
THE GENDER DIVISION OF LABOR WITHIN THE HOUSEHOLD AND THE TRANSITION TO THE SECOND CHILD

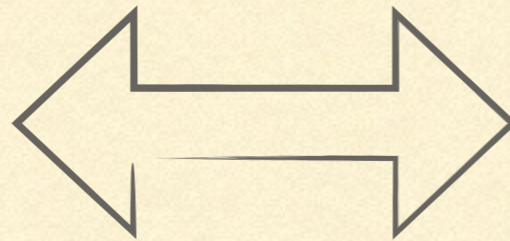
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GENDER EQUALITY AND FERTILITY

gender equality in public life

positive relationship



total fertility rate

gender equality in private life

?



individual-level fertility

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Hochschild (“The Second Shift: Working Parents and the Revolution at Home”, 1989): great changes affect women’s life in public area, however within household women’s life barely changed. Contemporary society provides good opportunities for women to be involved in tertiary education and labor market, but role of caregiver and housekeeper still is considered as primary female area (“dual burden”, “stalled revolution”).

P. McDonald (2000): a problem of low fertility arises in the context of incoherence between the levels of gender equality applying in different social institutions. The problem of low fertility rate turns up when level of gender equality becomes relatively high in institutions that deal with people as individual and, on the other hand, level of gender equality in institutions that deal with people as members of families remains relatively low.

RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the relationship between the division of labor within the household and the transition to the second child?

PREVIOUS FINDINGS (I)

Authors, year	Dependent variable	Explanatory variable	Main results	Countries
Oláh (2003)	Second-birth intensities	Division of household work and childcare work	The second-birth intensity is higher for women in couples who share domestic tasks more equally	Sweden, Hungary 1992/1993
Miller Torr & Short (2004)	The transition to a second birth	Wife's share of housework <54% (modern) 54-84% (middle) >84% (traditional)	At the individual level the relationship between women's share of housework and fertility is U-shaped	USA, Wave 1: 1987-88 Wave 2: 1992-94
Tazi-Preve et al. (2004)	The desire to have a children	Distribution of household tasks (egalitarian-conventional)	Men who are interested in an egalitarian partnership want to become fathers of a(nother) child more than men who lived in traditional partnership	Austria, 2001
Mills et al. (2008)	The intentions to have a child within the next 3 years	Hours of household work, share of household work	An unequal division of household labor only significantly impacts women's fertility intentions when they already bear a heavy load (more work hours, children), a finding that is particularly salient for working women in Italy	Netherlands 2004/2005 Italy 2003

PREVIOUS FINDINGS (2)

Authors, year	Dependent variable	Explanatory variable	Main results	Countries
Cooke (2009)	The transition to a second birth	Husband's share of childcare	In Italy father's assumption of more caring responsibilities significantly increase the likelihood of a couple having another child, particularly within dual-earner couples	Italy, Spain Waves 1 through 7 (1994 to 2000)
Craig, Siminski (2010)	The transition to a second birth	Relative shares of housework and childcare, amount of housework and childcare performed by men	No evidence that the way housework or childcare is shared has an effect, nor that the amount of men's contribution to housework or childcare has an effect	Australia, 2001
Goldsheider et al. (2013)	The transition to first, second, and third births	1) holding attitudes about sharing equally in the care of the home and children 2) actual sharing in these	Analysis shows that, measuring attitudes before the transition to parenthood and actual practice four years later, it is inconsistency between sharing attitudes and the actual division of housework that reduces the likelihood of continued	Sweden Wave 1: 1999 Wave 2: 2003
Miettinen et al. (2015)	The transition to a subsequent birth	The division of housework	Women's housework hours are negatively associated with the likelihood of having children at all parities. Men's contribution to domestic tasks has no impact on childbearing	Finland, 1999-2000

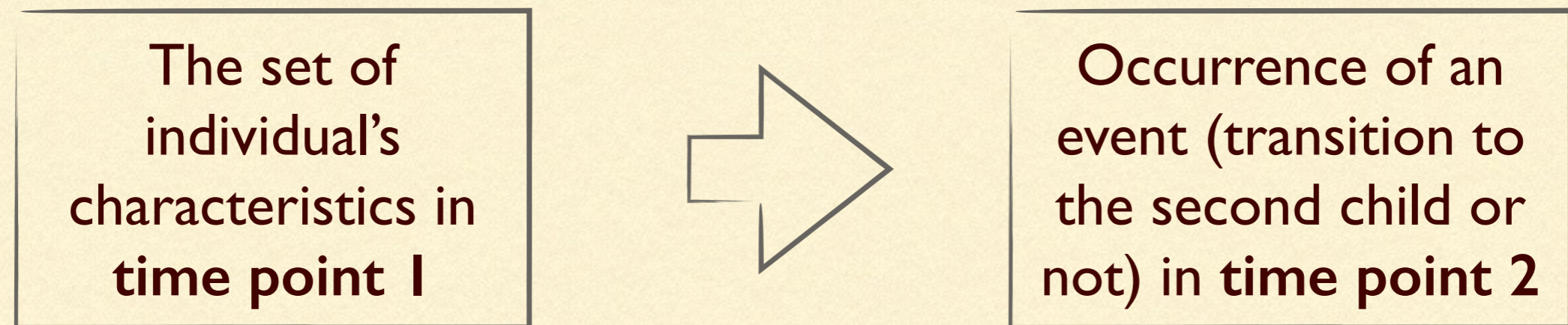
HYPOTHESES

Hypothesis 1: on the average, probability of the transition to the second child is higher in couples with equal division of labor within the household among individuals with egalitarian gender attitudes.

Hypothesis 2: on the average, probability of the transition to the second child is higher in couples with unequal division of labor within the household among individuals with traditional gender attitudes.

METHODOLOGY

- Logistic regression: modeling a probability



THE DATA AND SAMPLE DESIGN

The data:

The Generations and Gender Survey (GGS): two waves of panel data covering 8 countries (Austria, Germany, Bulgaria, France, Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Georgia)

The sample:

- the same partner since wave 1
 - with one common biological child aged up to 18 years
 - no relatives or other people in household
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THE DATA

Country	Total country sample	Transition to the second child		Initial sample size	Year of field work	
		yes	no		1 st wave	2 nd wave
Bulgaria	436	54	382	9344	2004	2007
Georgia	99	22	77	8295	2006	2009
Germany	114	30	84	3226	2005	2008, 2009
France	222	88	134	6534	2005	2008
Hungary	368	108	260	10641	2004, 2005	2008, 2009
Austria	264	90	174	3912	2008, 2009	2012, 2013
Lithuania	91	23	68	2294	2006	2009
Netherlands*	234	88	146	6091	2002-2004	2006, 2007
Czech Repub.	59	22	37	3151	2005	2008, 2009
Total	1887	525	1362	53488		

HOME LABOR: HOUSEWORK & CHILDCARE ACTIVITIES

GGS questionnaire includes the battery “Who does household tasks” which contains seven types of tasks:

- preparing daily meals; doing the dishes; shopping for food; cleaning the house; small repair in/around the house; paying bills/financial records; organizing joint social activities

Also GGS questionnaire includes the battery “Household tasks with children” which contains six types of tasks:

- dressing; putting to bed; illness; leisure activities; homework preparation; transport
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INDICES FOR HOUSEHOLD & CHILDCARE ACTIVITIES

Variables for indices		Values for index components		
Childcare	Household labor	wife doing all the work	wife doing most of the work	sharing equally or husband
dressing the children	preparing daily meals	0	0.5	1
putting them to bed	doing the dishes	0	0.5	1
playing with them	shopping for food	0	0.5	1
staying at home with them	cleaning the house	0	0.5	1
$0 \leq CCindex \leq 1$	$0 \leq HHindex \leq 1$			

GENDER ROLE ATTITUDES & SATISFACTION

Individual's satisfaction:

- division of household tasks
- child care task arrangements

Gender role attitudes:

- when jobs are scarce, men have more right to jobs than women
 - on the whole, men make better political leaders than women do
 - looking after the home/family is just as fulfilling as working for pay
 - a woman has to have children in order to be fulfilled
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OTHER IMPORTANT CONTROLS

- dwelling condition satisfaction
 - fertility intentions both wife and husband
 - age of the first child
 - help with childcare and housework from other person or organization
 - effects having another child: financial situation
-

RESULTS (POOLED MODELS)

- childcare index - ns
 - household tasks index - ns
 - division of household tasks satisfaction - ns
 - childcare task arrangements satisfaction - ns
 - gender role attitudes - ns
 - help with childcare and housework - ns
-

RESULTS (POOLED MODELS)

- age (-)
 - age of the first child (-)
 - status «looking after home and family» (+ for women)
 - education (+ for men, ns for women)
 - fertility intentions (-)
 - effects having another child: financial situation (-)
-

RESULTS (COUNTRY MODELS)

	Independent variable: gender role attitudes (1-strongly agree, 5-strongly disagree)			
Country	A pre-school child is likely to suffer if his/her mother	Looking after the home or family is just as fulfilling	On the whole, men make better political leaders	When jobs are scarce, men should have more
Bulgaria	ns	ns	OR=1.36 p-value: 0.04 N=433	ns
Georgia	ns	ns	ns	ns
Germany	ns	OR=0.61 p-value: 0.02	ns	OR=0.65 p-value: 0.02 N=113
France	ns	OR=1.18 p-value: 0.09	ns	ns
Hungary	OR=1.2 p-value: 0.05 N=364	ns	ns	OR=1.18 p-value: 0.04 N=367
Austria	ns	ns	OR=0.74 p-value: 0.03 N=228	ns
Lithuania	ns	ns	ns	ns
Czech Republic	ns	ns	ns	ns

CONCLUSIONS

Hypotheses are not confirmed. WHY?

1. weakness of the data => increase the sample and try again

or

2. there is no significant relationship => change focus from internal factors to external factors of «dual burden» problem - working conditions, available childcare services, working hours flexibility...

Thank you for your attention!

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