



Discussion:

Roles of Caregivers' Risk and Time Preferences in Parental Investment and Expectation for Early Childhood and Young Children

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Summary

Investigates

How caregivers' **risk and time preferences** influence their parental **investment** and **expectations** for children's education and future occupations.

Dataset

Longitudinal panel data from rural Thailand (the RIECE Panel Data)

- Collected from 2016 - 2022
- 21 Tambons in Mahasarakham and 2 Tambons in Kalasin
- Contains households, children, and school information



Elicitations

Time Preferences



The indifference amount is used for calculating the discount factor.

Risk Preferences



The indifference probability is used for calculating the risk parameter.

The **amount** reward in time preferences and the **probability** for bigger reward in time preferences **increase for each choice list**.

Findings & Implications



Parental investment is viewed as a risky activity. Risk-averse caregivers invest less.



Providing insurance



Higher parental investment



Caregivers tend to **prioritize investment in older children** over early childhood.



Earlier investment yields better outcome.
(in literature)




Intervention aimed at informing caregivers.

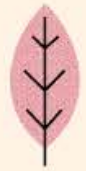




Findings & Implications



Educational success and **STEM** careers are perceived as **risky**, leading risk-averse caregivers to have **lower expectations** for their children.



Provide insurance to disadvantaged households.



Increase the likelihood of their children pursuing STEM careers



Children of **divorced parents** receive significantly **less investment** and face **lower expectations**.



Divorce is a bigger concern than the child-left-behind issue.





Comments & Suggestions

Monotonicity Concern

- Does multiple switching mean inconsistency?
- Rational?
- Confusion?

No Switching

- Not paying attention?
- or having extreme preferences?



 TODAY	⚡NEXT MONTH
THB 100	THB 100
THB 100	THB 110
THB 100	THB 120
THB 100	THB 140
THB 100	THB 160
THB 100	THB 180
THB 100	THB 200

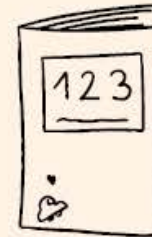




Comments & Suggestions

The Material Investment Index

- Story books
- Picture books
- Posters
- Exercises



This only includes **educational materials**. Should we only focus on child education or other aspects as well?

- Well-being
- Health
- Happiness





Comments & Suggestions

A Unique dataset

“A unique feature of this data set is that most caregivers (approximately 73%) were not parents, with the majority being maternal grandmothers ...”

“... our samples were relatively disadvantaged in terms of parent characteristics.”

In my opinion, this is actually a **strength**.

- **Unique contribution:** Different from WIERD datasets which don't really represent global population.
- **Relevance:** More practical and accurate. Suitable for policy makers.



Comments & Suggestions

Contributions and Implications

- Findings are **interesting**.
- Implications are very **useful**.

Therefore, the implications deserved **more discussion**.





Thank you !