



THE QUALITY
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The Root Cause of Good Government: Gender Equality in the Household

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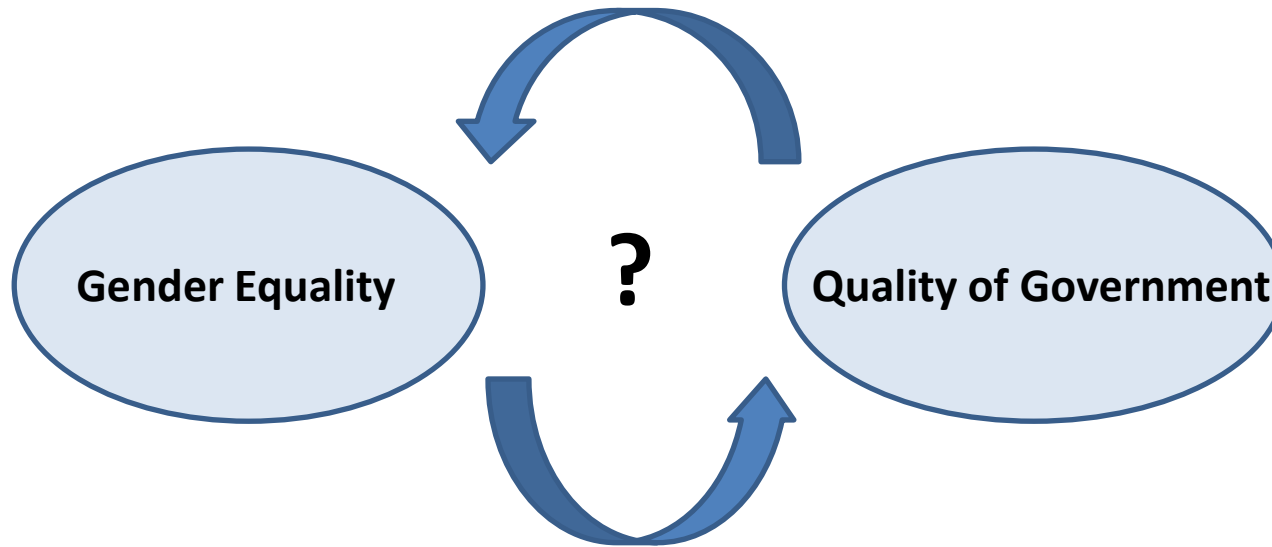
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Research question



Does gender equality play an independent, causal role in countries' varying quality of government across the globe?

Gender Equality ↔ Quality of Government


Literature suggests close links between gender equality and the provision of a host of public goods, including *democratic accountability, intra and interstate peace, economic growth, rule of law and low corruption*

Gender role socialization ≠ female empowerment

The change from socialization that primarily legitimates female exploitation and repression to that which legitimates female value and capability is vital to understanding countries' historical trajectories in quality of government

Theory

Patriarchy and the Culture of Power

Patriarchal systems thrive through the use of natural sex difference to legitimate partial exercise of power over some relative to others  undermines quality of government norms

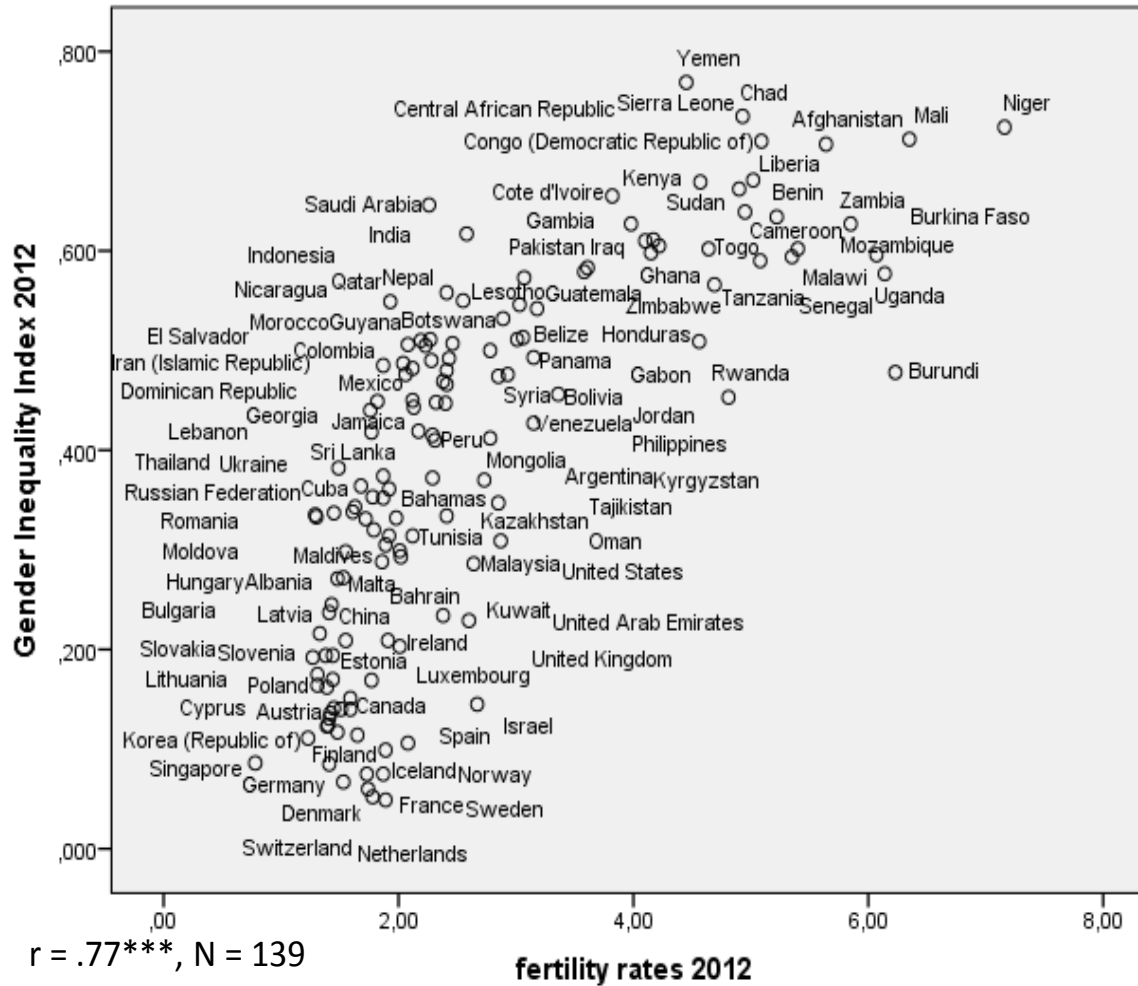
Gender Diversity and the Culture of Power

Change towards support for equal treatment operates through female empowerment: this directly challenges masculine culture of power

~1500 – higher levels of gender equality in household formation in North Western Europe

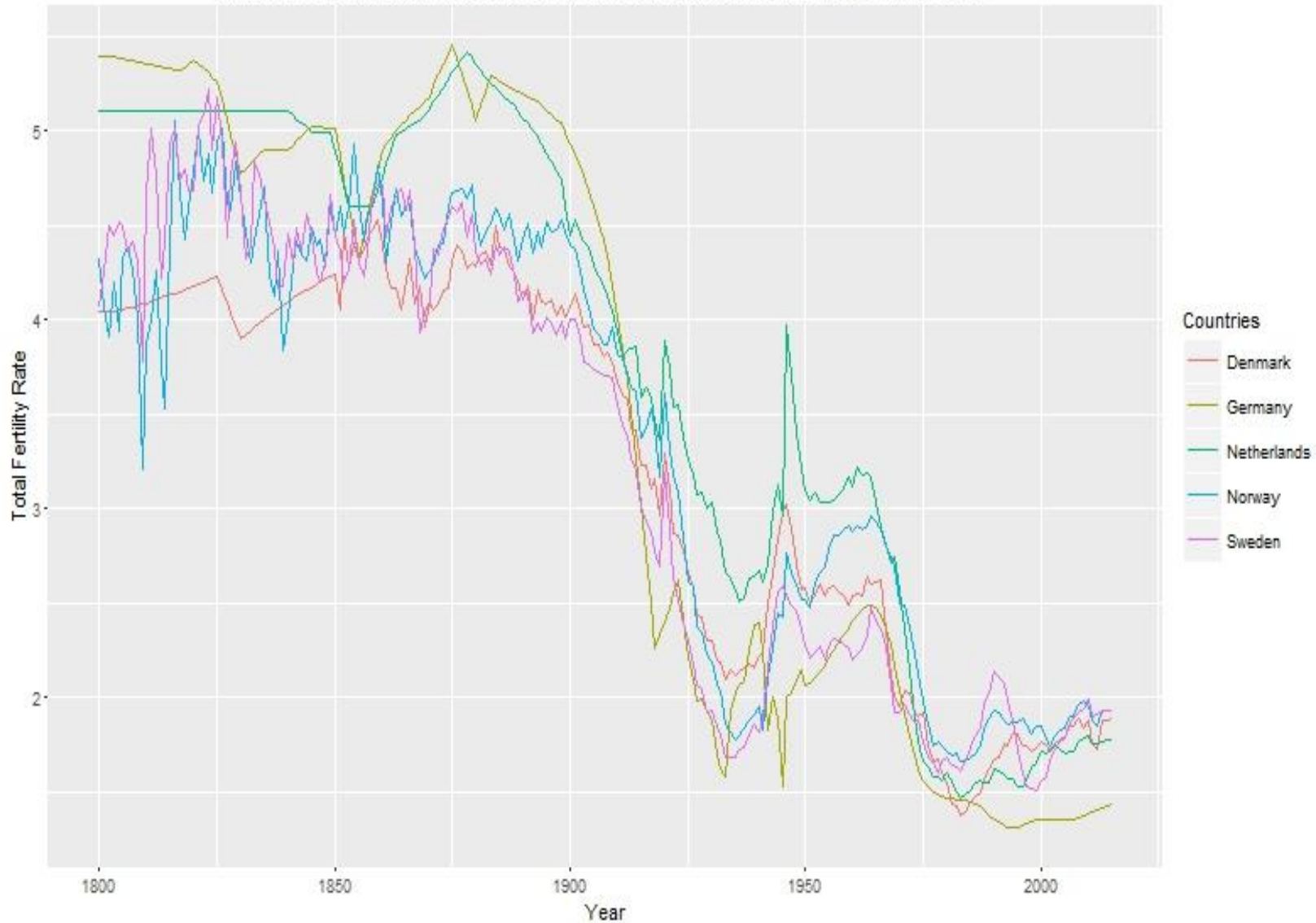
Fertility rates give us insight into the informal structures of equality that operate through gendered norms that are vital to the historical development of quality of government

Global variation in current fertility data



Gender Equality in Household Formation in North Western Europe

Figure 7: Total Fertility Rate by Countries in North Western Europe, 1800-2015



Hypotheses

H1: Lower fertility in 1800 will have a positive, independent effect on quality of government and generalized trust in the 2000s under control of other potentially confounding historical drivers.

H2: Lower fertility in 1800 and mass education levels in 1900 will be the two strongest predictors of quality of government and generalized trust in the 2000s compared to contending historical drivers.

H3: Fertility rates and mass education rates are strongly related overtime, sending countries on mutually reinforcing path dependencies.

Data and Methods

Variable (Year)	Source	
Fertility Rates in 1800	Gap Minder	
Mass Education Levels in 1900	Uslaner and Rothstein (2014)	
Level of democracy in 1900	Polity IV	→ H1 and H2: OLS
Rule of Law in 2012	World Bank	
Generalized Social Trust: 2005-2013	WVS	
% family farms in 1870	Vanhanen	
GDP PPP in 1800	Gap Minder	
% Protestants	CIA World Factbook	
Fertility Rates, Education Index UNDP, Democracy, % Protestants, GDP PPP: 2000-2013		
↓		
H3: Panel regressions		

The effect of historical drivers on Rule of Law: models comparison

	DV: Rule of Law 2012				DV: Generalized Trust				
Fertility 1800 (inverted)	.36***	.29***	.36**	.30***	.23†	.26*	.31*	.23*	H1
Mass Schooling 1900	.48***	.61***	.60***	.57***	.79***	.75***	.51*	.47***	
Democracy 1900	.01†	-	-	-	-.00	-	-	-	
GDP PPP 1800	-	.06	-	-	-	-.14	-	-	
% Farms 1870	-	-	.00	-	-	-	.25	-	
% Protestants	-	-	-	.13†	-	-	-	.34**	
Adj. R ²	.73***	.73***	.71***	.74***	.75***	.66***	.80***	.73***	
N	41	75	35	75	25	39	21	39	

Note: Entries are standardized coefficients based on Ordinary Least Squares regression analysis.
 ***p≤.001, **p≤.01, *p≤.05, †p≤.10.

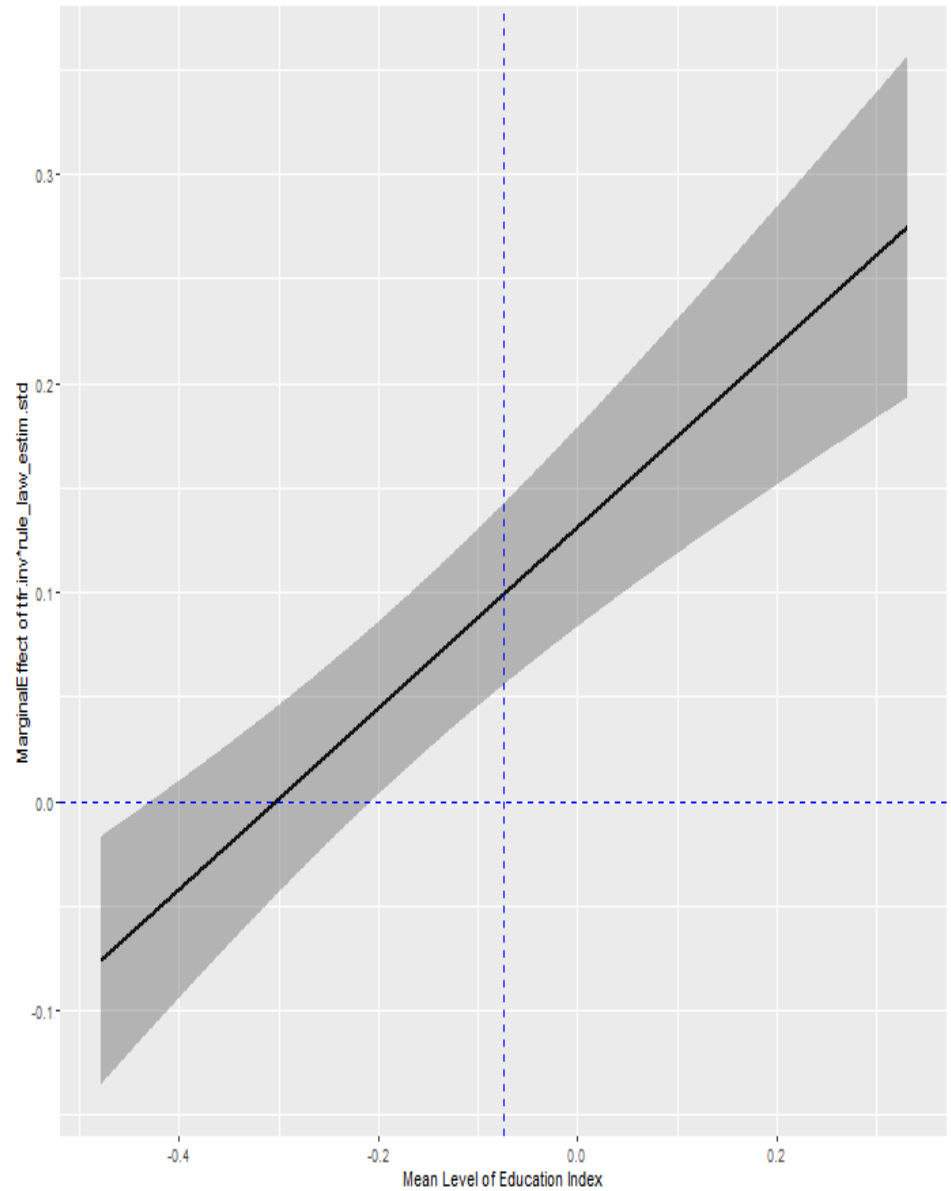
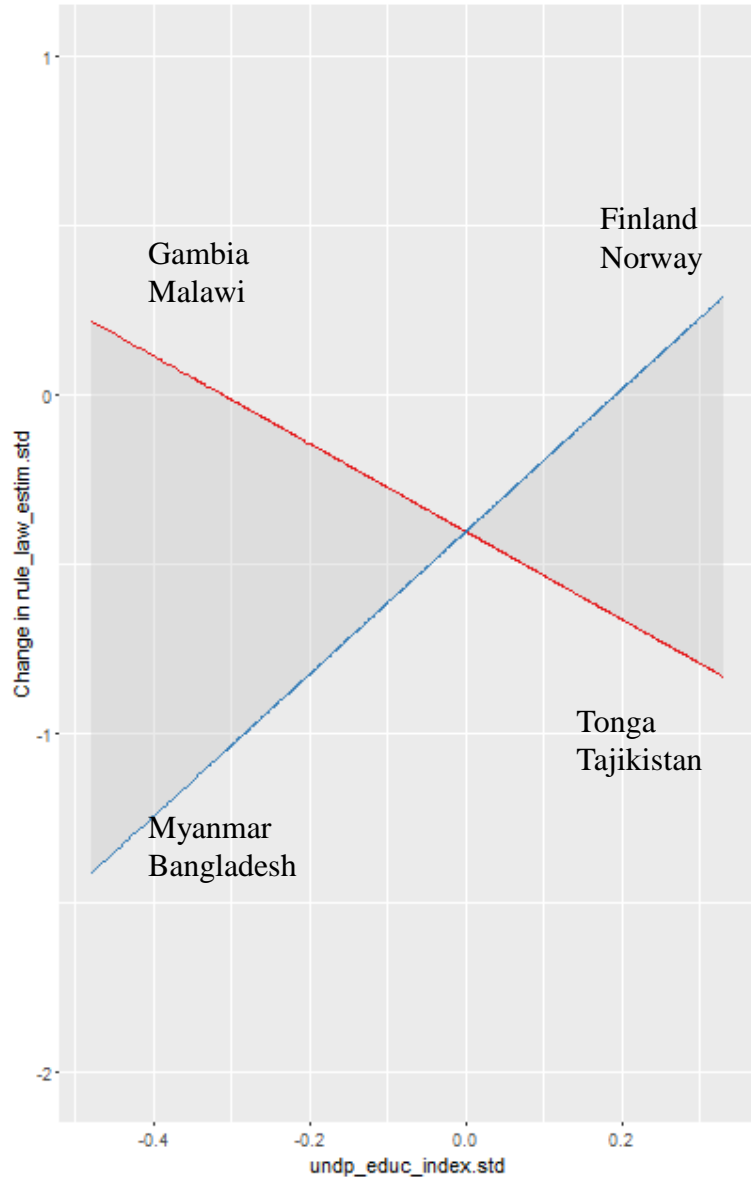
The effect of Fertility Rates and Mass Education on Rule of Law, 2000-2013

Dependent variable: Rule of law					
	Pooled OLS: main effects (1)	Pooled OLS: interaction (2)	Country FE (3)	Country/Time FE (4)	Random (5)
Total Fertility Rate (inverted)	0.0312 (0.0419)	0.1221*** (0.0494)	0.1358*** (0.0891)	0.1310*** (0.0911)	0.1387*** (0.0720)
Education Index UNDP	1.2623*** (0.3992)	0.6251*** (0.4445)	0.0585 (0.6726)	0.1302 (0.7022)	0.1310 (0.5581)
GDP PPP	0.00002*** (0.000003)	0.00002*** (0.000003)	0.00002*** (0.00001)	0.00002*** (0.00001)	0.00002*** (0.000004)
Democracy	0.0468*** (0.0062)	0.0409*** (0.0066)	0.0278*** (0.0092)	0.0278*** (0.0092)	0.0305*** (0.0079)
% Protestants	0.8015*** (0.1870)	0.8529*** (0.1797)	0.9013** (0.3841)	0.8937*** (0.3836)	0.8899*** (0.3182)
Total Fertility Rate*Education Index		0.5155*** (0.1361)	0.4384*** (0.2417)	0.4336*** (0.2479)	0.4660*** (0.1990)
Constant	-0.2229*** (0.0562)	-0.4056*** (0.0793)			-0.3530*** (0.1188)
Observations	1,502	1,502	1,502	1,502	1,502
Countries	203	203	203	203	203
R2	0.7313	0.7454	0.6026	0.6042	0.6291
Adjusted R2	0.7283	0.7419	0.5187	0.5141	0.6262
F Statistic	814.1425***	729.5637***	326.7572***	325.1119***	422.5460***

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01
 Panel regressions, clustered SEs are in parentheses. All variables have been mean centered by subtracting their mean from each case. Diagnostic tests identified no presence of heteroscedasticity or serial correlation in models (Breusch-Pagan and Breusch-Godfrey/Wooldridge tests have been applied accordingly).

Conditional plots of Education Index (UNDP) on Rule of Law (QOG) by the level of Total Fertility Rates (Gap Minder)

Conditional effect of undp_educ_index.std (by tfr_inv.std) on rule_law_estim.std



Conclusion and discussion

- like mass education levels, lower fertility in 1800 shapes quality of government in 2012 and generalized social trust;
- lower fertility and mass education levels virtuously interplay overtime;
- democracy does not necessarily translate into female empowerment;
- gender equality must be prioritized as a strategy not an outcome in the effort to improve quality of government.

Thank you for your attention!

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