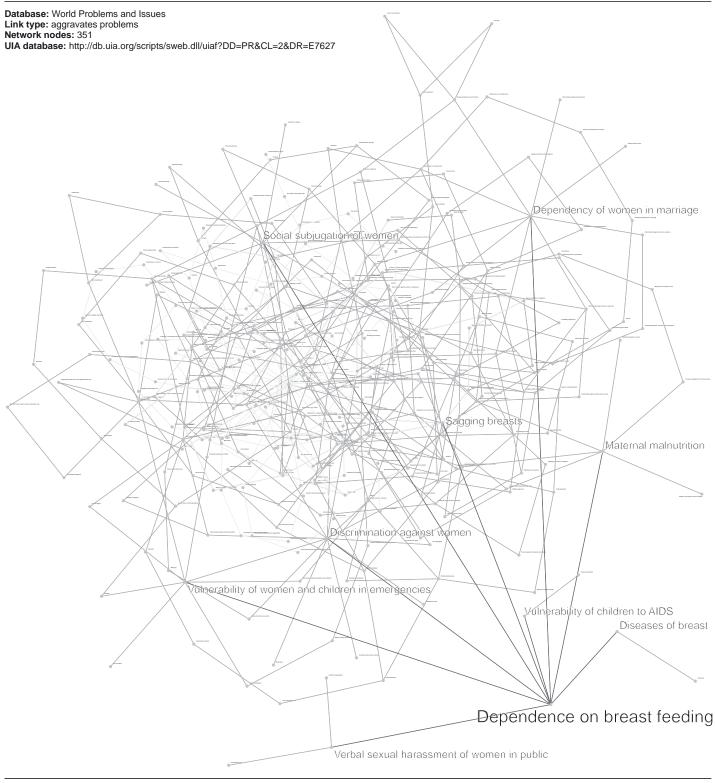
Figure 10.2.22.

Dependence on breast feeding



In the last decades, breastfeeding has regained its lost popularity and has made a striking comeback in the Western world. Difficulties arise due to the fact that the comeback is concurrent with women's liberation from the household and embarking upon career; breastfeeding serves to hinder a woman's total emancipation for she is the only person capable of performing this task. Jean-Jacques Rousseau stimulated a similar fashion for breastfeeding during the 1800's, as one aspect of his popularization of the 'uncivilized natural man'. Even French aristocrats who had always used wetnurses responded to his portrayal of primitive satisfactions and the pleasant warmth of mothers' milk. In the Western world, it is well-educated mothers who are returning to this age-old tradition.