Gender equality in work and care in Europe during COVID times and beyond

Almudena Sevilla

Professor of Economics and Public Policy University College London (UCL)

European Commission Joint Research Centre

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Almudena Sevilla

THIS TIME IS DIFFERENT

- Economic Crises usually affect men
 - Shock to Labor Demand:
 - Male-dominated sectors (manufacturing)
- This time is different:
 - Shock to Labor Demand:
 - Female-dominated sectors (service: health and education)
 - Shock to Labor Supply:
 - School closure and home on-line learning



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WHY DO WE CARE?

- Equity
- Efficiency
 - Better allocation of talent
 - Productivity and Economic Growth
 - Women's increased labor force participation during 1960-2000 increased GDP pp between 20-40 per cent (Hsieh, C., Hurst, E., Jones, C. I., and Klenow, P. J. (2019), 'The Allocation of Talent and US Economic Growth', Econometrica, 87(5))



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WHAT DO THE NUMBERS SAY?

- USA CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS):
 - Monthly employment data
 - From individual responses
 - Desegregated by gender
 - Available quickly after the crisis
- Men and Women held same number of jobs in February 2000, in December women had almost 1M less jobs than men. https://www.bls.gov/cps/tables.htmmonthly



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LABOR MARKET REFLECTS INTRA-HOUSEHOLD TIME ALLOCATION DECISIONS

- COVID has increased women's housework/childcare hours at home:
 - UK (Sevilla and Smith (2020) OXREP Andrew et al., (2020) IFS WP)) https://doi.org/10.1093/oxrep/graa027
 - Other: USA, Italy, Germany, Spain etc (Adams-Prassl et al., (2020)
 JPubE; DelBoca et al., (2020) REHO; Biroli et al., (2020); Farré et al., 2020)
- Existing unequal division of household labor:
 - Trends in Time Allocation: A Cross-Country Analysis (JI Giménez-Nadal (U Zaragoza) y Almudena Sevilla (UCL)) https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroecorev.2012.02.011
 - Housework (hours per week): 12 (men) vs 28 (women)
 - Childcare (hours per week) : 2 (men) vs 8 (women)



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Baby Steps, the Gender Division of Childcare during the COVID-19 pandemic

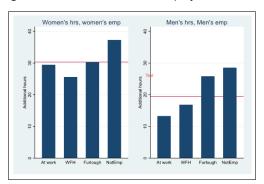
- Sarah Smith (U Bristol) http://ftp.iza.org/dp13302.pdf
- Data: 4250 obs., UK, Ipsos Moris, Parents children¡12, Lockdown (5-11 may)
- Results:
 - Pre-Covid Mothers: 2h/day (2015 UK TUS)
 - Pre-COVID Fathers: 45 min/day (2015 UK TUS)
 - Post-COVID Mothers: 4.5 h/day
 - Post-COVID Mothers: 3.2h/day
 - Gender division of extra childcare: 65%-35% to 63%-37%



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GENDER DIVISION OF CHILDCARE DURING LOCKDOWN

Figure: Childcare Time and Employment Status





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How are mothers and fathers balancing work and family under lockdown?

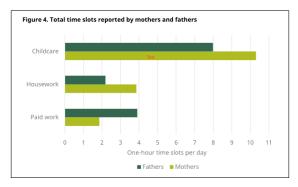
- IFS team https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/14860
- Data: 4,915 parents who currently live with their children, England, PureProfile, 29 April and 15 May 2020



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1H-SLOTS DOING AN ACTIVITY

Figure: 4915 Parents, England, 29 April-15 May 2020

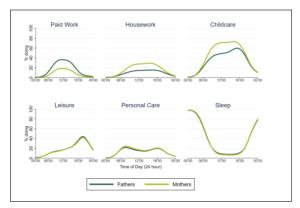




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24-h SEQUENCE OF DIARY ACTIVITIES

Figure: 4915 Parents, England, 29 April-15 May 2020



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THANKS!

A.SEVILLA@UCL.AC.UK @Sevilla_Almu

