

Long Term Trends in Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Italy, Men and Women 1963-2005

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Previous studies

- Intergenerational social mobility in Italy has been studied throughout the 20th century, even before first generation studies, cf. Chessa (1911), Livi (1950). Data are lost.
- Modern era (second generation) starts with Lopreato (1965), Ammassari (1973). Several third generation contributions by Schizzerotto, Cobalti (but not in CASMIN project).
- However, there is very little systematic investigation of (long term) trends.
- Major previous study: Pisati & Schizzerotto in Breen (2004). Relevant: Ganzeboom, Luijkx & Treiman (1989), Ganzeboom & Treiman (1993).

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Pisati & Schizzerotto, 2004

- Compare 1985 – 1997 mobility studies.
- EGP class scheme (seven groups), defined on detailed occupational categories.
- Loglinear analysis with levels specification on top of uniform association model.
- Major conclusions:
 - No change for women.
 - Minor changes for men, towards more social fluidity.
 - Overall impression: social fluidity is fairly stable.

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Ganzeboom & Treiman, 1993

- Use six datasets 1963-1987.
- OLS regression models with ISEI as a metric of occupational status.
- Include / exclude farm destinations to allow for categorical effects.
- Conclusions:
 - No change for men in intergenerational occupational mobility.
 - Significant decrease of intergenerational occupational mobility for women, in particular among non-farm destinations.
 - (Offsetting trends in ascription and achievement: stability is primarily due to strengthening education/occupation bond).

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Two types of studies

- N = 2 versus N = many data points (studies).
- Highest quality data versus any quality.
- Complicated models versus highly constrained (single parameter) models.
- P&S claim high quality for their data, but:
 - Data have different sampling designs, occupational measures.
 - Have only two data points.
 - Narrow time window (12 years).
 - Have little statistical power.

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This study ...

- ... expands the existing database of Italian social mobility studies to 13 [15], in a 1963-2005 (42 years) time window.
- ... uses parsimonious loglinear models to increase statistical power.
- ... specifically addresses quality variation among these data, also of the P&S data.

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Data: 15 tables 1963-2005

- 1963-1968-1972: early studies with crude occupation codes.
- 1975 Political Action.
- 1987-1992 ISSP studies. Questionable quality.
- 1985-1997 social mobility studies, included in P&S version and our own renditions (replicated cases).
- 1999 – 2001 panel continuations of 1997 social mobility study (replicated cases).
- 2003 ESS (fathers occupation coded in detail by authors).
- 2005 (2x) studies conducted in collaboration with first author.

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Weights / duplicated cases

- Two instances of duplicated cases:
 - Include parallel versions of the same data (1985 / 1997).
 - Panel continuations of 1997 data: 1999 – 2001.
- We account for duplicated cases by weighting the data down to original N: each duplicated cases occurs in the data with total weight = 1.00.

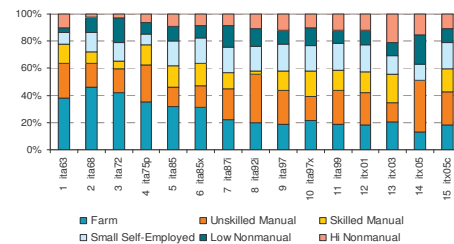
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Measurement

- EGP class categories using Ganzeboom's algorithm.
- Best comparable using six classes:
 - I/II Higher Non-Manual
 - IIIa/IIIb Routine Non-Manual
 - IVab Small Self-Employed
 - V/VI Skilled Manual
 - VIIa Unskilled Manual
 - IVc/VIIb Farm.

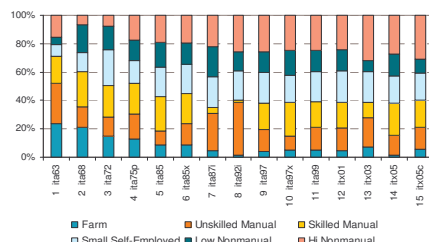
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Marginals - Fathers



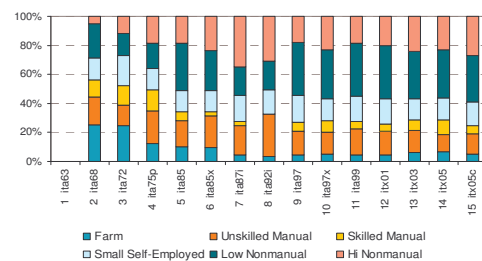
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Marginals - Men



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Marginals - Women



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Goodman-Hauser RC-2 model

- Scaled association:
 - Scalings ($U_i = U_j$) for the categories, constrained to be equal over fathers, men, and women.
 - Association coefficients U (scaled log odds ratio); estimated on standardized distances between classes.
- Diagonal overrepresentation accounted for by separate immobility coefficients DIA_k and INH.
- Scalings are estimated in LEM, but implemented in SPSS GENLOG as fixed values.

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Asymmetric association

- We explore asymmetric association using selected categories for which ($U_i \neq U_j$), and find some:
- Association is symmetric for categories 1, 2 and 3 (non-manuals), but asymmetric for 4, 5, and 6 (manual & farm part):
 - Origins of farm entrants are much higher than destinations of farm leavers;
 - Origins of manual worker entrants (both skilled and unskilled) are much lower than destinations of those who are from manual background.

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Fit-statistics - Men

Model Terms	Model	NDF	L2
1. (O+D)*T	Independence	375	3438
2. (1) + O*D	Common Social Fluidity	350	469
2b	UNIDIFF	336	416
3. (1) + DIA*T + U*T	Quasi Scaled Association	271	352
4. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH*T	Uniform change of immobility	340	441
5. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of immobility	353	451
6. (1) + DIA + U + U_YR + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of association	366	485
7. (6) - INH_YR	No change of immobility	367	500
8. (6) - U_YR	No change of association	367	507

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Fit-statistics - Women

Model Terms	Model	NDF	L2
1. (O+D)*T	Independence	350	1960
2. (1) + O*D	Common Social Fluidity	325	351
	UniDiff	312	290
3. (1) + DIA*T + U*T	Quasi Scaled Association	257	288
4. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH*T	Uniform change of immobility	317	347
5. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of immobility	329	354
6. (1) + DIA + U + U_YR + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of association	341	386
7. (6) - INH_YR	No change of immobility	342	392
8. (6) - U_YR	No change of association	342	400

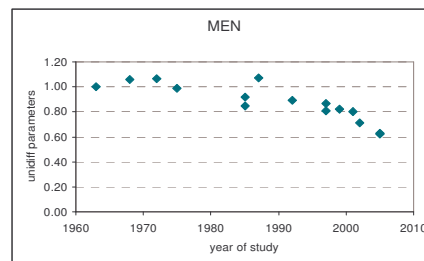
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Fit statistics – men and women

Model Terms	Model	NDF	L2
1. (O+D)*T	Independence		
2. (1) + O*D	Common Social Fluidity		
	UniDiff		
3. (1) + DIA*T + U*T	Quasi Scaled Association		
4. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH*T	Uniform change of immobility		
5. (1) + DIA + U*T + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of immobility		
6. (1) + DIA + U + U_YR + INH + INH_YR	Linear change of association		
7. (6) - INH_YR	No change of immobility		
8. (6) - U_YR	No change of association		

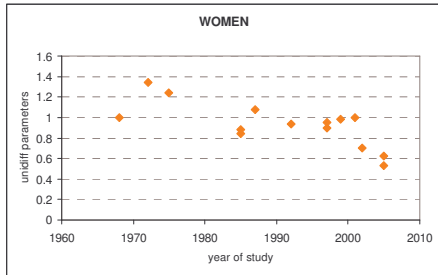
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Trend in UniDiff - MEN



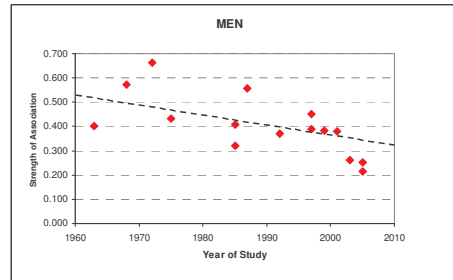
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Trend in UniDiff - WOMEN



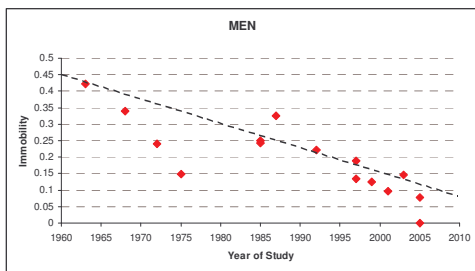
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Trend in Association - Men



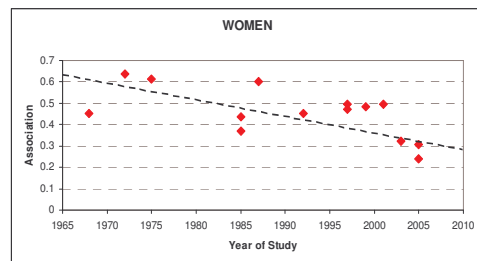
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Trend in Immobility - Men



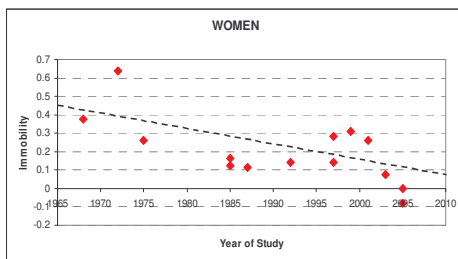
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Trend in Association - Women



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Trend in Immobility - Women



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Conclusions

- Extended database provides clear evidence of increasing social fluidity in Italy 1963-2005.
- Holds for men and women, but trends are more pronounced for men.
- Holds stronger for (off-diagonal) association than for (diagonal) immobility.
- While there are irregularities in the data, there is no way to arrive at these conclusions using only two or six datapoints.

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