

**Discussion**

# **Bargaining, Gender and the Intra-household Allocation of Healthcare Resources**

**by Lordan, Brown, Jimenez Soto, Greene**

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# CONTENT OF THE PAPER

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## Contribution

- Intra-household bargaining power and health investments (prevention)
- Gender biases of children: pro-boy bias
- Cross-country comparison

## Main results

- Bargaining matters: unitary model rejected
- Pro-boy bias in all countries under investigation
- Offset by female decision-making power (in three of four countries)
- Mixed findings for female bargaining power and prevention (depending on measures)

# COMMENTS

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## (1) Intra-household decision-making

- Household types: multi-generational?
- Definition of bargainers: HH head vs. budget holder vs. financial decider?
- Joint budget and joint expenditure: reliable assumption?
- Provide some more descriptive statistics on household composition

## (2) Measures of bargaining power

- Relative age: the older the more powerful: not convincing (re-marriage as threat point)

# COMMENTS

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## **(3) Endogeneity of bargaining measures**

- HH head and budget holder positions exogeneous?
- Using GLS: how large is the bias?

## **(4) Vulnerability of boys**

- Does this apply to infants only?
- No control for health status: omitted variable bias?

# COMMENTS

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## (5) Interpretation of results

- Explain country differences: Institutions? Cultural differences?  
Transformation process?
- “Feminisation of poverty“:
  - Not captured by wealth?
  - Why are results not conditioned on levels (education etc.)?