From single to double-earner families. Which impact on childrens' health? A mortality study on a cohort of a Turin born children



Michele Marra

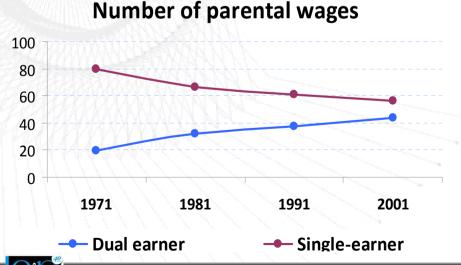
Turin, 21st October 2016

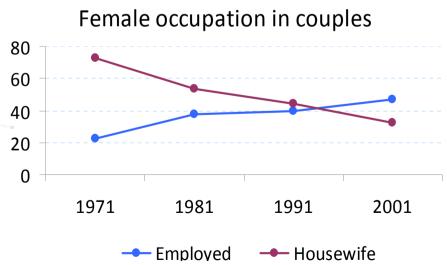


Objectives of the research

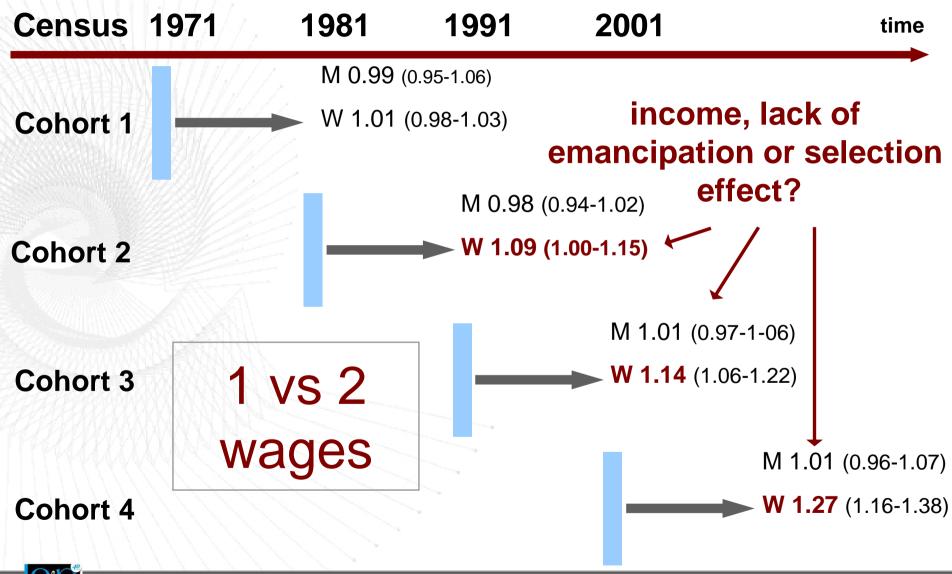
The relation between income and health is still poorly understood and it's necessary to investigate more deeply unexplored mechanisms the indipendent association between income & health and to assess not explored areas of generating mechanisms of health inequalities

A specific aim: to understand the impact of dual earner couples on health on family members



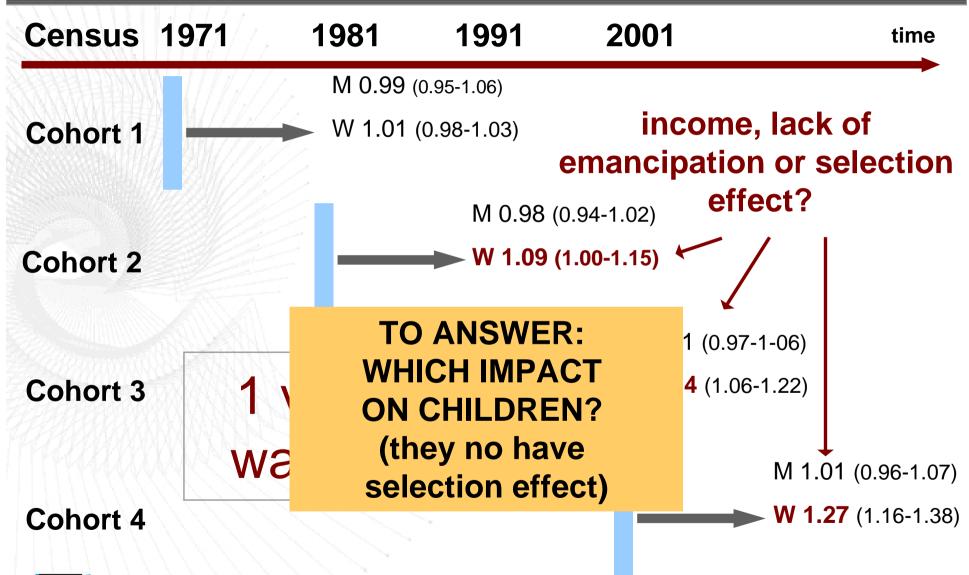


First study. Impact on adults' mortality





First study. Impact on adults' mortality





From the 1st to the 2nd study

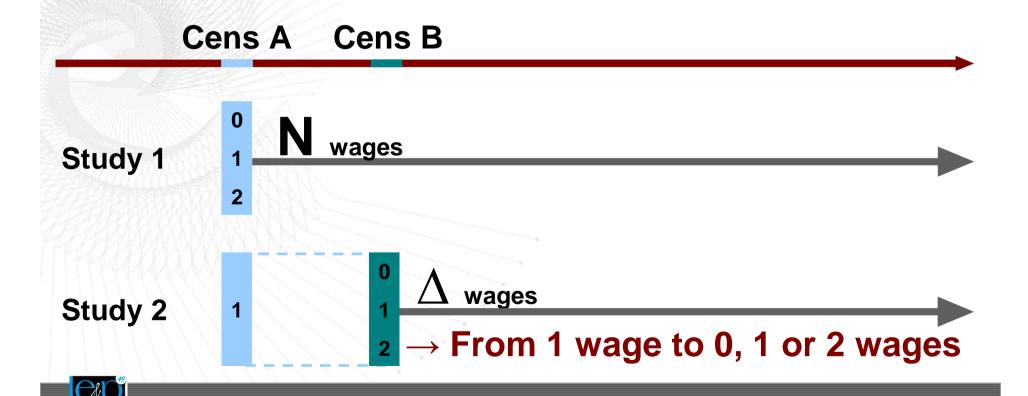
Step 2: to study the impact on children

Inspirational limits from the 1st study



First study. Inspirational limits

- 1. No idea on duration of exposure
- → To use wages transitions from one census to another



First study. Inspirational limits

2. No idea on income variation

→ To use occupational transitions from one census to another to have a "rough" idea of positive or negative variation

rough \triangle income = rough \triangle mother + rough \triangle father

Census A

Census B

Activity status
Working
Not working



Activity status
Working
Not working
Retired

Occupational class

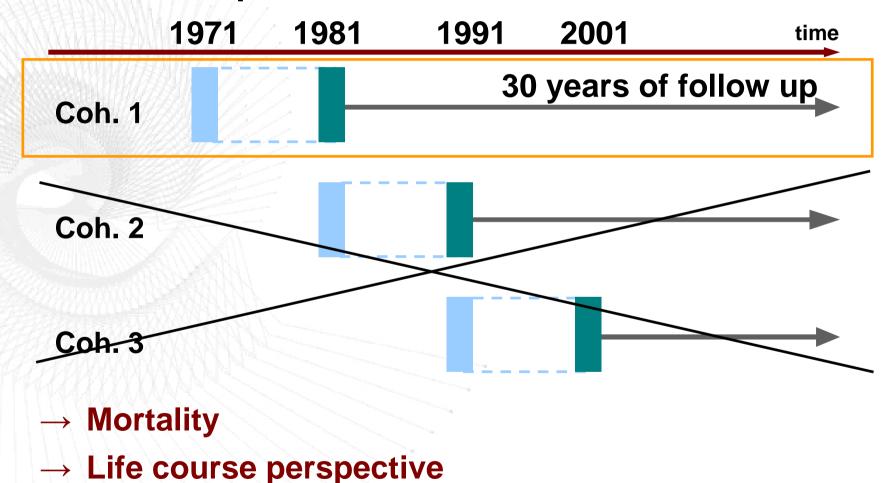
- 1) Entrepeneurs
- 2) Free lance prof. (highly qualif)
- 3) Executives
- 4) Employees
- 5) Free lance prof. (lowly qualif)
- 6) Working class

Occupational class

- 1) Entrepeneurs
- 2) Free lance prof. (highly qualif)
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- 4) Employees
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- 6) Working class

Inspirational limits from first stuy and objectives

3. Follow up too short





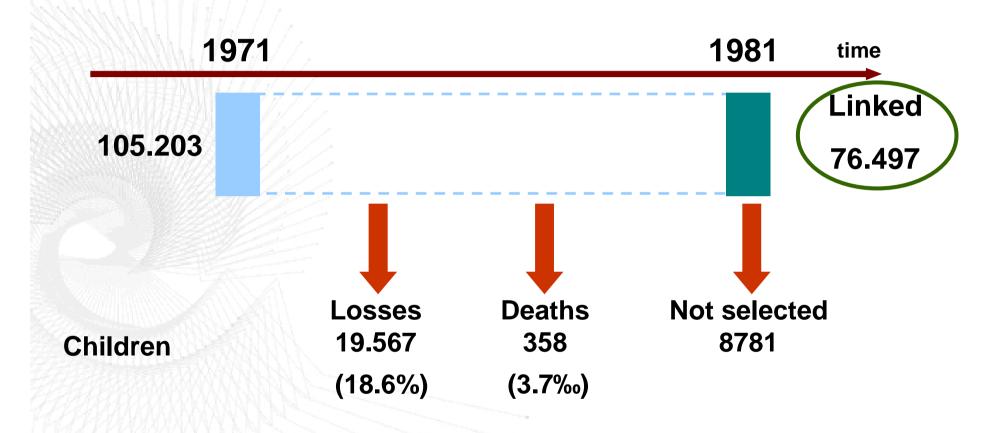
Second study. Impact on childrens' mortality

Which inclusion criteria?

- children from 0 to 9 years old in 1971
- resident in Turin according to the civil registry and still registered in the census of 1981
- with the same 2 parents in both surveys
- with no parents not able to work in 1971 due to disabilities
- living in single-earner families in 1971



Exposure window



deaths = 1433 (1,5%), 1000M and 433W



Income changes

	/N°	of incomes	∆ income
	-1	2.3%	Reduction $-1 = 5.2\%$
From 1		2.3 /0	Equal $0 = 60.9\%$
(all men working)	0	73.7%	Increase +1 = 29.9%
to	+1	24.2%	Increase +2 = 4.0%

Changes due to:

- 1. Female professional emancipation: 24.9% F
- 2. Male or female retirement: 4.7% M, 0.5% F
- 3. Male career improvement 14%, decrease 7%
- Unemployment: 2.2% M (2.2%F)

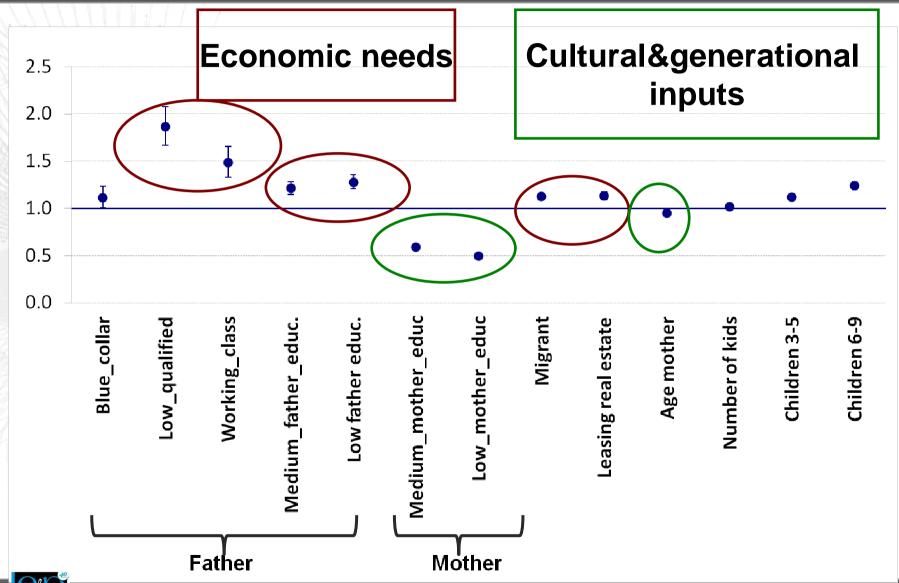
Female emancipation: which determinants?

Why a job?

It seems that more than cultural emancipation were economic needs to facilitate female occupation



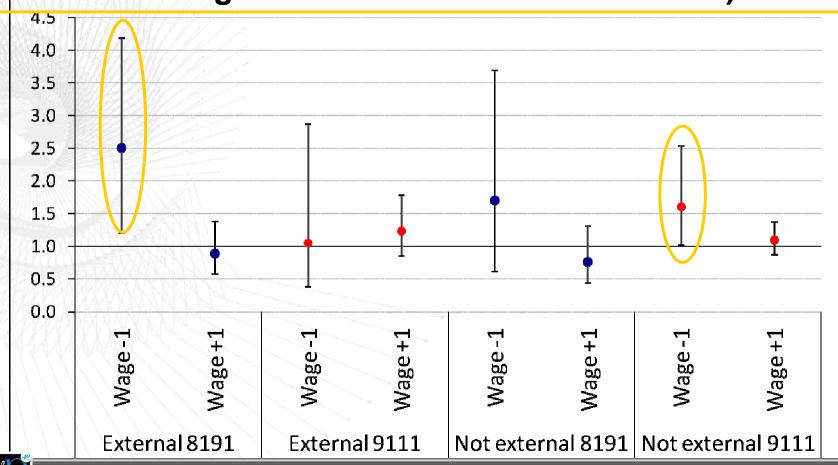
Female emancipation: which determinants?





RESULTS: AN INCOME IMPACT? (MEN)

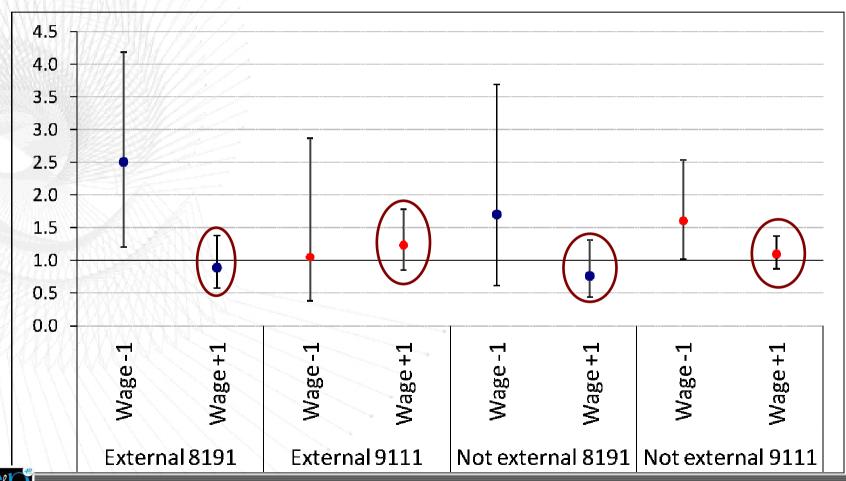
There is a clear negative effect of having 0 incomes (especially accidents in younger, mental disorders, alcohol and drug relates diseases effects in older)





RESULTS: AN INCOME IMPACT? (MEN)

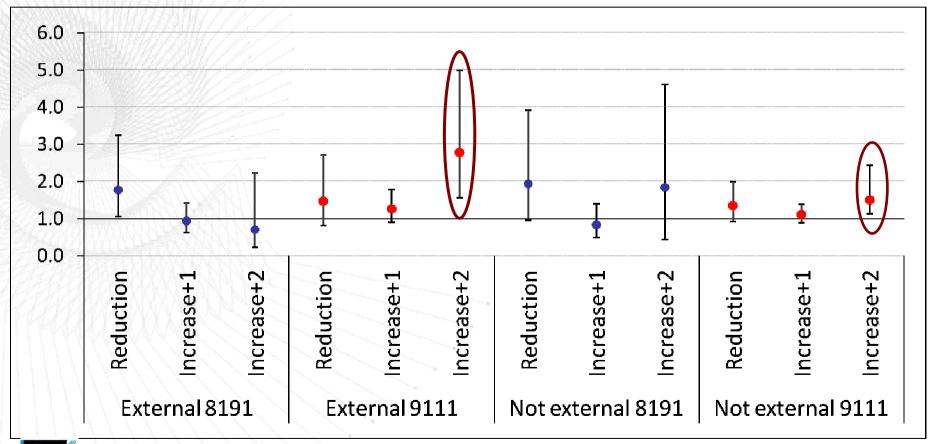
Among men there is not an indipendent effect of moving from single to double earner families





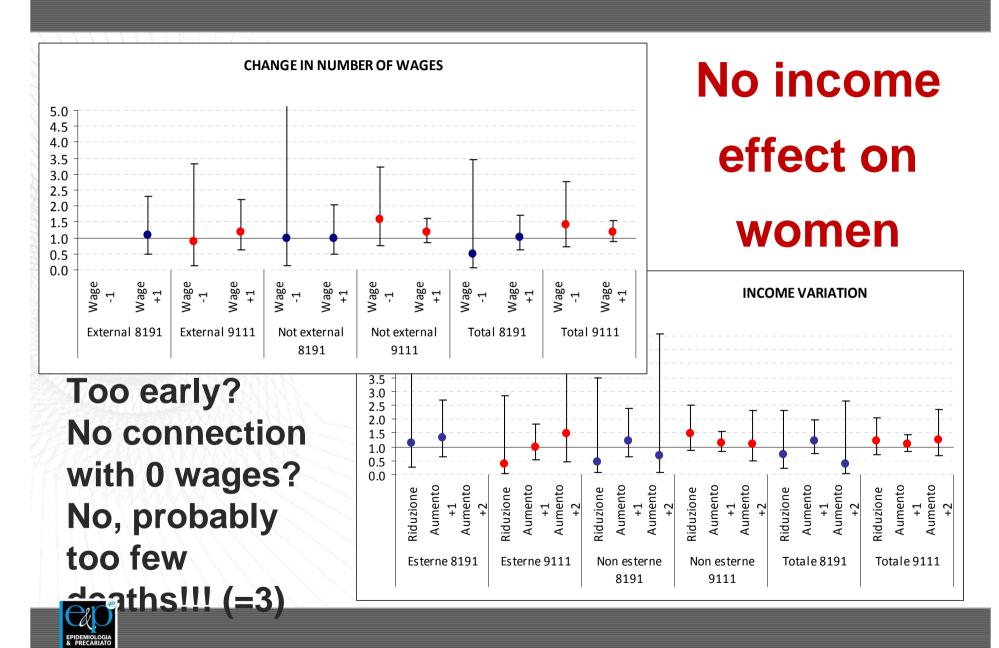
Impact of variation in income (MEN)

important difference is the effect of having a bigger increase on both external and not external causes in the medium term (lower parent control and more dangerous exposure in adolescence)?

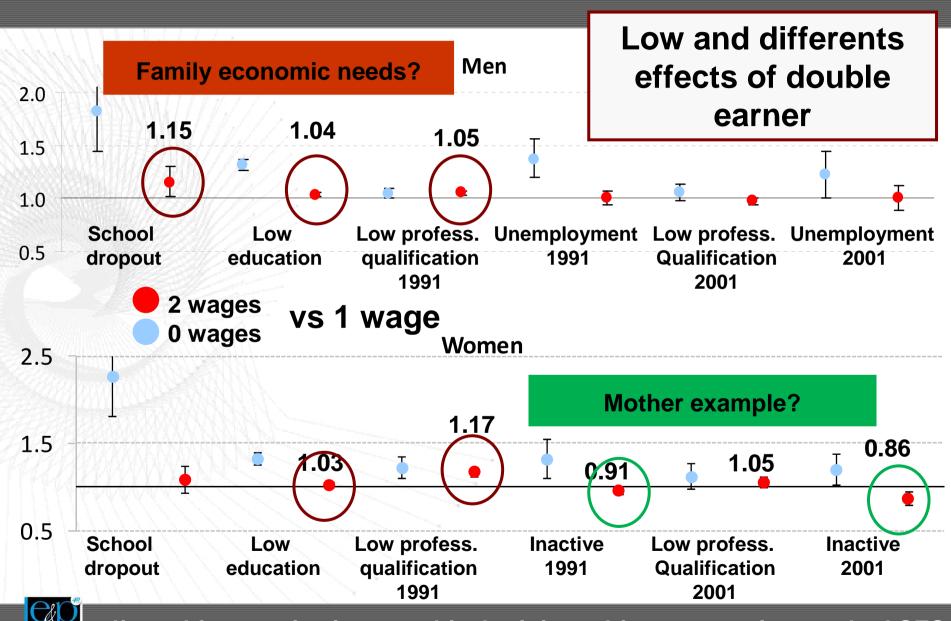


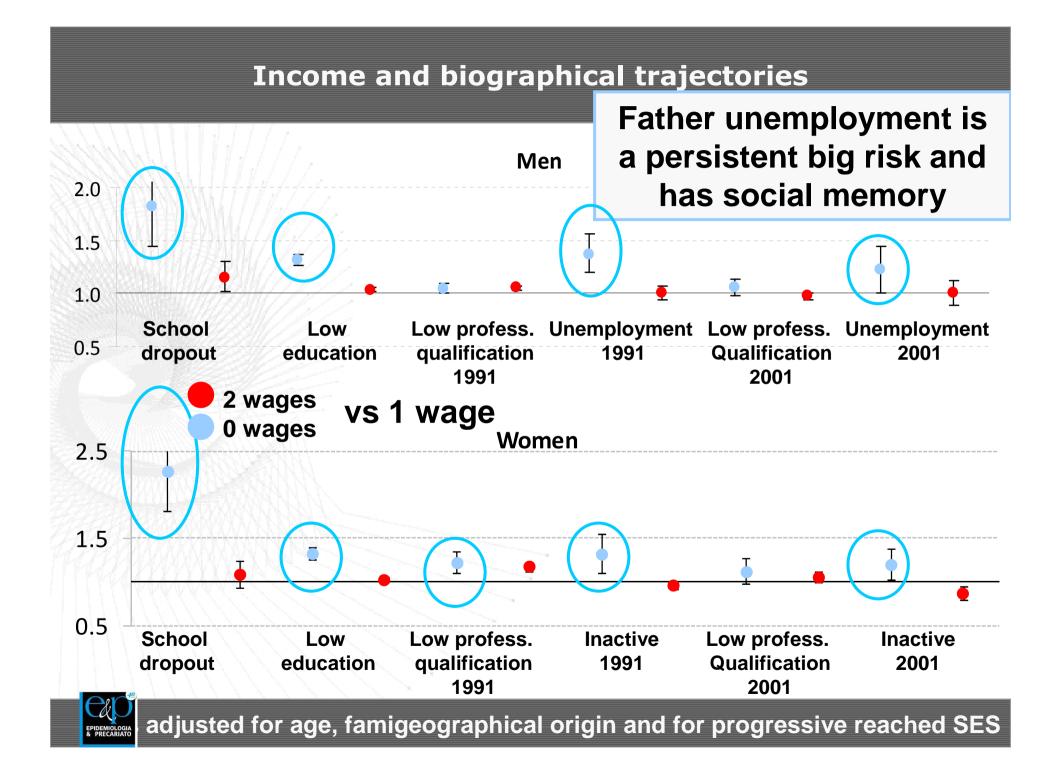


Income and mortality on women



Income and biographical trajectories





Main results

- 1) Shift from single to dual-earner families had no effect on mortality of men and a little one on women (study 1)
- 2) No effect on children from 1 to 2 family incomes. Maximum income variation had negative effect on male mortality (but only 4%). Emancipation seems to be better for mothers' health
- 3) What is important is "absence of income" but what's matter? unemployment or no income? By the way, 2 wages as a lifeline
- 4) Childhood experience of 2 wages little negative impact on life trajectories (but due to cohort reasons)
- 5) 0 wages represents a risk factor for unemployment, even after 20 years of follow up, among men and women.



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