed caregivers. There are still contentious debates about the best ways to express and reach this goal. Many conceive of modern gender equality as a condition of symmetry between men and women, and have looked for ways for social policies to incentivize men’s caregiving. Others have defended visions of gender equality which look to update maternalist policy legacies, conceding that most women will likely remain principal caregivers. Competing feminist policy approaches reflect different normative commitments. But different approaches are also influenced by the distinctive political contexts in which feminists from different countries find themselves – contexts which depend on historic policy legacies as well as on their countries’ positionings in the global economy. In this talk, Professor Orloff compares feminist policy approaches in the US and Sweden to better understand the significance of these contexts for the possibilities, risks and opportunities facing gender equality advocates and the practices of care in the two countries.