

The Labor Participation-Fertility Trade-off: The Case of the Philippines

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Abstract : As women are now given more freedom and choice to pursue employment, the world's over-all fertility has been decreasing mainly due to the shift in time allocation between working and child rearing. As such, we study the case of the Philippines, where there exists a decreasing fertility rate and increasing openness for women labor participation. We focused on the distinction between fertility and fecundity, the former being the manifestation of the latter and aim to trace and compare the effects of both fecundity and fertility to women's employment status through the estimation of the reproduction function and multinomial logistic function. Findings suggest that the perception of women regarding employment opportunities in the Philippines links the negative relationship observed between fertility, fecundity and women's employment status. Today, there has been a convergence in the traditional family roles of men and women, as both genders now have identical employment opportunities that continue to shape their preferences.

Keywords : multinomial logistic function, tobit, fertility, women employment status, fecundity

Conference Title : ICBEFMS 2015 : International Conference on Business, Economics, Finance and Management Sciences

Conference Location : Paris, France

Conference Dates : January 23-24, 2015