VID Colloquium

Fertility Transition in Brazil: A Cohort Analysis of Fertility Anticipation, Postponement and Recuperation

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We analyze the fertility transition in Brazil based on the perspective of cohort fertility analysis in five Brazilian macro-regions: the North, Northeast, South, Southeast and Midwest. Using micro-census data from 1980 to 2010, we reconstruct the fertility history of women born since 1966. We study changes in age-specific cohort fertility using the notions of "anticipation" (decline of fertility at older ages), fertility "postponement" (a fertility decline at younger ages) and subsequent "recovery", i.e., a compensatory fertility increase at higher reproductive ages. Subsequently, we apply a basic benchmark model elaborated by Tomas Frejka and his colleagues, and we make extensive use of the cohort fertility forecast model developed by Myrskylä et al. (2012). The results point out that below-replacement fertility commenced among the cohorts born between in the late 1970s and the mid-1980s. The younger cohorts show a gradual retreat from early childbearing pattern as they began postponing fertility to later ages. This postponement is stronger in the poorest Northern and Northeastern regions. The recovery seems to occur in the comparatively richer South and Southeast and Midwest regions, starting at age 25 years when compared with the benchmark cohort of 1966.

About the presenter

Everton E. C Lima has graduated in Political and Social Sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in 2005. He holds an M.Sc in Sociology granted by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in 2006 and Ph.D. in Demography, CEDEPLAR/ UFMG, in 2010. He worked as a visitor Ph.D. at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, 2008-2009. He holds currently a Assistant Professor position at the University of Campinas - Unicamp and he also works as research scientist at the at the Population Studies Center (NEPO). His research interests are fertility, formal demography, small area estimation and spatial demography.

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