

PARENTAL TIME SPENT WITH CHILDREN AND JOB FLEXIBILITY

Roma Keister, Iga Magda PAA conference, Chicago, 27th April 2017



BACKGROUND

. 1 :

• The importance of parental time for child outcomes (cognitive and cognitive skill formation, adult outcomes such as labour market position and incomes) (Dotti Sani & Treas, 2016; Francesconi, & Heckman, 2016, Carneiro and Ginja, 2015)

- Parental time investments into children higher among families with high socio-economic status (Aizer & Cunha, 2012, Carneiro and Ginja, 2015)
 - Better educated parents spend more time on educational activities with their children
 - Working mothers report higher parental time investments than non-working ones

QUESTIONS ASKED

. 1 :

• Do parental time investments differ between dual – earners, single-earners and no-earners couples? How do they compare to single parents?

Do differences in levels of education drive the observed patterns?

 Are parental investments higher for workers with more job flexibility? Which job flexibility dimensions matter?

POLAND



- CEE post transition country
- Labour market:
 - Relatively high female employment rates (prime age)
 - Low share of part time work
 - High share of temporary jobs
- Family policy & cultural setting
 - unequal share of women's work
 - 62% of respondents in Polish wave of EVS think pre-school child suffer with working mother
 - Only 6% of below 3-year olds in creches
 - A gap in kindergarten coverage

Data & methodology

- 2013 wave of *UDE*, a large panel survey of Polish households (24 000 households, 64 000 individuals) gathering information on human capital formation in an intergenerational perspective
- We measure the incidence of spending time by parents on various educational activities with children (reading, playing with them or teaching them new things)
- We use a two-level scale, and estimate it separately for children of ages 1-7 and 8-15
- Job flexibility measures (EWCS dimensions assigned to age-edu-occupation cells)
 - duration (working long hours, working long days)
 - atypical working time (the incidence of night work, Saturday work, Sunday work, the incidence of shift work),
 - working time arrangements (the flexibility of scheduling, having to work at short notice),
 - flexibility (the possibility of taking the hour-off from work, and having to work free-time)

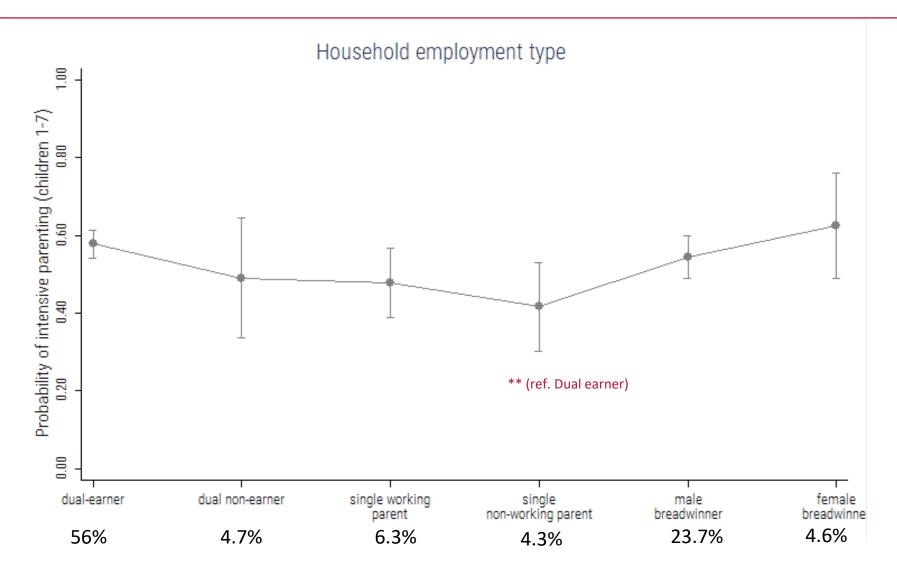
Data & methodology



- We estimate a set of logit models, accounting for:
 - household's labour market position, parents' educational attainment, degree of urbanisation of the place of residence, mean age of parents, number of children in the household and household's equivalised income quintiles
 - a set of variables proxy intergenerational transmission of norms, values and attitudes (books at home in childhood, family values and career orientation)

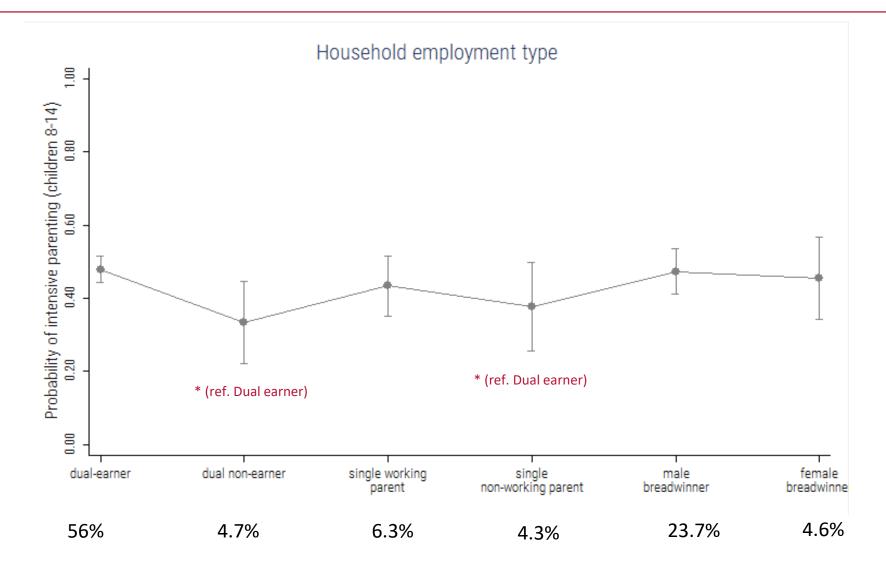
Parenting intensity by hh labour market status, small ch





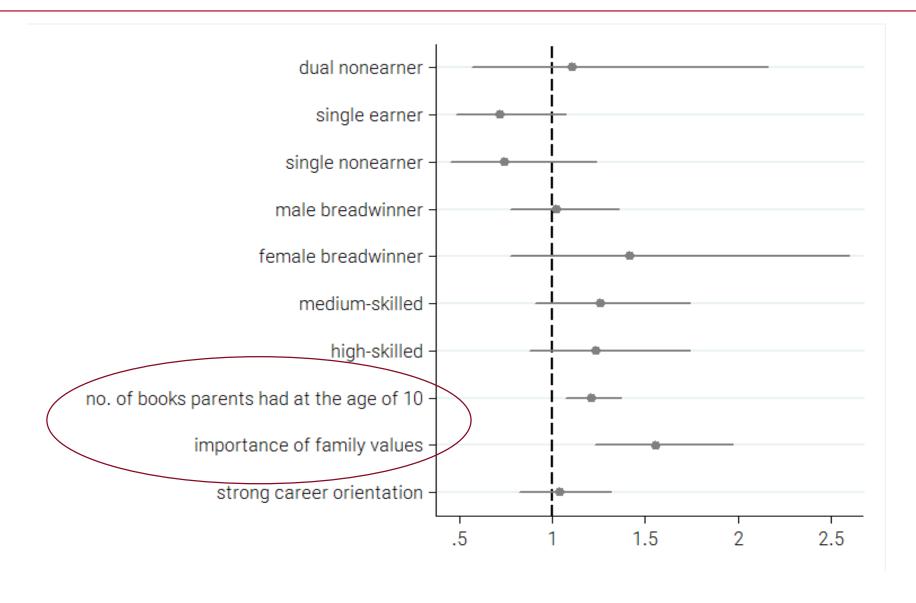
Parenting intensity by hh labour market status, older ch





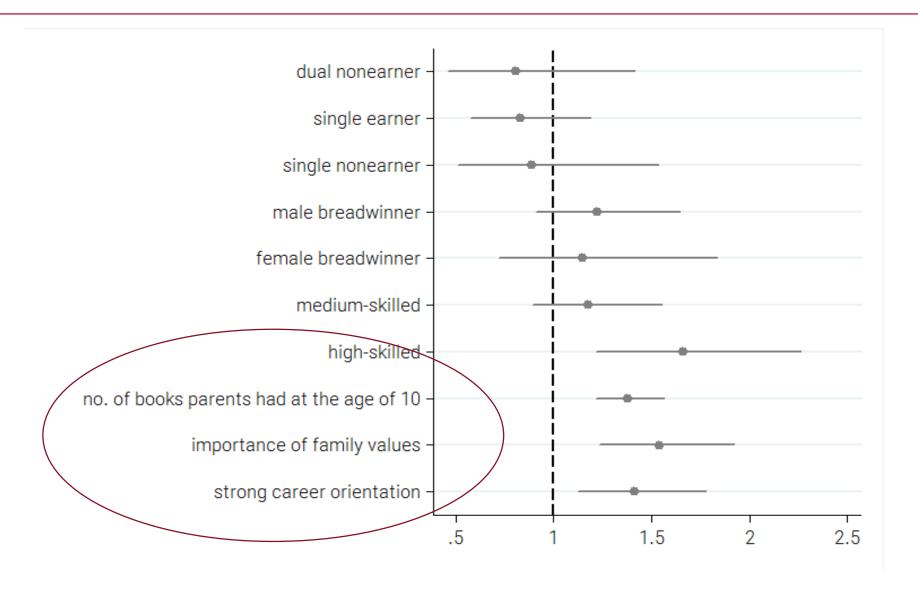
Low vs. high parenting intensity, odds ratios, young ch





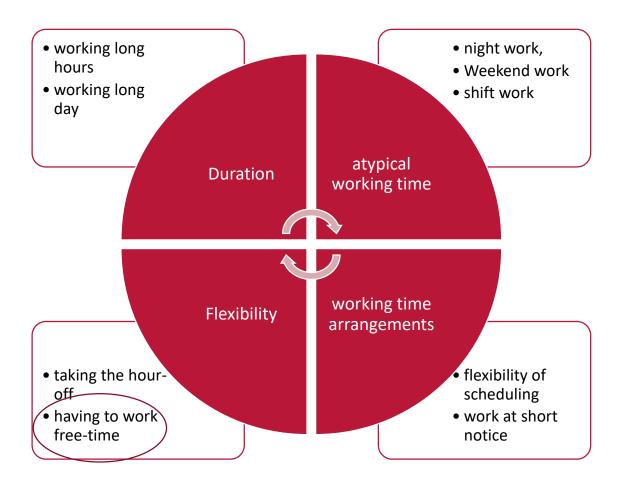
Low vs. high parenting intensity, odds ratios, older ch





Job flexibility and parental time?





Conclusions



- Do parental time investments differ between dual earners, single-earners and noearners couples? How do they compare to single parents?
 - No, type of family and labour market position do not differentiate parental time investments into children
- Do differences in levels of education drive the observed patterns?
 - No, educational attainments do not influence parental time investments, but parental background, values and attitudes do
- Are parental investments higher for workers with more job flexibility? Which job flexibility dimensions matter?
 - No job dimensions of job flexibility appear to influence parenting

Conclusions & further work

• Time budget less important than norms, values and parents' "scholar culture"

FUTHER WORK:

- Differentiate between mother's and father's job flexibility?
- Time vs monetary investments?



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