

## **Measuring the Effect of Welfare Systems on Female Well-Being through Causal Inference**

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In the last years various (European) directives attempted to reduce the relevance of gender discrimination in specified societal settings, e.g., employment discrimination. Our primary goal is to show empirical evidence of still existing gender inequalities, specifically focusing on the relationship between gender and objective individual well-being in Italy, using Eusilc data.. We consider individual income as measure of objective well-being, the choice of the best measure going beyond the scope of this paper. We argue that the specific welfare system of a country may act as a cause for female objective well-being and the effect of this cause can be measured. This research question will be addressed in a causal inference framework, following the potential outcome approach (Rubin Causal Model) and trying to reproduce the counterfactual outcome by choosing the appropriate control group in a comparative case study. Specifically, we are going to select a set of European countries with welfare systems more/less in favor of female employment (the amount of public resources financing child and elderly care services will be used for ranking countries). The final objective is to measure the causal effect of a country welfare system on female income (measured in PPP).