

Accepted Manuscript

Title: The Hidden Costs of Terrorism: The Effects on Health at Birth

Author: Climent Quintana-Domeque Pedro Ródenas-Serrano

PII: S0167-6296(17)30809-3
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jhealeco.2017.08.006>
Reference: JHE 2051

To appear in: *Journal of Health Economics*

Received date: 17-6-2016
Revised date: 2-8-2017
Accepted date: 30-8-2017

Please cite this article as: Climent Quintana-Domeque, Pedro Ródenas-Serrano, The Hidden Costs of Terrorism: The Effects on Health at Birth, *Journal of Health Economics* (2017), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2017.08.006>

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 proof before it is published in its final 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.



THE HIDDEN COSTS OF TERRORISM: THE EFFECTS ON HEALTH AT BIRTH*

Climent Quintana-Domeque
University of Oxford, IAE-CSIC and IZA

Pedro Ródenas-Serrano
Universitat d'Alacant

July 2017

Abstract

We study the effects of in utero exposure to terrorism in Spain on birth outcomes, focusing on terrorism perpetrated by ETA during the period 1980-2003. We find that in utero exposure to terrorism early in pregnancy, as measured by the number of bomb casualties in the mother's province of residence in the first trimester of pregnancy, has detrimental effects on birth outcomes: in terms of average birth weight (lower), prevalence of low birth weight (higher) and fraction of "normal" babies (lower). While our findings are robust to a host of potential threats to validity, they seem to be driven by exposure to a relatively large number of bomb casualties. Focusing on the deadliest ETA terrorist attack, the Hipercor bombing of 1987 in Barcelona, we find substantial effects on birth outcomes. We then attempt to assess the mechanisms at stake by presenting evidence suggesting that exposure to bomb casualties decreases self-reported health and increases smoking among women, but not among men. While exposure to terrorism during conception does not affect total fertility, there seems to be a compositional change: during bombing periods, those women who conceive are more likely to be married, and married women tend to have better birth outcomes, on average. In addition, we find that exposure to bomb casualties increases fetal deaths. Thus, we interpret our estimated negative effects on health at birth as providing lower bounds to the true effects of in utero exposure to terrorism.

JEL Classification Codes: I12, J13.

Keywords: terrorism, birth outcomes, smoking, maternal stress, fetal deaths.

* We thank Anna Aizer, Doug Almond, Sonia Bhalotra, Carlos Bozzoli, Damian Clarke, Ian Crawford, Paul Devereux, Martin Foureaux, Javier Gardeazabal, Libertad González, James Heckman, Iñigo Iturbe-Ormaetxe, Asier Mariscal, Sonia Oreffice, Christine Valente, two anonymous referees and seminar participants at Lund University, Stockholm School of Economics, Universitat d'Alacant, University of Bristol, University of Essex, University of Gothenburg, University of Lancaster, University of Oxford, University of Sussex, University of Toronto and University of Warwick seminars, as well as participants at the "Effects of Early Interventions on Child Health and Education" Conference (University of Surrey), "Children's Health, Well-Being, and Human Capital" Workshop (BGSE), "Family Economics" Workshop (BGSE), "Health Economics" Workshop (Universitat d'Alacant), and Journées d'Economie Publique Louis-André Gérard-Varet (Aix en Provence) for comments and suggestions. Corresponding author: Climent Quintana-Domeque (climent.quintana-domeque@economics.ox.ac.uk), Department of Economics, University of Oxford. Ródenas-Serrano acknowledges financial support from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (AP2010-2725). The usual disclaimers apply.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5100712>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5100712>

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