



Title	Gender, birth order, and educational attainment : Evidence using micro data of adolescent siblings
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Abstract of Thesis

Name (VU MANH TIEN)	
Title	Gender, birth order, and educational attainment: Evidence using micro data of adolescent siblings. (ジェンダー、出生順位、学業達成 – 青年期の兄弟姉妹構成に関するマイクロデータを用いた検証結果)
<p>Abstract of Thesis</p> <p>I examine the gender gap among (adolescent) siblings in several aspects including fertility decisions of their parents, unpaid housework service, school enrolment and difference in educational attainment. I also investigate the interaction of these factors with household wealth to have the insights. I find a one son preference exists despite the shrink of family size and economic growth in Vietnam. However, the level of son preference would be dismissing as the economy develops. Also, I find daughters do more unpaid housework service but the gender gap is not in evidence before 14 years of age. Besides, parents care about daughters' education as the gender gap in unpaid housework service is reduced at age of preparing examination to senior high school. Moreover, the probability to continue enrolling in school of females is even higher than that of males. Higher marginal returns to education of females compared with those of equivalence males could be one of the explanations for the found difference. In addition, considering both quantity and quality of educational attainment, I show the learning performance at 15 years of age is one of the key connections with the difference in the educational attainment among Japanese identical twins. The difference in educational attainment by sibling order is most significant in the birth cohort 1950s and 1960s when the son preference was once found. Nevertheless, all gaps in educational attainment by gender and sibling order disappear in the subsequent decades of birth cohorts in Japan.</p>	

論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者

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論文審査の結果の要旨

This dissertation explores four topics with gender differences among siblings, 1) fertility decisions and gender preference, 2) child unpaid housework, 3) school enrolment and educational attainment, and 4) the interaction of these factors with household wealth.

In Chapter 1, “One Male Offspring Preference: Evidence from Vietnam Using a Split-population Model”, it is statistically proved that one son preference still exists despite of social changes in Vietnam such as the shrink of family size and rapid economic growth. This preference appears to be diminishing, however, as her economy develops. The paper which contains the essential part of this chapter has been already accepted in a refereed journal, the Review of Economics of the Household, which has a high reputation in the field of household economics.

In Chapter 2, “Are Daughters Always the Losers in the Chore War: Evidence Using Household Data from Vietnam”, the gender gap in housework is examined with young Vietnamese siblings aged less than 18 years. A statistical analysis shows that daughters undertake more unpaid housework per day than sons by 5.25 minutes. Until 15 years of age, this gender gap increases and can be even greater if daughters engage in paid work. Then, a sudden decline of this gender inequality is observed at 15 years of age. It implies that parents begin to consider their daughters’ further education in high schools on a very last stage. The paper based on Chapter 2 has gone through the referee review of the Journal of Development Studies and is currently on the list of forthcoming papers.

In Chapter 3, Gender, Sibling Order, and Differences in the Quantity and Quality of Educational Attainment: Evidence Using Japanese Twin Data”, the differences in educational attainment are examined with 1,045 pairs of Japanese monozygotic twins. One of new findings is the fact that, in the 1950s and 1960s birth cohorts, an elder twin girl forwent 0.542 years of schooling over her younger twin sister if she was the eldest child in the family, but an elder twin boy, if he was the eldest, gained some advantage in the quality of educational attainment over his younger twin brother. However, it is also shown that, as the Japanese economy developed, any differences within twin pairs disappeared in subsequent birth cohorts regardless of gender and sibling order. This chapter was also revised into the form of academic paper and is under referee review for another academic journal in the sphere of household and family economics.

In Chapter 4, “Gender Gap in Net School Enrollment and Gender Wage Gap in the Labor Market”, both gender differences in net schooling enrollment and in wages are discussed with the usage of Vietnamese household data. It is concluded that males have a stronger incentive to terminate their schooling and join the labor force than females and, on the other hand, females would have more incentives to complete junior and senior high schools, 3-year colleges and universities since they can enjoy faster wage increase if they have more years of schooling.

On the basis of the quality of dissertation and publications mentioned above, the assessors all agreed that the dissertation deserves the Ph.D. (International Public Policy).