

# The impact of mother's and father's education on child's health:

Evidence from a quasi-experiment in Zimbabwe

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## Abstract :

Using five waves of Demographic and Health Surveys collected in Zimbabwe, we measure the respective effect of father's and mother's education on child health outcomes. The causal effect is quantified using the education reform implemented in Zimbabwe in 1980. A simultaneous equation model is estimated to take into account possible selection and endogeneity biases. Our results suggest that some specialization as father's and mother's levels of education do not affect the same health outcomes. Second, selection arises in our sample as the Mills ratio capturing the likelihood of living with one's father or mother's significantly affects the child's health outcomes. Third, educational sorting of parents is highly relevant in our context.

## Keywords:

Couples, Child's Health, Education, Reform, Sub-Saharan Africa

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