



VOLUME 29 - ARTICLE 9 | PAGES 233-246

Family influence in fertility: A longitudinal analysis of sibling correlations in first birth risk and completed fertility among Swedish men and women

BY **Johan Dahlberg**

DOWNLOAD PDF

SUBMIT A RESPONSE LETTER



DATE RECEIVED: 14 Mar 2013

DATE PUBLISHED: 13 Aug 2013

WORD COUNT: 2478

KEYWORDS: **family background, intergenerational transmission of fertility, sibling correlation**

DOI: **10.4054/DemRes.2013.29.9**

Abstract

Background: The intergenerational transmission of fertility has received much attention in demography. This has been done by estimating the correlation between parents' and offsprings' fertility. An alternative method that provides a more comprehensive account of the role of family background - sibling correlations - has not been used before.

Objective: I estimate the overall importance of family background on entry into parenthood and completed fertility and whether it changed over time. Furthermore, I compare the intergenerational correlation in completed fertility with corresponding sibling correlations.

Methods: Brother and sister correlations in first birth hazard and in final family size were estimated using multi-level event-history and multi-level linear regression on Swedish longitudinal register data.

Results: The overall variation in fertility that can be explained by family of origin is approximately 15%-25% for women and 10%-15% for men. The overall importance of the family of origin has not changed over the approximately twenty birth cohorts that were studied (1940-63 for women, 1940-58 for men). Parents' completed fertility accounts for only a small share of the total family background effect on completed fertility.

Conclusions: This study contributes to the existing understanding of intergenerational transition of fertility, both methodologically, by introducing a new and powerful method to study the overall importance of family of origin, and substantially, by estimating the overall importance of family of origin and its development over time. A non-negligible proportion of the variation in fertility can be attributed to family of origin and this effect has remained stable over twenty birth cohorts.

Author's Affiliation

Similar article in *Demographic Research*

» **The causal effect of an additional sibling on completed fertility: An estimation of intergenerational fertility correlations by looking at siblings of twins**

VOLUME 32 - ARTICLE 51 | KEYWORDS: **intergenerational transmission of fertility**

ARTICLES

- » Current Volume
- » **Older Volumes**
 - » **Volume 29**
- » Editor's Choice
- » Replicable Articles
- » by Author
- » by Subject
- » Search

CITATIONS

Cited References: 39

- » View the references of this article

Download to Citation Manager

- » RIS format
- » BibTeX format

SIMILAR ARTICLES



PubMed

- » Articles by Johan Dahlberg

Google Scholar

- » Articles by Johan Dahlberg

JUMP TO ARTICLE

Volume	Page	
Volume	Article ID	

Articles

[Current Volume](#)
[Older Volumes](#)
[Editor's Choice](#)
[Replicable Articles](#)
[by Author](#)
[by Subject](#)
[Search](#)

Special Collections

[About Special Collections](#)
[All Special Collections](#)

for Authors

[General Information](#)
[Copyright Information](#)
[Review Process](#)
[Submit a Paper](#)
[Submit a Letter](#)
[My Author Account](#)

for Readers

[Get Email Alerts](#)
[How to cite DR](#)

About the Journal

[Purpose](#)
[From the Publisher and Editor](#)
[Who's Who](#)
[Our Reviewers](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Copyright & Legal](#)

