

審査の結果の要旨

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論文題目: Essays on Empirical Analysis of Family Policy
(家族政策に関する実証研究)

Report on Ph.D. thesis by Takahiro Toriyabe

Thesis title: Essays on Empirical Analysis of Family Policy

Committee:

Daiji Kawaguchi (Chair)

Stacey Chen

Andrew Griffin

Ayako Kondo

Ryuichi Tanaka

This report contains the appraisals and recommendation regarding the abovementioned thesis, which has been submitted for Ph.D. by Mr. Takahiro Toriyabe. The committee unanimously agreed that the thesis had reached the level suitable for Ph.D., and therefore, Ph.D. should be conferred to Mr. Takahiro Toriyabe. The following is a summary of the thesis and appraisals.

This thesis's main body consists of three chapters that all analyze the impacts of family policy on gender inequality. We summarize and appraise the contents of each chapter.

Chapter 2 analyzes the impact of the change in pension division rule on the allocation of resources within a household using the pension reform of 2007 in Japan. Historically the pension benefit of public pension that covers the private sector and public sector employees was primarily proportional to the pension account's contribution, and the housewives without pension contribution were only eligible to claim the minimum pension benefit upon divorce. The pension reform of 2007 changed the benefit allocation rule upon divorce. Both spouses are eligible to claim half of the accumulated benefit after the pension eligible age, without altering the total benefit amount. This change in allocation rule presumably improved the bargaining position of homemakers within a household. This

reform left the households headed by self-employed workers unaffected because they were covered by the minimum national pension contribution and benefit. Using the couple headed by self-employed workers as the control group and the couple headed by employees as the treatment group, Mr. Toriyabe implemented the difference in differences estimation to examine the impact of the reform on the allocation of time within a household. The estimation results show that the reform indeed increased wives' leisure time and decreased the domestic labor supply. Several robustness checks confirm that basic results robust. This chapter successfully demonstrated the limited commitment among couples based on a clear natural experiment. This is a substantial contribution to the literature.

Chapter 3 examines the impact of the introduction of maternity leave on the female job career after childbearing. This study uses the introduction of parental leave in 1992 that only accompanied by job protection and its expansion in 1995 with cash benefit on subsequent labor market outcome of mothers. This chapter implemented a cohort analysis drawing on national Census microdata. The estimation results indicate that the introduction of parental leave had a limited impact on the employment rate, but it significantly increased the full-time employment rate while decreased the part-time employment rate. This result suggests that the introduction of parental leave enhanced female career development. This is a rare study that examines the impact of the introduction of parental leave on female labor market outcomes, whereas existing studies mainly focused on the extension of the protection period or the increase of cash benefit. The credible estimation result based on a large sample is a solid contribution to the literature.

Chapter 4 examines the impact of parental leave policy on the gender gap in career development. Critics argue that the generous parental leave unintendedly suppresses female career development as the parental leave results in a long-term career break. Drawing on the skill use measures available in Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, the analysis in this chapter examines the impact of the generosity of the parental leave system on the gender gap in skill use on the job. The results suggest that a generous parental leave policy adversely affects the skill use of medium-skilled workers.

As summarized above, each chapter of this thesis applied solid econometrics methods to the high-quality microdata to find causal impacts of family policies on gender inequality.

Chapter 2 is a sole-authored chapter and currently in the status of "revise and resubmit" for the Japanese Economic Review. Chapter 3 is based on a co-authored paper with Taiyo Fukai, and Chapter 4 is based on a co-authored paper with Daiji Kawaguchi. For both co-authored chapters, Mr. Toriyabe made significant contributions. Overall, the committee members unanimously agreed that the thesis surpasses the standard for the Ph.D. thesis. よって本論文は博士（経済学）の学位請求論文として合格と認められる。