Mother's and Father's Occupation as Determinants of Occupational Status at Entry into the Labor Market

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Background

Table 1: Mother's Employment at various stages of family life cycle, by country. ISSP2009, 43 countries

	MWORK						
	Missing	2 Mother never worked	3 Mother stopped before marriage	4 Mother stopped before first birth	5 Mother stopped after first birth	6 Mother worked at R 16	Total N
XNAT	20.5%	24.8%	2.1%	2.9%	3.8%	45.8%	54418

Table 2: Mother's Employment by country and cohorts. ISSP2009, 43 countries

	YES_MISEI by COHORT				Total N
	1935-1951	1952-1963	1964-1975	1976-1988	
XNAT	50%	58%	64%	67%	54418

Source: Ganzeboom & Mooi-Reci, 2017.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- Do mothers matter?
- Do mothers matter more for women than for men?
- Do mothers matter more nowadays than before?

THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES:

3 perspectives:

- Mothers do not matter at all (no jobs, temporary jobs, fathers have dominant jobs).
- Mothers only matter for women (replication of low status jobs), not for men. Only fathers and men included. B&D, Goldthorpe
- Mothers increasingly have stable – high status - jobs and are therefore important both for men and women – Caribbean: long history of women in all sorts of positions

CONCLUSIONS on ISSP 2009:

1. Mother's occupation does matter as much as father's occupation. Both for men and women.
2. For ISSP (the rest outside Suriname): effect of father's occupation on men is a tiny bit stronger (significantly but small) than mother's occupation but in Suriname the effect of mother's occupation on women is much stronger than the effect of father's occupation
3. For ISSP totally no change, it has always been like this between cohorts, and for Suriname: weak evidence of increasing effect of mother's occupation.

Research design

- **DATA**: ISSP Social Inequality lV module (2009). In 2012 Suriname was added with a full replication of the questionnaire
- Men and women in working age (25-64 years)
- **VARIABLES**: father's and mother's occupation measured by ISEI, education (double measurement: qualification, # of years), first occupation
- First occupation: stable over the life cycle and creates possibility for cohort comparison → historical analysis
- **COHORTS:** 6 age cohorts, standardized to a range of 0-1
- All variables standardized (B&D, and within countries)
- N-ISSP: +/- 42,000 in total (including Suriname)
- N-SR: 2,974
- 41 countries
- **MISSING VALUES**: listwise, pairwise and multiple imputation

“Kalmijn method (1994)”

Effect of fathers and mothers:

Simple regression
FISEI → +0.221 MISEI → 0.251

Multiple regression
Standard equation: Y=b0 + b1*FISEI + b2*MISEI
FISEI → **0.138** MISEI → **0.197**

= b3*(FISEI+MISEI) +b4*(FISEI-MISEI)
= (b3+b4) FISEI + (b3-b4) MISEI

Sum FISEI + MISEI → 0.167
Diff FISEI – MISEI → -0.029

+0.167+ (-0.029)=+0.138 +0.167- (-0.029)= +0.197

Simple correlations

TABLE 3: simple correlations between parental occupation and first occupation for all ISSP countries and Suriname after Multiple Imputation				
	ISSP		SURINAME	
	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN
FISEI	.318	.309	.243	.200
MISEI	.293	.327	.257	.292

Table 4 Determinants of occupational status in first job. Effects of standardized parental occupations and education respondent. MI estimations.				
	ISSP (rest)		SURINAME	
Model 4	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN
COHx	-0.072 (2.8)	0.096 (4.1)	-0.245 (2.5)	0.448 (4,4)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI)	0.366 (45.5)	0.372 (55.6)	0.282 (9.3)	0.305 (10.1)
zzFISEI – zzMISEI	0.026 (3.0)	-0.009 (1.1)	-0.007 (0.2)	-0.082 (2.5)
Adj R2	11.8%	14.2%	12.8%	11.8%
Model 5				
COHx	-0.073 (2.8)	0.095 (4.0)	-0.248 (2.7)	0.451 (4.4)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI)	0.400 (25.4)	0.396 (28.2)	0.266 (3.4)	0.318 (4.2)
zzFISEI – zzMISEI	0.027 (1.6)	-0.004 (0.3)	0.018 (0.3)	-0.019 (0.3)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI) * COHx	-0.067 (2.5)	-0.045 (1.9)	0.026 (0.2)	-0.020 (0.2)
(zzFISEI - zzMISEI) * COHx	-0.002 (0.1)	-0.009 (0.4)	-0.040 (0.4)	-0.096 (0.9)
Adj R2	11.8%	14.2%	12.9%	11.8%

Table 4 continued				
Model 6				
COHx	-0.315 (13.9)	-0.260 (12.0)	-0.353 (4.2)	0.015 (0.2)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI)	0.156 (20.6)	0.169 (26,2)	0.137 (5.0)	0.074 (2.5)
zzFISEI – zzMISEI	0.024 (3.2)	-0.006 (0.9)	0.007 (0.2)	-0.067 (2.5)
zzEDUC	0.536 (75.1)	0.507 (75.1)	0.445 (17.1)	0.621 (24.7)
Adj R2	35.2%	34.6%	29.1%	38.3%
Model 7				
COHx	-0.317 (14.0)	-0.260 (12.0)	-0.350 (4.1)	0.007 (0.1)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI)	0.150 (10.0)	0.154 (11.3)	0.102 (1.4)	0.083 (1.2)
zzFISEI – zzMISEI	0.016 (1.1)	-0.006 (0.5)	0.019 (0.3)	-0.080 (1.2)
z(zzFISEI + zzMISEI) *COHx	0.011 (0.4)	0.029 (1.2)	0.054 (0.5)	-0.011 (0.1)
(zzFISEI - zzMISEI) *COHx	0.015 (0.7)	0.001 (0.0)	-0.019 (0.2)	0.016 (0.2)
zzEDUC	0.525 (37.8)	0.512 (40.5)	0.464 (8.0)	0.686 (10.2)
zzEDUC*COH	0.024 (1.0)	-0.011 (0.5)	-0.034 (0.4)	-0.100 (1.0)
Adj R2	35.2%	34.5%	29.5%	38.1%
In parentheses T-values. Adj R2 from pooled model. zzVARs are standardized within countries.				

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Thank you!