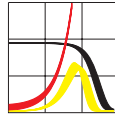


# Social Capital and Fertility

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## Structure

- Motivation
- Theoretical prerequisites
  - household economics
- Social capital
  - reciprocal exchange
- Empirical evidence
  - child care
  - economic resources
- Deficits

## Motivation

- Tradition of social networks in fertility research:
  - fertility transitions rest on diffusion processes
  - interpersonal communication provide the channels
  - transmission of norms as a side effect
  - processes of *social learning* and *social influence*

2

## Motivation

- Tradition of social networks in fertility research:
  - fertility transitions rest on diffusion processes
  - interpersonal communication provide the channels
  - transmission of norms as a side effect
  - processes of *social learning* and *social influence*
- However: what about resources, i.e. goods and services?
  - elementary part of social networks
  - incomplete understanding
  - social networks and economic situation

2

## Household Economics

- Households produce commodities
- Determinants:
  - preferences
  - budget for buying production goods
  - time for production

3

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- Determinants:
  - preferences
  - budget for buying production goods
  - time for production
- $\uparrow$  budget  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  commodities
- $\uparrow$  budget  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  t(work)  $\Rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  t(commodity production)
  - solutions:
    - ◆ division of labor
    - ◆ buying time
    - ◆ separation or moderation of the relationship budget and t(work)

3

## Theoretical Prerequisites

- Significant contribution to household budget
  - quantitative
  - key resource

4

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- Significant contribution to household budget
  - quantitative
  - key resource
- Influence on relationship budget and t(work)
  - separation or moderation of intervals
  - alternative currencies

4

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- Significant contribution to household budget
  - quantitative
  - key resource
- Influence on relationship budget and  $t(\text{work})$ 
  - separation or moderation of intervals
  - alternative currencies
- Prospective character or fertility decisions

4

## Social Capital: Definition

- All relationships that give access to resources
  - experienced access
  - expected access

5

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  - ownership of resources
  - secondary network partners

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- All relationships that give access to resources
  - experienced access
  - expected access
- Access via primary network partners
  - ownership of resources
  - secondary network partners
- Goals convert goods and services to valuable resources
  - goal-specific
  - general (fungible)

5

## Social Capital by Interpersonal Exchange (1)

- Network partners need to be motivated to give resources
  - agreement with actor's goal
  - reciprocal exchange relationship  $\Rightarrow$  future or past profit

6

## Social Capital by Interpersonal Exchange (1)

- Network partners need to be motivated to give resources
  - agreement with actor's goal
  - reciprocal exchange relationship  $\Rightarrow$  future or past profit
- Direct reciprocity in individual relationships
  - $\uparrow$  relationship quality  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  resources
  - $\uparrow$  relationship quality  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  postponement of reciprocity
  - dual character:
    - ◆ access to resources
    - ◆ definition and maintenance of the relationship

6

## Social Capital by Interpersonal Exchange (2)

- Indirect reciprocity in groups
  - two different network partners
  - postponed reciprocity
  - mechanisms: norms, individual collective ideas of fairness, altruism, fixed channels
  - Establishment of a relationship structure
    - ◆ members are credit-worthy
    - ◆ independence from individual members

7

## Matching the Prerequisites

- *Prospective character or fertility decisions*
  - exchange → lasting relationships and networks
  - evaluation of future access to resources

8



## Matching the Prerequisites

- *Prospective character or fertility decisions*
  - exchange → lasting relationships and networks
  - evaluation of future access to resources
- *Influence on budget and  $t(\text{work})$* 
  - separation or moderation of intervals
    - ◆ influence on timing
    - ◆ postponed reciprocity
  - alternative currencies
    - ◆ barter

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## Matching the Prerequisites

- *Prospective character or fertility decisions*
  - exchange → lasting relationships and networks
  - evaluation of future access to resources
- *Influence on budget and  $t(\text{work})$* 
  - separation or moderation of intervals
    - ◆ influence on timing
    - ◆ postponed reciprocity
  - alternative currencies
    - ◆ barter
- *Significant contribution to household budget*
  - great variety of resources possible
  - significant constraints: time, economic resources

8

## Empirical Evidence

- Traditional societies
  - $\uparrow$  mother's health and feeding,  $\downarrow$  workload  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  supply of children

9

## Empirical Evidence

- Traditional societies
  - $\uparrow$  mother's health and feeding,  $\downarrow$  workload  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  supply of children
- Modern societies
  - $\downarrow$  costs of children  $\Rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  demand for children

9

## Empirical Evidence: Child Care

- Traditional societies
  - childcare as a collective task
  - child care by family members and kin  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  fertility

10

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  - child care by family members and kin  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  fertility
- Modern societies
  - child care by institutions and kin  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  fertility

10

## Empirical Evidence: Economic Resources

- Traditional societies
  - ?

11

## Empirical Evidence: Economic Resources

- Traditional societies
  - ?
- Modern societies
  - not much insights up to now
  - Central and Eastern Europe
    - ◆ long tradition of exchange and support
    - ◆ coping strategy during transition period
    - ◆ Russia: second jobs and family agriculture  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  fertility
    - ◆ Russia, Hungary, Bulgaria: exchange of support  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  fertility intentions,  $\downarrow$  intended postponement

11

## Deficits

- Theory
  - what about information?
  - what about selection processes?
  - social networks versus reproductive decision-making
  - fertility intentions versus fertility outcomes

12

## Deficits

- Theory
  - what about information?
  - what about selection processes?
  - social networks versus reproductive decision-making
  - fertility intentions versus fertility outcomes
- Empirical methods
  - fertility outcomes: no information about reproductive decision-making  $\Rightarrow$  no insights about social capital
  - fertility intentions: no information about reproductive outcomes  $\Rightarrow$  no insights about significance of social capital
  - retrospective measurement of social capital

12