



Allegato

RESEARCH PROJECT

Gender Norms, Family, and Career: A Dual-Survey Study in Italy

Researchers involved at the Department of Economics, University of Bologna: Prof. Francesca Barigozzi and Prof. Natalia Montinari

Purpose of the project and research program

This research project aims to design and administer two representative surveys, each with a sample size of N=3000, to investigate the impact of social and gender norms on career and family choices in Italy. The study focuses on two specific demographics: university students nearing graduation and individuals in couples, either with or without young children. The primary objective is understanding how these norms contribute to gender gaps in the labor market at various life stages.

The first survey targets Italian university students on the brink of entering the workforce. It aims to complement information gathered by AlmaLaurea at the point of graduation and one, three, and five years after graduation, focusing on identifying early gender gaps by examining career aspirations, gender norms, and expectations. The second survey targets Italian couples, exploring how gender norms exacerbate gender inequalities in the labor market when familial duties arise. Both surveys employ the Krupka and Weber (2013) methodology and a set of vignettes (realistic hypothetical scenarios) to elicit gender norms, mitigating social desirability bias by incentivizing respondents to align their answers with a reference group defined by age, gender, and geographic location.

By integrating the design and findings of these two surveys, the project seeks to offer a comprehensive view of how social and gender norms influence individuals at different life stages. The expected outcome is to provide evidence-based policy recommendations for promoting gender equity in familial responsibilities and career choices, contributing to a more equitable society.

Activity Program

The research fellow will closely work with the research group in a supportive environment with frequent meetings and will be involved in the lively and high-quality research environment at the Department of Economics, University of Bologna. He/she will be involved mainly in the following tasks:

- A) Support the design, development, and administration of data collection of the representative surveys (in Italian), including constructing a database integrating administrative and survey data on university students.
- B) Support in collecting, cleaning, and analysis of the data collected.