

Fertility at Work: Children and Women's Labor
Market Outcomes in Urban Ghana

Rachel Heath



PII: S0304-3878(16)30095-5
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2016.11.003>
Reference: DEVEC2106

To appear in: *Journal of Development Economics*

Received date: 5 May 2016
Revised date: 27 September 2016
Accepted date: 17 November 2016

Cite this article as: Rachel Heath, Fertility at Work: Children and Women's Labor Market Outcomes in Urban Ghana, *Journal of Development Economics* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2016.11.003>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting galley proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Fertility at Work: Children and Women's Labor Market Outcomes in Urban Ghana

Rachel Heath *

December 1, 2016

Abstract

While it is commonly assumed that fertility decreases female labor supply, I show theoretically that fertility can increase female labor supply if returns to financial inputs in children are sufficiently high compared to returns to time investments. Using six rounds of a panel survey from urban Ghana, I find evidence of countervailing effects behind a net zero effect of young children on women's hours of work: labor supply on the extensive margin drops, but women who remain in the labor force increase their hours in response to a child. Women's labor supply particularly increases in response to a young child if there are older siblings or other adults in the household. By contrast, men's labor supply does not change in response to young children.

Keywords: labor supply, fertility, children, gender, Ghana

JEL Classifications: J13, J22, O12

*Department of Economics, University of Washington and BREAD; rmheath@uw.edu. I thank the editor, two anonymous referees, Ach Adhvaryu, S Anukriti, Seema Jayachandran, Melanie Khamis, Adriana Kugler, Annemie Maertens, Laura Schechter, Shing-Yi Wang, Xu Tan, and participants at the Northwest Development Workshop and the UW Africa Studies Brownbag for helpful comments.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5094221>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5094221>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)