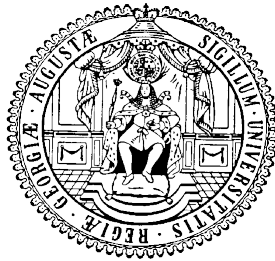


# Essays in Development Economics: Democracy and Education



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*Sebuah perjalanan berliku  
dan penuh makna*

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فِي أَيِّ عَالَمٍ رَبِّكُمْ أَتُكَذِّبَانِ

*Maka nikmat Tuhanmu yang mana yang kamu dustakan?*

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>APBD</b>	<b>The Indonesian Annual Provincial Revenue</b>
<b>BKM</b>	<b>Special Assistance for Students</b>
<b>BOS</b>	<b>Operational Assistance for Schools</b>
<b>BOS-KITA</b>	<b>School Operational Assistance-Knowledge Improvement for Transparency and Accountability</b>
<b>BSM</b>	<b>Assistance for Poor Students</b>
<b>DiD</b>	<b>Difference in Difference</b>
<b>FE</b>	<b>Fixed-effects</b>
<b>GDP</b>	<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>
<b>GNOTA</b>	<b>The Indonesian National Movement of Foster Parents</b>
<b>ICW</b>	<b>Indonesian Corruption Watch</b>
<b>IFLS</b>	<b>Indonesian Family Life Survey</b>
<b>IoP</b>	<b>Inequality of Opportunity</b>
<b>IRD</b>	<b>Indonesian Rupiahs</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>Instrumental Variables</b>
<b>JPS</b>	<b>Social Security Net</b>
<b>KIP</b>	<b>Smart Indonesian Card</b>
<b>KKG</b>	<b>Teachers Working Group</b>
<b>KKKS</b>	<b>Headmasters Working Group</b>
<b>MGMP</b>	<b>Subject Teachers Forum</b>
<b>MKKS</b>	<b>Headmasters Working Forum</b>
<b>ML</b>	<b>Maximum Likelihood</b>

<b>MSE</b>	<b>Mean Squared Errors</b>
<b>OECD</b>	<b>Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development</b>
<b>OLS</b>	<b>Ordinary Least Square</b>
<b>PISA</b>	<b>Programme For International Student Assessment</b>
<b>PSM</b>	<b>Propensity Score Matching</b>
<b>R&amp;D</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>
<b>TV</b>	<b>TeleVision</b>
<b>UNESCO</b>	<b>United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization</b>
<b>USD</b>	<b>United States Dollars</b>
<b>VIF</b>	<b>Variance Inflation Factor</b>

*“No society can surely be flourishing and happy of which by far the greater part of the numbers are poor and miserable.” — Adam Smith*

## **Introduction and Overview**

The concept of development has been expanding over the past couple of decades. Rather than solely focusing on economic and financial issues, it now concerns a wider interpretation of sustainable development that incorporates a range of economics, ecology, politics and culture, which reflect its actual multidimensional nature.

Development should include everything that is required to meet the needs of human beings. The interaction and interplay of those elements indicate the complexity of development implication in the society. It is therefore crucial to pay serious attention to on those aspects, some of which have already been explored in development studies.

The essays in my thesis are based on the importance of two different aspects that help shape sustainable development, democracy and education.

Democracy has always been linked to development, with the relationship being described as complementary. When development is not accompanied by democracy, this typically results in a loss of respect for human rights. When democracy works, however, more progress is made towards economic activities and industrialization, provided the certainty of fair law. At the same time, democracy enforces development through solving conflicts peacefully (Gali, 2002).

Development can also be conducive to starting and improving a democracy through a large middle class that is well-educated and aware of the importance of political participation in the society. The dynamic relationship between democracy and development, however, is not easy to disentangle and the direction of causality is still under investigation.

Education, on the other hand, has a more convincing story and is known to be one of the fundamental factors that greatly contributes to development. Research and development projects related to improving access and quality of education are needed to develop human capital. Highly developed human capital is believed to be a source of competitive advantage in the global economy. These highly skilled workers quickly adapt to the technological changes and are problem solvers. To create a workforce with such skills, a supporting environment is imperative.

## Democracy and development

The relationship between democracy and development has quite a long history and was first investigated in works of Aristotle. The formalization of this topic, however, emerged just recently in the 20th century. Basically, there are two opposing ideas with mixed empirical evidence that cannot explain the causal direction. The first idea follows the assumption that democracy is a pre-condition for development because it provides the ideal environment for enforcing law and property rights. This has largely been the case for the richer democratic countries.

However, several concerns arise regarding this assumption. Democratic countries that seem to define the protocols and regulations could suffer from a strong connection between businessmen and the political elite, who could potentially disobey the law. Furthermore, a democratic system could be costly for development because campaign financing during elections involves private contributions. The parties will eventually have various opportunities to negotiate political deals to obtain benefits for themselves. Populist pressure against development is another threat stemming from democracy. Conversely, authoritarian regimes are probably not most people's first choice if they want a society that maximizes freedom of speech and values the human rights. Yet, the political and economic stability of East Asian countries from the 60's to the 80's demonstrate how adequate institutional quality can achieve a satisfactory level of development performance, better even than that of the democratic countries in South Asia (Bardhan, 1999). There is a similar argument that governance is crucial for development, but this is not the only available model (Carothers and de Gramont, 2011).

The extent to which democracy has been integrated into the society might be one of the possible explanations why democracies seem to have experienced varying levels of success. For democracies to be effective, free and fair elections are necessary. The further steps, however, require a lot of work.

*The promotion of those (human) rights and the respect of differences and of freedom of speech and thought are indispensable preconditions for democracy. There can be no democracy without an independent judicial system and without institutions that guarantee freedom of expression and the existence of free media. The power to legislate must be exercised by representatives of the people who have been elected by the people. Laws must be implemented by legally responsible individuals, and the administrative apparatus must be accountable to the elected representatives. That is why a parliament that is truly representative of the people in all its diversity is indispensable for the democratic process. (Gali 2002, p. 10).*

Since establishing a well-functioning democracy is so complicated, a second theory has emerged positing that countries should have a pre-condition time when they set up the proper environment for a democracy. After this period, democracy would be the next step on the path to modernization (Lipset, 1959).

The process of modernization is usually linked to industrialization. Once a country is on this modernization path, the development process reinforces itself and results in higher levels of education and life expectancy, rapid economic growth, urbanization and occupational specializations. These developments consequently transform the social and political institutions, thereby inducing greater levels of public participation in politics. In the long run, this situation will result in the establishment of democratic political institutions. East Asia, which previously had rather authoritarian regimes, now has two countries, Taiwan and South Korea, where rapidly developing economics were followed by democratization. They started with an export-oriented strategy to achieve a high level of economic growth, then expanded the middle class through investments in human capital and upgraded the workforce to produce high tech products. Finally, the large size of the middle class becomes the main engine that pushes for democratization. This is not always the case, as the democratization process also depends on the type of leadership, country specific events as well as the values of the society. Development, however, tends to change how people see the world, deliberately bringing social and cultural changes that make a democratic system more likely to happen (Inglehart and Welzel, 2009).

The complexity of this relationship between income per capita and democracy has been reflected in the various quantitative approaches used to achieve a rigorous message. The current empirical evidence either supports both theories or neither one, making it difficult to know which one is more plausible.

**Essay 1** attempts to answer this question by evaluating the relationship between income and democracy through a replication study of Acemoglu et al. (2008). Their study finds that a causal direction from income to democracy is not proved. Instead, a more recent study supports the opposing side, stating that democracy causes higher income (Acemoglu et al., 2014). The counter argument from Cervellati et al. (2014) shows, however, that the heterogeneity between the former and non-former colonies in the model generates a positive causal link from income to democracy.

**Essay 1** complements previous literature in two ways. First it pays attention to the statistical property that is missing from other studies, the distributional assumption of democracy. **Essay 1** assumes a zero-one inflated beta distribution to accommodate the restriction on the measurement

of democracy, where one represents a completely democratic regime and zero represents a fully authoritarian regime. The consideration of democracy measurement from being unbounded to being bounded consequently changes the whole modeling approach from linear to nonlinear, which specifically is a zero-one inflated beta regression.

The method could also allow flexible variances of explanatory variables to change (heteroscedasticity), instead of being homogenous. In addition to that, the advanced modeling strategy provides a simultaneous estimation not only for the mean of the outcome, but also for the probability of getting one (or zero). This approach allows one to empirically examine the theory that greater wealth does not always lead to democracy, while also allowing for democracy to be the more probable political system to choose.

The second contribution of **Essay 1** is that it empirically identifies the centralized observation of each of the tails of the democracy distribution as OECD and non-OECD countries, then evaluates the effect this heterogeneity has on the outcome. The main finding of **Essay 1** supports the positive causal direction after introducing heteroscedasticity. Furthermore, the subsample analysis demonstrates the significance of heterogeneity in this topic by showing that the positive relationship between income and democracy exists only in OECD countries. The final finding suggests that an increase in income is associated with a higher probability of being completely democratic.

## **Human development through education**

The concept of human capital was first stated in Adam Smith's fourth capital definition (2007) and has become more popular in economics in the past decades thanks to Mincer (1958), who established the connection between human capital and income. Although the modern concept of human capital currently includes other dimensions, the classical concept has been deeply rooted in education, as expressed in Becker (1993) and Mincer (1970, 1974).

A series of empirical studies in economic growth yields the consensus that advances in education that increase human capital is the key answer to the unexplained residuals in the Solow growth model. Furthermore, findings in micro studies show that there is a positive relationship between education and employment opportunities as well as earnings and labor productivity (i.e. Trostel et al. 2002; Psacharopoulos and Patrinos 2004).

Education is also an important feature of the Galor-Weil model. It argues that during the pre-modern era, a greater and denser population was the key element to maintaining knowledge, enhancing technology and spreading it. Humans then escaped from the Malthusian trap through the role of human capital and the fertility transition. The model starts with parents, who are the decision makers, determining how many children to have and how much they are willing to invest in each child. As the population grows, education becomes more important and technology advances. This leads to increases in income, and parents start to invest more in their children's education. At the same time parents start to have fewer, but more highly-educated, children. This cycle continues to the point where the demographic transition happens and economic growth dramatically increases (Goldin, 2014).

Education has also been part of the arguments about income inequality. Tinbergen (1975) was among the first to attempt analyzing the relationship between human capital and inequality using a paradigm different from the one focusing on credit market imperfections and the political economy by suggesting that education together with technological change are the determining factors.

In addition to formalizing this proposal, the endogeneity of both aspects has been emphasized by Eicher and Garcia-Penalosa (2001). They also argue that the size of the externality in education process as well as the elasticity between the skilled and unskilled labor in the production process are essential factors of inequality. A low substitution rate between skilled and unskilled workers causes a decline in relative wages given the rise of growth and human capital. Meanwhile, the large externalities in education is associated with higher skill levels and lower levels of inequality as R&D becomes financially beneficial and widely applicable.

That relationship, however, is definitely not in a single direction. There has been a long debate between the traditional paradigm that argues that inequality drives growth, and a neoclassical perspective that suggests that inequality is detrimental to human capital and growth. One of the neoclassical frameworks is the Galor-Zeira model, which underlines the interplay between inequality and inequality of opportunity.

Inequality of opportunity on its own is a relatively lesser explored topic within development studies and has just appeared quite recently. Roemer (1998) might have been the first to clarify the exogenous contribution of circumstances on socio-economic outcomes. Circumstances broadly defined as "other than individual responsibility", such as gender and parental education. On the opposite side are the factors that are considered to be part of individual responsibility, including effort and innate ability.

The concept of inequality of opportunity, consequently, is the race between both of these mutually exclusive factors. Theoretically, the presence of equality of opportunity is established through the absence of having pre-determined circumstances contribute to future outcomes. Therefore, inequality is a reflection of inequality of opportunity by stressing the unfair exogenous inputs as the (partly) determinant factors.

## **Inequality of Opportunity in education**

Inequality of opportunity in education is specifically studying the exogenous circumstances that contributes to the different levels of children educational outcomes. The literature on this field is introduced by Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014), Asadullah and Yalonetzky (2012) as well as Gamboa and Waltenberg (2012). The green nature of this topic implies the need for more theoretical and empirical approaches to define its clear contribution to the development discipline. This is especially true for the area where policy interventions can play a role by creating equal opportunities for schooling. Thus, having educational outcomes depend on individual choices should stimulate them to do well in school, and not on students' socio-economic situations.

## **Impact evaluation in education**

In general, there have been many kinds of policy interventions in education to attempting to reach goals in education. The results have depended on inputs, outputs and the choice of measurement.

Asim et al. (2015) provides a systematic framework of available innovations in education, which consists of three dimensions. The first dimension is the supply versus demand side. The second dimension is the target group of operationalization, whether the interventions would affect individuals or groups of individuals. Interventions that focus on individuals normally use a set of guidelines to select the participants. This creates the typical problems in such innovations, like the inclusion and exclusion errors. This is also opposed to interventions that focus on a higher level of beneficiaries, which view the collective of individuals as their target. The third dimension pursues resource provisions or incentives for the actors. The former approach is more similar to most of the interventions in the past, considering that the lack of resources was the main barrier for education. The stagnant



outcomes from south India, despite the increases in resources, has risen awareness that incentives for the education actors are the substantial parts to determine the outcomes. The recognition of those dimensions makes the categorization of interventions clearer.

As an illustration, hiring more teachers to work at school, targeting the collective of students and devoting more resource fall into the supply side. This is a typical school focused intervention. On the contrary, individual focused interventions usually come as the conditional cash transfer or voucher program.

Conditional cash transfer is probably the most well-known monetary interventions in education. It has been adopted by many countries under the assumption that households afford a better schooling when their income increases. For the success of this program, successful targeting is the main condition (Krishnaratne et al., 2013).

The general evidence shows that enrollments and attendance improve given the conditional cash transfer, but the findings are not consistent for learning outcomes (Krishnaratne et al., 2013; Murname and Ganimian, 2014; McEwan, 2015). Whereas, learning quality is a key factor of economic growth (Hanushek, 2013). In fact, the highest effect to learning outcomes is given by interventions in pedagogical methods (Conn, 2014). Additionally, community participation or incentives to shift preferences and behavior is a substantial complement to supply-side intervention aims at improving learning outcomes Masino and Niño-Zarazúa (2015). Therefore, when measuring the impact of intervention, it is crucial to have a strong focus on cognitive skills as the outcome in addition to attainment that has been widely used.

The two topics above, inequality of opportunity in education and the impact evaluation of interventions in education, are the core of **Essay 2** and **Essay 3**. Using the same dataset, which is the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS), the essays aim at providing a clearer picture of the improvements in education in Indonesia and discussing its relationship with several closely related development aspects.

The purpose of **Essay 2** is twofold. The first is to empirically analyze the level of inequality of opportunity (IoP) in education across thirteen provinces in Indonesia during the period 1997-2007 by employing the framework provided by Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014). It furthermore includes the assessment of the district education budgets in influencing IoP for two different cohorts. The second, which is the original contribution of this study, is to devise an index which represents the effect of pre-

determined circumstances in determining educational attainment. The central analysis in **Essay 2** deals with the question on to what extent the past exogenous circumstances connected to educational attainment affects the future outcomes.

The use of panel data in this setting is extremely beneficial in establishing a causal identification, as the index contains the information on change in circumstances, instead of the level, to explain the change on educational attainment. In addition to that, the analysis assumes time invariant residuals from the fixed effect model as being the innate ability. Consequently, **Essay 2** does not only explore the association between pre-determined circumstances influencing educational attainment with the future outcomes, which in our study are early wages and the probability of entering higher education, but at the same time isolating its average effect from individual innate ability.

The main finding from **Essay 2** confirms the stickiness of past exogenous circumstances effect on education and early wages, although the size is quite small and tends to vanish as the individual gets older. Moreover, the level of IoP across some provinces declines over time. **Essay 2** also finds that the district budget dedicated to basic and secondary education has a negative effect on opportunities for the cohort of 11-14 years old.

**Essay 3** has the goal of evaluating the impact of two education subsidies in Indonesia that were immediately implemented after the two times that domestic oil prices increased during the period 2001-2006. The aim of the interventions is to retain attendance levels, since domestic oil prices are a critical factor on household expenditure. The first subsidy was a cash transfer namely BKM, targeting students from poor families. The second subsidy was a grant to schools named BOS, where a fraction of the grant was available to compensate for transportation costs of selected poor students. The contribution of this study is to expand the literature of impact evaluations on large scale education subsidies in Indonesia, which started only after the 1997 Asian financial crisis.

The specific purpose of **Essay 3** is assessing the short term effect of the interventions on cognitive test scores and educational attainment. In addition to those, the analysis also includes an evaluation of the transfer on household expenditure in education to learn about the behavioral reaction of households concerning the subsidy.

The main finding in **Essay 3** indicates that the short term effects of the transfer on educational attainment for the compulsory grades is around 4 months after one year of intervention. The significance however, is more likely to be from the grant spillover effect. The effectiveness of the cash transfer is thus questionable. However, there is the issue of mis-targeting and the small coverage of

the transfer that might explain the results, in addition to the possibility that immediate effectiveness is hard to expect in this setting. Instead, there is a positive association between exposure to the previous subsidy (JPS scholarship) periods and educational attainment, which signifies a potential longer term effect of the transfers. Finally, **Essay 3** finds that the participating households seem to adjust their spending in education back to the original level.

# 1 The Effect of Income on Democracy Revisited: A Flexible Distributional Approach

## Abstract

We reexamine the effect of economic development on the level of democracy based on the data sets of Acemoglu et al. (2008) with a novel regression specification utilizing a zero-one-inflated beta distribution for the response variable democracy. Contrary to the results of Acemoglu et al. (2008), some support of causality is found particularly when explaining heteroscedasticity. We also find democracy is a bimodal variable and approximate the distribution using two separate samples of OECD and non-OECD countries. Our results indicate that higher incomes are associated with higher democracy levels in the OECD sub-sample, however for non-OECD the association is insignificant.

Based on a joint work with Thomas Kneib and Inmaculada Martinez-Zarzoso.

## 1.1 Introduction

The relationship between income and democracy has been widely investigated since the beginning of the twentieth century. While Aristotle (1932) already argued that there is a positive association between both factors more than twenty centuries ago, Lipset's law formalized it by stating that higher economic growth leads to a higher democracy level (Lipset, 1959). This law is (likely) the foundation of the modernization theory that asserts economic development as the major factor influencing the political environment. A number of authors, including Barro (1999), Dahl (1971), Huntington (1993) or Stephens et al. (1992), additionally contributed to the findings showing that higher incomes are associated with higher levels of democracy.

Nevertheless, recent empirical findings show a less clear story. Some support for a positive association between income and democracy is indeed found by Londregan and Poole (1996) when using panel data to estimate a causal relationship as stated by Lipset (1959) but only after considering leadership type and political context as control factors. Murtin and Wacziarg (2014) observe that the transition to democracy is linked to a fractional shift of illiterate to primary school graduates and, to a lesser extent, to income per capita. Moral-Benito and Bartolucci (2011) show instead a non-linear effect between income and democracy. Fayad et al. (2012) specifically distinguish between income from natural resources and other income. By applying heterogeneous panel techniques, the authors find that only when income comes from non resource sources is it significant in explaining democracy. Meanwhile, evidence of no causal relation has also been found by other authors. Przeworski et al. (2000) do not find any significant relationships between income per capita and transition to democracy when using a Markov transition model. This lack of evidence challenging Lipset's law is supported by Acemoglu et al. (2008) who use a panel data approach. Their study concludes that a causal effect from income to democracy cannot be found. However, a similar approach from Cervellati et al. (2014) reveals that the effect of income on democracy exists and it is heterogeneous for former colonies and non-colonies.

One of the reasons why findings are inconclusive could be that the assumptions underlying the theoretical developments are inadequate. In this paper we assume that causality goes from economic performance to democracy. In this setting, an important issue is the choice of distributional assumption to approximate democracy when modelling its mean in a regression specification. In particular, most quantitative research assumes that the democracy variable is an unbounded continuous variable

that has a homogenous variance which fits with the normal distribution implicitly assumed in least squares estimation. Nevertheless, democracy measurements are in general finite with the upper limit stated as “democratic” and the lower limit as “autocratic”. Hence, the main novelty of this paper is to focus on the distributional assumption of democracy, which has not yet been investigated in the related literature.

We focus on the framework of Acemoglu et al. (2008) and contribute to the understanding of this topic by evaluating the distributional assumption of democracy and its influence on the estimates. The main results indicate that when democracy is modeled with a zero-one-inflated beta regression (Ferrari and Cribari-Neto, 2004) partial support for income causing democracy is found. This is in contrast to Acemoglu et al. (2008) , where no causal effect was found. More specifically, income causes democracy only when income data from the Penn World Table are used, but not when using income data from Maddison. We also find that higher incomes in the past increase the probability of a country being democratic. The second finding is somewhat robust to changes in the data sources.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 1.2 we briefly discuss why the research in this field generally comes to different conclusions and how this could be related to our primary concern, namely distributional assumptions that are questionable. Zero-one inflated beta distribution and regression are outlined in Section 1.3. We present our methodology in Section 1.4. The main results are presented in Section 1.5. Concluding remarks are given in Section 1.6.

## 1.2 Distributional issue

The recent empirical literature on the income democracy nexus has dealt with causality identification and omitted variable bias by using lags of the explanatory variables instead of levels in the right hand side. Additionally, country fixed effects are used to control for time-invariant unobserved heterogeneity (see for example Acemoglu et al. 2008, 2014). However, there are other issues, namely other sources of endogeneity, incomplete data, measurement error and the distributional assumption for the variable democracy, all of which have not been fully addressed or even ignored. In the related literature, some attention has been given to endogeneity, incomplete data and measurement error (Acemoglu et al., 2008; Moral-Benito and Bartolucci, 2011; Treier and Jackman, 2008). Conversely, in this paper we focus on the latter to explore the zero-one inflated beta distribution as an alternative distributional assumption for democracy.

A parametric regression model relies on a specific distribution to derive the results. Assuming the

Table 1.1: Summary statistics of standardized democracy indices between 1960-2000, 211 countries

Variable	Observation	Trimmed mean (5%)	St. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Freedom House	4732	0.49	0.38	0	1
Polity IV	5173	0.47	0.39	0	1

Note: The trimmed mean is an arithmetic mean that discards sample at both tails of the distribution. Table 1.1 discards the lowest 5% and the highest 5% values.

normal distribution for the response variable given the explanatory variables is a handy approximation to fulfill the parametric assumption in the class of linear models. However, violations of this assumption makes any results questionable. Moreover, a bounded variable is by definition not normally distributed particularly when most observations are close to the boundaries. If this is the case, the variable of interest should not be used as a dependent variable in an ordinary least squares regression, which (at least implicitly) assumes normality for inference.

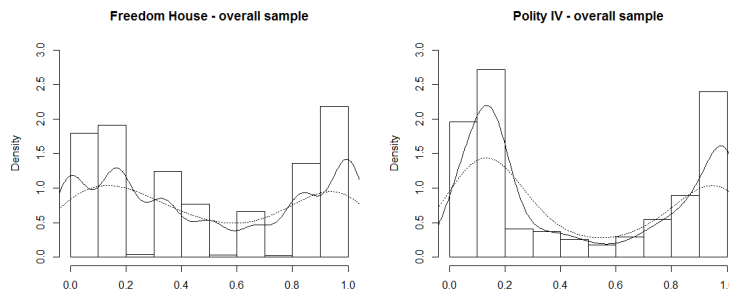
For illustration purposes, Table 1.1 reports summary statistics of the variables representing the level of democracy from the Freedom House Political Right Index and Polity IV data set as proxies for the level of democracy in a particular country<sup>1</sup>. The arithmetic mean is a natural characterization of the central tendency of a data set in particular for normally distributed variables.

Having the normality assumption in mind, the usual interpretation of a mean around 0.5 is that most of the countries are half democratic. The next step is to plot a histogram and a density estimate to examine whether these approximate something close to a bell-shape, which would indicate a normal distribution for the democracy variables.

Figure 1.1 illustrates that neither Freedom House nor Polity IV show such a bell-shaped curve. Instead, their distributions are closer to a U-shaped curve with two peaks. As a consequence the unimodal interpretation no longer holds and the arithmetic mean does not represent the true central tendency, because it is a product of a compromise between two modes that center around zero and one. Therefore, it is the shape of the distributions and not the means that tell us something well-known, which is that most of the countries are either highly democratic or highly autocratic. A few data points are in between, and some of them could be the countries in transition to democracy or to authoritarian regimes. If the conclusion is misleading for the arithmetic mean with the misspecified distribution, it will also be potentially misleading for the parameters of a regression model based on the misspecified distributional assumption.

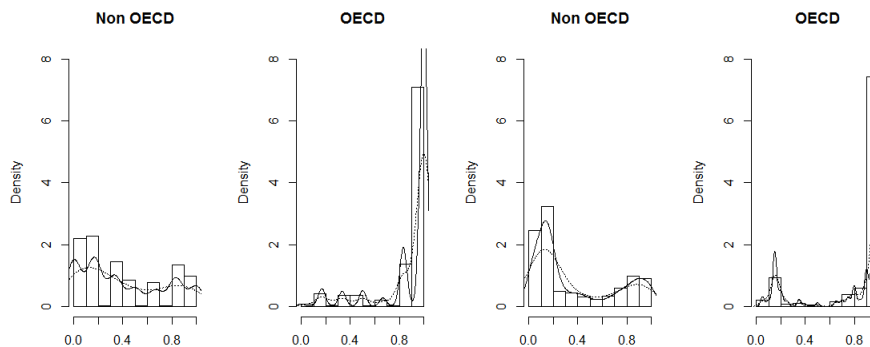
<sup>1</sup>Freedom House and Polity IV democracy variables are from Acemoglu et al. (2008). Among the various proxies of democracy that are available, we stick to Acemoglu et al. (2008) perspective by using their standardized indices from Freedom House and Polity IV for comparison purposes. The Freedom House index is based on a rating system ranging from 1 to 7 where smaller numbers represent a higher Freedom Rating. Polity IV is a multidimensional measure of political environment that is compressed into a scalar ranging from -10 to 10. Positive numbers are in favor of democracy while negative numbers symbolize autocracy. Standardization transforms both scales into the identical range between zero and one.

Figure 1.1: Histogram and density plot of democracy between 1960-2000, 211 countries



Note: The solid density lines have a smoothing bandwidth of 1 and the dotted ones double the bandwidth.

Figure 1.2: Histogram and density plot of subsamples between 1960-2000, Freedom House (left) and Polity IV (right)



Note: The solid density lines have a smoothing bandwidth of 1 and the dotted ones double the bandwidth.

An additional issue is that the values of democracy are bounded. Without considering this aspect when modeling the distribution of the data, the fitted values could lay outside the interval  $[0,1]$ . In this case, we should consider nonlinear models that take care of the nonlinearity and the bounded characteristics of the response variable.

It is important to take note of another prominent feature shown in Figure 1.2. In particular, the plot of the distributions indicates that the world is polarized into two clear political regimes. We visually tested whether the lower mode comes from non-OECD countries and the higher one depicts OECD countries by plotting the subset of OECD and non-OECD according to Freedom House and Polity IV in Figure 1.2.<sup>2</sup>

The visual examination of Figure 1.2 suggests that the OECD group approximates the upper mode of the distribution, while the non-OECD subsample represents the lower mode. Moreover, the

<sup>2</sup>OECD refers to all members of OECD in 2014. Therefore, OECD is a loose term referring to the members of OECD during the sample period as well as its future members.



OECD group shows more variability. We anticipate that the high variation within the OECD sub-sample comes from the earlier period of the sample, seeing how nowadays all OECD countries are democratic. We will incorporate these features into the model to assess the statistical differences between both groups in the following parts.

### 1.3 Zero-one-inflated beta distribution and regression

A number of issues related to the suitable modeling strategy for bounded response variables have been discussed by Papke and Wooldridge (1996) under the heading of fractional response models. Possible extensions have also been recently summarized by Ramalho et al. (2011). The authors find that it is not reasonable to assume that the effect of explanatory variables is constant throughout the entire range of the response variable when the latter is bounded. They also argue that a beta distribution is not suitable for modelling bounded responses if values on the boundaries are observed with non-zero probability. However, while allowing for values on the boundaries, fractional response models only restrict the expectation of the response to the interval (0,1) and not the complete distribution. Rather than using a fractional response specification, we therefore inflate the beta distribution with point masses in zero and one to account for the non-zero probability of observing these boundary values.

The mixed discrete-continuous density of a zero-one-inflated beta random variable is given by

$$p(y) = \begin{cases} p_0 & \text{if } y = 0 \\ p_1 & \text{if } y = 1 \\ \frac{1}{B(a,b)}y^{a-1}(1-y)^{b-1} & \text{if } y \in (0, 1) \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $B(a, b)$  is the beta function with parameters  $a$  and  $b$  given by

$$B(a, b) = \int_0^1 y^{a-1}(1-y)^{b-1}$$

where  $a > 0, b > 0$ .

The zero-one-inflated beta regression where the zero-one-inflated beta distribution is considered as the conditional distribution of the response was introduced by Ospina and Ferrari (2010). For the sake of interpretability, they propose a parameterization based on the expectation  $\mu = \frac{a}{a+b}$  and the

scale parameter vector  $\sigma = \frac{1}{a+b+1}$  with  $\mu \in (0, 1)$  and  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$ . We also replace the probabilities for zero and one by the parameters  $\nu = p_0/p_2$  and  $\tau = p_1/p_2$  where  $p_2 = 1 - p_0 - p_1$  is the probability observing a response from the continuous part of the zero-one-inflated beta distribution. This parameterisation ensures that the probabilities for zero, one and the continuous part add up to one.

Furthermore, we let  $y_{it}$  be independent random variables where each  $y_{it}$  follows the density in (1.1) with mean  $\mu_{it}$ , unknown scale parameter  $\sigma_{it}$  and zero/one inflation parameters  $\nu_{it}$  and  $\tau_{it}$ , while  $t = 1, \dots, T$  and  $i = 1, \dots, N$  index the time dimension and the individuals, respectively. To relate the parameters of the zero one inflated beta distribution to regression predictors, we apply suitable link functions, i.e.

$$\mu_{it} = \frac{\exp(\eta_{it}^{\mu})}{1 + \exp(\eta_{it}^{\mu})} \quad \sigma_{it} = \frac{\exp(\eta_{it}^{\sigma})}{1 + \exp(\eta_{it}^{\sigma})} \quad \nu_{it} = \exp(\eta_{it}^{\nu}) \quad \tau_{it} = \exp(\eta_{it}^{\tau}) \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\eta_{it}^{\mu}$ ,  $\eta_{it}^{\sigma}$ ,  $\eta_{it}^{\nu}$  and  $\eta_{it}^{\tau}$  are regression predictors constructed from a set of covariates. The logit transformation applied to the mean and scale parameter enables a log odds ratio interpretation for two observations that only differ by one unit in the variable of interest. In contrast, the natural log transformation for the zero/one inflation parameters is directly interpretable since it is approximately proportional to differences.

Note that the model allows us to account for heteroscedasticity due to the regression effects on  $\sigma_{it}$  and  $\mu_{it}$  since the variance of  $y_{it}$

$$\text{Var}(y_{it}) = \frac{\mu_{it}(1 - \mu_{it})}{1 + a_{it} + b_{it}} \quad (1.3)$$

is also a function of the mean  $\mu_{it}$  and proportional to the scale parameter  $\sigma_{it} = 1/(1 + a_{it} + b_{it})$ .

Even though the approach by Papke and Wooldridge (1996) also does not exclude the boundary values, it is more suitable when the truly fractional component of the response is dominant. Conversely, the inflated beta regression better matches our data sets because we observe a large fraction of zeros and ones. Furthermore, the fully parametric approach used by assuming a beta distribution for the fractional response variable leads to more efficient ML estimators (Ospina and Ferrari, 2010).

## 1.4 Model specification

Our study estimates a similar model to Acemoglu et al. (2008)<sup>3</sup>. We use Maddison historical

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<sup>3</sup>Linear model with country fixed-effects

GDP per capita<sup>4</sup> for a robustness check of measurement error and missing values. Hence, we have the combination of two democracy variables and two income per capita variables. We add a dummy variable for OECD membership, which acts as an additional regressor in each model. We implement a linear model structure with fixed-effects under the assumption that the response follows the zero-one inflated beta distribution where the basic predictor structure is given by

$$\eta_{it} = \beta_1 y_{it-s} + \beta_2 x_{1it-s} + \beta_3 x_{2it} + \vartheta_i + \delta_t \quad (1.4)$$

where  $x_{1it-s}$  is log income per capita of country  $i$  at time  $t - s$ ,  $x_{2it}$  is the OECD dummy of country  $i$  at time  $t$ ,  $\vartheta_i$  is a country-specific fixed effect,  $\delta_t$  is a time-specific fixed effect, and the predictor is linked to the parameters of the response distribution via the link functions discussed above. For the lagged part in the predictor, we used  $s = 1$  for yearly data<sup>5</sup>,  $s = 5$  for five year,  $s = 10$  for ten year and  $s = 20$  for twenty year data, respectively. We use five year averages of data  $t = \bar{x}_5$  and their first lag in equation 1.2 to mitigate endogeneity. We also employ the lagged values of explanatory variables for the same purpose as well as to design the causality relationship. To fit zero-one-inflated beta regression models, we used the R-package `gamlss` ((Rigby and Stasinopoulos, 2005; Stasinopoulos et al., 2008).

Because the zero-one-inflated beta regression allows us to estimate not only the mean as a function of the explanatory variables but also the scale parameter, which is proportional to the variance, and the two probabilities for zero and one inflation, we can infer the causes of potential non-constant variance, as well as other distributional features of democracy at time  $t$ . Despite having a relatively suitable distributional assumption and some treatment for other statistical challenges, we do not claim that our estimation has a rigorous causal interpretation. Instead, our intention is to provide a benchmark for future related research.

## 1.5 Results

The main results of our model for different time intervals are presented in Table 1.2. The first column shows the model estimated with yearly data (model M1), the second to fourth column with five (M2), ten (M3), and twenty year (M4) intervals data and the last column is for five-year average data (M5). In each model, estimated coefficients are presented for the equation for  $\mu$  which represents

<sup>4</sup> Maddison GDP per capita is from Bolt and van Zanden (2013) with authors' adjustment.

<sup>5</sup>For  $s = 1$ , we jointly estimate the coefficients of mean and scale parameters with the previous four lags.

the mean of the beta distribution, the equation for  $\sigma$  which relates to the scale parameter of the beta distribution and the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$  which relate to the probabilities for zero and one inflation, respectively.

The estimated coefficients for income per capita in the equation for  $\mu$  are only significant in model (M3), in which a ten year interval and a ten year lag structure is used. In the equation for  $\sigma$  income is significant in model (M1), model (M2) and model (M5), suggesting that for annual, five year and twenty year data income influences the variance of democracy. The negative and significant income coefficient found for the ten year lag in the equation for  $\nu$  indicates that a higher income per capita level leads to a lower probability of a country having a value of zero (autocracy) than a value between zero and one in the next ten years. The stronger evidence comes from the equation for  $\tau$ . The positive and significant coefficient of income (for five, ten and twenty year lags) suggests that a higher income induces a higher probability of a country having a value of one (democracy outcome) than a value between zero and one.

The OECD dummy is also significant in the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  in some cases. The positive sign in the equation for  $\mu$  reflects the higher level of democracy on average for OECD members relative to non-OECDs. Meanwhile, the positive sign in the equation for  $\sigma$  indicates that the OECD group has a higher variance. This confirms the findings in Figure 1.2. The diagnostic plots for ten year intervals are provided in Figure 1.3. Our estimation for the OECD versus non-OECD subsamples (see Table 1.4) shows that the effect of income on democracy is only statistically significant in the OECD countries.

As a comparison, we provide results for the Polity IV data using income from Maddison in Table 1.3<sup>6</sup>.

Table 1.3 suggests that our findings are not robust for the equations for  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ , yet it is more robust for the equations for  $\sigma$ . Past income explains the non-constant variance of democracy through the equation for  $\sigma$ . The difference between the OECD and non-OECD groups is more apparent here. The dummy for OECD countries is significant and positive in the equation for  $\mu$  in three cases, suggesting that OECD countries have higher democracy indices. The OECD dummy is also positive and statistically significant in the equation for  $\tau$  in two cases, signaling that OECD membership increases the probability of being completely democratic. However, there is no evidence

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<sup>6</sup> see Table A1-A4 in the Appendix for the results obtained using other data set combinations.

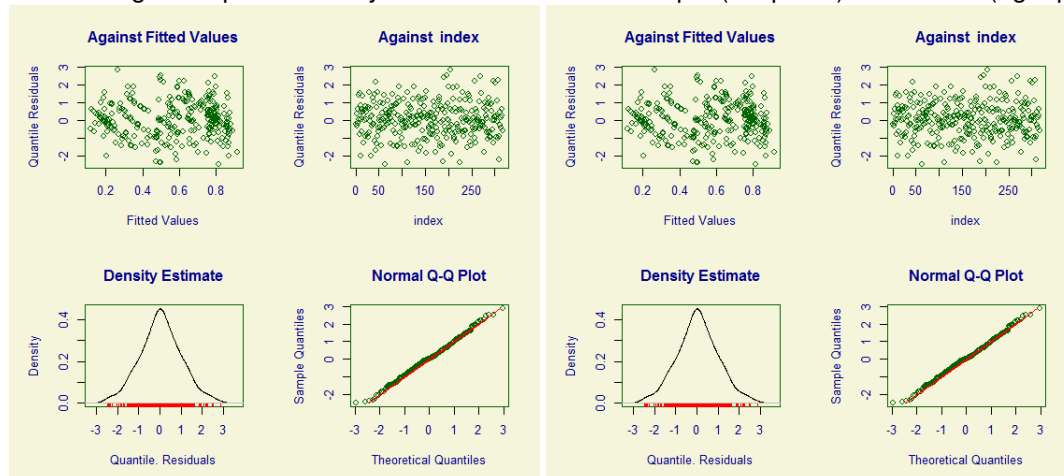
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Table 1.2: Freedom House and Penn World Table GDP per capita

Dependent variable: democracy	5 year (M1)	10 year (M2)	20 year (M3)	5 year average (M4)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	1.152*** (0.174)	-0.855*** (0.268)	-2.303*** (0.346)	1.978*** (0.183)
Lag log income per capita	-0.040 (0.154)	0.576** (0.285)	-0.412 (0.505)	-0.071 (0.149)
OECD(D)	2.204** (0.981)	2.354*** (0.675)	0.194 (0.728)	2.746** (1.251)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>				
Lag Democracy	-***	+	No	+
Lag log income per capita	+**	+	No	-
OECD(D)	+	-	No	+
Country fe	No	No	No	No
Year fe	Yes	No	No	Yes
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	-1.829** (0.853)	2.176 (2.277)	154.885 (1.482e+5)	-3.989*** (1.518)
Lag log income per capita	0.318 (0.807)	0.672 (1.734)	-131.339 (7.539e+4)	1.539 (1.044)
OECD(D)	-44.397 (7.260e+6)	-1.315 (4.827e+6)	-14.103 (1.015e+7)	-22.723 (2.592e+4)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	9.343*** (2.553)	5.534** (2.475)	-8.737 (5.984)	20.714*** (6.695)
Lag log income per capita	4.689** (1.982)	11.383*** (3.183)	15.641*** (4.802)	3.183 (3.460)
OECD(D)	1.482 (8.206e+5)	-0.173 (4.538)	7.887 (0.114)	-3.788 (9.766e+3)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	729	317	112	753
Country	118	106	69	119
Global deviance	-191.098	-158.131	-168.271	-505.7995
AIC	602.902	527.869	277.729	282.201
SBC	2425.797	1817.172	883.954	2094.55

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Models M1-M3 are estimated using 5, 10 and 20 year intervals, respectively. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

Figure 1.3: Diagnostic plots for ten year intervals: overall sample (left panel) and OECD (right panel)



that OECD membership causes democracy<sup>7</sup>.

Results for the overall sample from the two alternative data sets generally indicate a similar effect of lag income for the equations for  $\sigma$ . Additionally, the sets were and to a large extent robust for  $\tau$ , as well as for our results for the OECD dummy in the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ . Nevertheless, a detailed examination suggests that there is a sort of selection bias. The differences in results mainly depend on which income variable is used in the model. On the one hand, when using income data from the Penn World Table, a positive effect of income on democracy is found more often than when using income data from Maddison. On the other hand, Maddison GDP favors significance for the OECD dummy. Hence, we conclude that even though the democracy indices are subject to measurement error, in our model specification they are more robust than the income per capita variables.

## 1.6 Concluding remarks

Which comes first, income or democracy? The chicken and egg causality dilemma reflects the existence of opposite theoretical perspectives in which empirical evidence has been found to support each side. Inconclusive findings together with statistical challenges have converted the study of the relationship into a far more complex issue than what Aristotle proposed a long time ago. Among the acknowledged statistical issues, we claim that the usual distributional assumption for democracy as a response variable could be inappropriate. In particular, the use of an unbounded distribution - such as

<sup>7</sup> see Table A5 in the Appendix.

Table 1.3: Polity IV and Penn World Table GDP per capita

Dependent variable: democracy	5 year (M1)	10 year (M2)	20 year (M3)	5 year average (M4)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	1.350*** (0.186)	-0.648** (0.321)	-2.735*** (0.512)	2.432*** (0.183)
Lag log income per capita	0.097 (0.162)	0.086 (0.315)	-0.828 (0.701)	0.014 (0.151)
OECD (D)	2.084** (0.707)	1.147 (0.728)	-0.380 (0.905)	1.779*** (0.636)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	+	+	No	-
Lag log income per capita	+	-	No	+
OECD (D)	-	+**	No	+
Country fe	No	No	No	No
Year fe	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	-12.541 (6.252e+04)	-8.362 (9.572e+4)	3.749e-11 (1.046e+4)	-29.870 (7.741e+4)
Lag log income per capita	-23.227 (0.851)	-53.219 (5,277e+4)	1.283e-8 (1.370e+4)	-54.215 (4.967e+3)
OECD (D)	39.884 (1.358e+7)	38.252 (8.394e+5)	2.074e-6 (2.891e+5)	142.981 (8.426e+6)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	30.596*** (2.101)	4.794 (8.040)	0.512 (1.573e+1)	29.946*** (2.404)
Lag log income per capita	1.546 (2.955)	-9.055 (6.443)	1.705 (2.329e+1)	9.840** (4.128)
OECD (D)	8.858 (9.187e+4)	58.468 (2.865e+6)	46.918 (6.823e+6)	0.303 (4.745e+9)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	729	317	112	735
Country	118	106	69	119
Global deviance	-630.498	-262.450	-186.572	-861.350
AIC	165.503	423.550	259.429	-73.350
SBC	1992.989	1712.853	865.654	1739.000

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "q" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Models M1-M3 are estimated using 5, 10 and 20 year intervals, respectively. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

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Table 1.4: Freedom House and Penn World Table GDP per capita for sub samples

Dependent variable:	5 year		10 year		5 year average	
	OECD (M1)	non-OECD (M2)	OECD (M3)	non-OECD (M4)	OECD (M5)	non-OECD (M6)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	1.187* (0.713)	1.014*** (0.171)	-7.406*** (0.495)	-0.711** (0.279)	2.598*** (0.599)	2.054*** (0.176)
Lag log income per capita	1.002* (0.587)	-0.190 (0.164)	2.859*** (0.444)	0.242 (0.295)	-0.119*** (0.586)	-0.123 (0.151)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	-***	-**	-***	+	-***	+
Lag log income per capita	-***	+	-	-*	-***	-
Country fe	No	No	No	No	No	No
Year fe	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	42.913 (1.207e+7)	-2.239** (0.924)	4.917e-7 (8.748e+6)	1.899 (2.208)	5.377e-7 (1.709e+5)	-3.837** (1.493)
Lag log income per capita	-10.302 (2.269e+7)	0.333 (0.674)	-3.062e-7 (8.518e+6)	1.525 (1.662)	-3.432e-7 (1.700e+5)	0.350 (0.881)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	44.020*** (15.870)	7.777*** (2.586)	14.450 (9.651)	9.421** (3.976)	21.314* (11.300)	34.933*** (11.301)
Lag log income per capita	-2.225 (4.302)	7.293*** (2.708)	9.523** (3.901)	31.863*** (11.800)	-11.976*** (2.652)	18.967* (11.096)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	229	579	114	234	215	533
Country	29	101	28	86	28	87
Global deviance	-89.181	-187.327	-74.626	-158.414	-108.734	-497.553
AIC	154.819	498.673	133.374	399.586	123.266	104.447
SBC	573.733	1994.6	417.939	1363.621	514.260	1392.282

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Models M1-M3 are estimated using 5, 10 and 20 year intervals, respectively. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.



a normal distribution - for a bounded variable that has dominant observations around the boundaries of its domain could cause problems. Furthermore, the conclusions derived from an analysis that rely on the wrong underlying assumptions could be misleading.

Our approach accounts for this fact by assuming a zero-one-inflated beta distribution for democracy and implementing the corresponding regression models with the appropriate link functions to model democracy. As the baseline evidence shows, we find partial support for income causing democracy when modeling the mean of democracy. This evidence is obtained only when using income from the Penn World Table, while the use of income from the Maddison data set does not always show significant outcomes. The findings also indicate that heteroscedasticity is an issue and that a higher lag income increases the probability of a country being democratic. The causality interpretation in terms of the values probabilities for values being exactly equal to zero or one is more plausible than in terms of the mean, since income might not be the only factor that has an impact on democracy and the other factors could diminish the degree of the potential relationship over time.

We also find systematic differences between OECD and non-OECD samples in the mean, variance and probabilities of zero and one inflation. OECD countries are on average more democratic and evidence that higher income causes higher levels of democracy is found for this group. Furthermore, this difference draws to some extent a line of political regimes between richer countries, with OECD representing high income countries that are democratic, and poorer countries which are less democratic. This finding support the literature that the effect of income and democracy is heterogenous. Moreover, we find that using Maddison GDP, being an OECD member increases the probability of being completely democratic while this is not the case when using Penn World Table data for income. The differences encountered when using Penn World Table and Maddison data indicate that economic measurement seems to matter and can influence the outcomes.

## **2 Opportunities in Education: Are Factors Outside Individual Responsibility Really Persistent? Evidence from Indonesia 1997-2007**

### **Abstract**

Education is a strong predictor of economic performance. Educational inequality in opportunity could thus make a significant contribution to earning disparities. Following Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014) parametric method, we construct aggregate indices of inequality in educational opportunities for thirteen Indonesian provinces in the years 1997, 2000 and 2007. The contribution of this paper is to define individual indices of the power of circumstances, which measure the effect that the accumulation of factors, outside individual control, has on individual educational achievements and earnings in the short and long run. We find that-for the period considered- there has been a declining trend in inequality of educational opportunities, albeit not in all provinces. Our findings also suggest that parental educational background is the most significant factor for school survival. Additionally, the effect that circumstances exert on future individual educational achievements and early earnings perspectives tends to persist over time, but only to a very small extent. Our causal model, which relates educational budget policy to equality of opportunity, shows that the educational budget has a negative impact on the youngest cohorts, thus causing us to question the effectiveness of the allocation of resources to primary and intermediate schools.

Based on a joint work with Maria C. Lo Bue.

## 2.1 Introduction

It has been well recognized that a person's educational achievement is not only a key dimension of her human development in its own right, but also represents a fundamental input for the realization of other human development goals, such as wealth, health, employment and political participation. More recently, a number of studies has also shown that both within and across countries, inequalities in education are likely to be reflected in disparities in other dimensions. The existence of such correlations has raised political and academic interest in the inequality of education and, in particular, two questions have emerged: which factors are driving these inequalities? Are they all "unfair"?

The theory of inequality of opportunity can provide an answer to these questions as it finds its main rationale in the idea that inequality itself can have different sources, but not all of these can be equally objectionable. As theoretically conceptualized by Roemer (1998), differences on certain socio-economic outcomes may be partly attributed to individual choices, innate ability, talents and *efforts* and partly to factors or *circumstances* which are economically exogenous to the person, such as gender and socio-economic background.

While inequalities in education that are due to personal responsibility are fair and do not necessarily need to be suppressed, disparities in educational achievements, which result from factors beyond an individual's control are, without doubt, inequitable, and should be amenable to equal-opportunity policy interventions that, as suggested by Roemer, will equalize advantages for each centiles of the efforts distribution, across groups of people, which share the set of circumstances.

Empirical evidence regarding this issue is still less explored. However, OECD (2012) suggests the positive relationship between educational opportunities and labour income. Therefore, educational policies with strong attention on equity could be used as a strategic tool to improve economic performance in a long term.

Equality of opportunity could only be achieved when pre-determined *circumstances* have no correlation with success in life (de Barros et al., 2008). In the case of education, pre-determined *circumstances* should not affect the chance of children going to school or achieving identical educational performance.

Among developing countries, evidence using PISA scores 2006 placed Indonesia in the lower half of cross-country distribution of inequality in educational opportunity (Ferrerira and Gignoux, 2014). Contrarily, the Indonesian GINI index shows an increasing trend from 31.3 in 1996 to 33 in 2004 and

38.1 in 2011 (World Bank, 2014), which indicates that educational policies might not have accurately targeted equity.

In this paper, we therefore focus on country level evidence using household data from the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS), in order to quantify the role that the accumulation of pre-determined *circumstances* play in influencing future socio-economic outcomes and generating inequality in educational opportunities among the Indonesian population over the period 1997-2007.

We contribute to previous literature by devising an individual index of the power of *circumstances*, which explains the influence that the accumulation of pre-determined *circumstances* has on individual educational achievements. This allows us to see how persistent these *circumstances* can be over the individual life's course and, thus, how sticky current levels of inequality of opportunities can be.

Next, by evaluating the association between our power of *circumstances* index and educational budgeting at the provincial level, we seek to understand if the educational budgeting policy had any influence (and in which direction) on inequality of opportunity in education.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2.2 is devoted to providing a review of the literature in this field and Section 2.3 discusses methodological issues involved in measuring inequality of educational opportunity and the specific choices we have made. In Section 2.4 we report descriptive statistics and discuss our empirical findings in Section 2.5. Section 2.6 concludes.

## **2.2 Inequality of opportunity: conceptual underpinnings and empirical applications**

The concept of inequality in educational opportunity finds its roots in the mid-60s when the Coleman Report (Coleman et al., 1966) started the debate on what is meant by equality of opportunity and how to achieve it. This report questioned the effectiveness (in terms of a fairer distribution of outputs or educational achievements) of policies aimed at equalizing benefits between students or granting full access to education and argued that socio-economic conditions and family background are important factors that drive most of the variation in students' achievements.

The debate on the meaning of equality of opportunity in various income and wealth related outcomes was enriched by the contributions of important philosophers and economists (such as Rawls 1971; Nozick 1974; Sen 1980, 1985; Dworkin 1981a,b) posited the importance of compensating individuals' different situations, especially in cases outside of an individual's personal responsibility. It was only at the end of the nineties that this concept was explicitly addressed, described and translated

into a mathematical formulation in John Roemer's seminal book on equality of opportunity (1998). The main argument of Roemer was based on the distinction between unchosen and pre-determined *circumstances* and individual *efforts*. While the latter are attributed to the personal responsibility of the individual, the former are inherited by the individual and are beyond his or her control. Differences in individual outcomes which are attributable to *circumstances* are hence not only morally objectionable but can also lead to an inefficient allocation of resources (Ferrerira and Gignoux, 2014; Fernández and Galí, 1999) and should thus be compensated by public policies. On the other hand, outcome differences that are due to individual choices and personal responsibility can be ethically accepted because they represent the natural reward of individual *effort* (see Fleurbaey 2008).

Measuring inequality of opportunity requires two fundamental preliminary steps: first, the search of a set of factors which can accurately represent those *circumstances* and second, the partition of a society into groups (or *types*) of individuals sharing the same set of circumstances and into groups (or *tranches*) of individuals characterized by the same degree of *effort* (Checchi and Peragine, 2010).

Two methodological approaches have been suggested in order to quantify the extent to which a given society is unequal. Either one can adopt an utilitarian "ex-ante" perspective (van der Gaer, 1993) by considering outcome differences *between types*- prior to the realization of their *effort* level, or one can follow an "ex-post" approach by looking at the opportunity set granted to individuals who exert the same degree of *effort* (Roemer, 1998; Checchi and Peragine, 2010). While in the first approach equality of opportunity is achieved when opportunities are equalized *between types* (Ferrerira and Gignoux, 2011, 2014), in the ex-post approach outcomes should be equalized *within tranches* or groups of people who, independently of their inherited *circumstances*, are featured by the same degree of *effort* (Checchi and Peragine, 2010). As noted in Fleurbaey (2008) and Checchi and Peragine (2010) these two approaches do not necessarily generate same rankings of distributions, as compensation mechanisms within types will only affect opportunity inequality when adopting the ex-post approach (Checchi and Peragine, 2010). On the other hand, the ex-ante approach can generate a distribution that fully satisfies the utilitarian or reward principle according to which inequality of a given outcome within groups of individuals sharing the same *circumstances* can be fair, as long as these individuals are rewarded according to the amount of *effort* exerted in order to achieve a certain outcome (Donni and Pignataro, 2014).

The vast majority of the applied studies on the measurement of inequality of opportunity has focused on the opportunities for the acquisition of income (see, among others, Peragine 2002, 2004a,b;

Bourguignon et al. 2007; Peragine and Serlenga 2008; Lefranc et al. 2008, 2009; Aaberge et al. 2011; Björklund et al. 2012; Andreoli et al. 2014) whereas relatively fewer empirical studies appear in the domain of education. In this field, three main strands of research have emerged so far: the first strand of the empirical literature has applied the “education production function” framework to directly estimate the effect of specific socio-economic variables on educational outcomes (Fertig 2000; Hanushek 1979; Wößmann 2003; Filmer and Pritchett 1998) and to directly as well as indirectly consider intergenerational mobility in educational achievements outcomes (Behrman et al., 2001; Dahan and Gaviria, 2001; Lam and Schoeni, 1993).

The second, more recent strand of the literature has addressed the Roemer’s theory more explicitly and attempted to operationalize the concept of inequality of opportunity theory in the domain of education. Some notable contributions include the study by Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014) who propose and compute an ex-ante, parametric measure of inequality of educational opportunity for PISA scores in 57 countries; the article by Asadullah and Yalonetzky (2012) who construct several indices of inequality in educational opportunity across Indian states and the analysis conducted by Gamboa and Waltenberg (2012) who, following an ex-ante non-parametric approach, considers inequality of educational opportunity in PISA scores for Latin American students.

Lastly, the third strand of the literature (Mongan et al., 2011; Waltenberg and Vandenberghe, 2007; Iatarola and Stiefel, 2003) has instead focused more on policy-oriented research objectives and has evaluated the opportunity-equalizing effects of education policies.

This paper connects these three strands by considering the distribution of educational opportunities across provinces and over time, assessing the role that both *circumstances* and individual responsibility plays in education levels and earning outcomes in the short and long run, and evaluating the effect of educational budgeting policies on inequality of opportunity.

## **2.3 Methods**

### **2.3.1 Measuring inequality of opportunity in education**

To measure the educational inequality of opportunity, we seek to build upon Roemer’s utilitarian principle, according to which inequality between individuals determined by different degrees of *effort* is fair (Donni and Pignataro, 2014). We thus pursue the ex-ante approach that considers inequality of

opportunity as a *between-type* inequality<sup>1</sup>. For the main educational outcome variable we focus on educational attainment, which is completed years of schooling defined by the last grade the individual achieved in order to avoid measurement error (i.e. the same real year of schooling could reflect different educational levels).

Following Bourguignon et al. (2007) and Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014), we apply a parametric methodology to construct our aggregate indices of the inequality of opportunity in education (measured by the educational attainment):

$$\hat{\theta}_{IOP} = \frac{Var(C_i, \hat{\beta})}{Var(Y_i)}, \quad (2.1)$$

which is simply the R-squared of an Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression of the individual's educational achievement ( $y$ ) on a vector  $C$  of individual *circumstances*.

As argued in Dardanoni et al. (2005), the exact content of these *circumstances* is a contentious issue which is largely related to the outcome the research is focused on. For example, one can reasonably assume to have one set of *circumstances* defining *types* when examining inequality of opportunity for educational attainments (where parental wealth and education may play a central role) and another set when the outcome variable is represented by earnings or other labor market achievements (where gender becomes a key variable).

Among the pre-determined *circumstances* available, we therefore stick to variables that were also proposed in the precedent literature, ones that are truly "pre-determined" and exogenous and have a small rate of missing values to keep the attrition rate low. Those are parental education, represented by mother and father educational attainments, sex, rural or urban residence and dummies of household wealth such as ownership of the house, other buildings, farm land, livestock, vehicles, household appliances, savings, receivables, jewelry, furniture, electricity, television and other assets. Contrary to Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014), we do not include access to books as this variable might actually be endogenous, i.e. parents observing efforts and school achievements of their kids might motivate them to buy more books and learning tools to satisfy the increasing needs of their keenest children.

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<sup>1</sup>The ex-ante approach is well represented in the related empirical literature and has been adopted by Bourguignon et al. (2007); Checchi and Peragine (2010); Ferreira and Gignoux (2011, 2014), Li Donni et al. (2014).

It is important to note that since all the variables included in this analysis are not all of the possible pre-determined *circumstances*, the R-squared should be interpreted as the lower bound of educational inequality of opportunity<sup>2</sup>.

Further, we do not include age as one of the explanatory variables of educational attainments. We argue that regardless of whether age is truly exogenous and pre-determined, it makes very little sense to consider it as a *circumstance* that may drive inequality of opportunity<sup>3</sup>. In our approach we thus consider the adjusted educational attainment as the main dependent variable which results from the residual obtained from two sets of zero-truncated Poisson regressions of educational attainment against age, runned separately for two cohorts of individuals. By doing this, we make sure that the effect of age is somewhat controlled for and avoid the risk of obtaining a blurred measure of inequality of opportunity.

Excluding the constant, equation 2.2 proceeds the extraction of educational attainment from age that yields the residual part  $Y$  as the age-adjusted educational attainment for each cohort, where subscriptions index  $i$  and  $t$  represent individual and time consecutively<sup>4</sup>.

$$\text{Educational attainment}_{it} = \text{Age}_{it} + Y_{it} \quad (2.2)$$

Primary education in Indonesia normally starts at the age of 6 and the adequate supply of primary schools implies that 6-10 years old have a similar level of opportunity in education. Consequently, we define our youngest cohort as 11-14 years old and the next cohort as 15-18 years old<sup>5</sup>.

After having obtained our aggregate indices of inequality of opportunity for all the Indonesian provinces sampled in IFLS for the three different time periods (i.e. 1997, 2000 and 2007), we are able to analyze time trends and differences among provinces in inequality of opportunity of education.

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<sup>2</sup>A formal proof is provided in Ferreira and Gignoux (2011). In practise, it is also crucial to check the adjusted R-squared when selecting the circumstances. The arbitrarily large disparity between R-squared and adjusted R-squared indicates that some of the explanatory variables do not significantly explain the outcomes.

<sup>3</sup>and when the outcome is educational attainment, the inclusion of age as one of the regressors in OLS will considerably inflate the R-squared.

<sup>4</sup>We argue that while the residuals are indeed generated from a Poisson model, it is sensible to flexibly make a further assumption in the second stage regression that age-adjusted educational attainment is normally distributed as the residuals from the first stage regression have no longer count nature as well as they could possess negative values.

<sup>5</sup>Basic descriptive statistics are reported in Table B1 in the Appendix.



Lastly, by applying the Shapley value method (Shorrocks, 1999, 2013), we can decompose our index of educational inequality of opportunity and find the contribution of each of the *circumstances*<sup>6</sup>.

### 2.3.2 Measuring the effect of individual circumstances

While the R-squared is able to measure the extent to which educational opportunities are distributed among a given groups at the aggregate level, there is one important question left. To what extent do we, as the researchers, use this measure Ferrerira and Gignoux (2014) have shown that the R-squared of pre-determined *circumstances* explaining PISA score in each country is significantly associated with two educational policy variables. While the approach is definitely promising, it has the drawback that this aggregate measure cannot explain the effect of inequality of opportunity on the individual level. Instead, it might be of crucial importance to explain if and how the “burden” of unequal opportunities in education carried by each person will affect her future life achievements, such as the educational attainment, wage, occupation, income, productivity or non-cognitive ability to name a few. We therefore rely on the longitudinal dimension of the dataset and find an alternative measure that is able to capture the inequality of opportunity in that sense.

We focus our attention on the fitted values of a regression model that are comparable to the R-squared to grasp the idea of the inequality of opportunity at the individual level. In a simple linear regression setting where the dependent variable is the adjusted years of education observed for individual  $i$  at time  $t$  in each cohort and a vector of circumstances  $X$  such as<sup>7</sup>:

$$Y_{it} = \alpha + \beta X_{itc} + \delta_2 Z_2 + \dots + \delta_n Z_n + \gamma_t + \mu_{it} \quad (2.3)$$

and  $E(\mu_{it}) = 0$ , the fitted values of each individual  $i, i = 1, \dots, n$  at time  $t, t = 1, \dots, T$  for each cohort  $c$  excluding the common constant and time effect as well as individual effects are simply given by:

$$\hat{Y}_{it} = \hat{\beta} X_{it} \quad (2.4)$$

<sup>6</sup>In the Shapley decomposition, the contribution of each factor is determined as average marginal contribution taken over all possible ways in which factors may be removed in sequence.

<sup>7</sup>For clarification,  $Y_{it}$  in eq.2.3 is an estimated  $Y_{it}$  in Eq. 2.2.

The R-squared of this model informs us of the extent to which the variation of  $X$  explains the variation in  $Y$  for all individuals  $i$  over time. The fitted value  $\hat{Y}_{it}$  explains, alternatively, the predicted value for response variable  $Y$  of individual  $i$  at time  $t$  that is specifically influenced by the  $X$  circumstances experienced by individual  $i$  at time  $t$ , with  $\hat{\beta}$  governing the average magnitude of the relationship over time and across individuals.

The interpretation of this measure is quite straightforward. Fitted values are the part of individual educational attainment that is explained by individual pre-determined circumstances. Fitted values also contain constant and the estimated parameter. But they are fixed terms so the distance between two observations remains proportional and the distribution rank of the fitted values does not change.

The higher value of pre-determined *circumstances* in the model, hence the higher the fitted values  $\hat{Y}$ , the stronger the effect of pre-determined *circumstances* as the source of inequality of opportunity at the individual level, contributes to the years of education. This one-to-one relationship is more understandable when the fitted values are tailored to the standardized range [0,100]. Standardized fitted values zero represent the individuals with the lowest effect of pre-determined *circumstances*, while the largest values map the ones with the highest effect of pre-determined *circumstances*<sup>8</sup>.

Furthermore, equation 2.3 can be seen as a two-way fixed-effects regression by replacing individual dummies  $Z$  with individual time invariant effect  $\varepsilon_i$  for a more compact estimation procedure, such that

$$Y_{it} = \alpha + \beta X_{itc} + \gamma_t + \varepsilon_i + \mu_{it} \quad (2.5)$$

The two-way fixed-effect estimator of equation 2.5 is defined based on

$$(Y_{it} - \bar{Y}_i) = \beta(X_{it} - \bar{X}_i) + (\gamma_t - \bar{\gamma}) + (\mu_{it} - \bar{\mu}_i) \quad (2.6)$$

<sup>8</sup>Concerning the importance of explanatory variables, it is crucial to note that unlike R-squared, fitted values cannot be adjusted. Instead, it purely relies on the coefficients of pre-determined *circumstances*. If  $\hat{\beta}$  is large, fitted values will be large too. If  $\hat{\beta}$  is close to zero or practically insignificant, it translates into the fitted values as a very small number. This measure will potentially suffer from imprecision if  $\hat{\beta}$  is large but the standard error is also large that makes it statistically insignificant. Therefore, we need to keep an eye on the statistical assessment of individual coefficients such as t-test and VIF before making decision to move forward using fitted values, or even to refine the model until the empirical assessments are more convincing. Another issue with fitted values is related to the modelling strategy. Ordinary least square that implicitly assumes normal distribution naturally produces unrestricted fitted values. However, in many cases educational outcomes are bounded and particularly for educational attainment it should have the lowest value zero. Negative fitted values, when this is the case, will violate the nature of schooling. Therefore, generally speaking it is very important to investigate if the fitted values go beyond their innate boundaries and when it is there, one may have to look at various strategies to overcome this issue prior further analysis.

that removes time invariant variables<sup>9</sup>. The coefficient estimates and standard errors of equation 2.3 and equation 2.5 ( as well as equation 2.6) are identical<sup>10</sup>. Nevertheless, in equation 2.5 and 2.6 the estimates have a stronger causal interpretation, such that for each individual  $i$ , the predicted values are translated as the joint influence of pre-determined *circumstances* deviation at time point  $t$  from its mean on the deviation of educational attainment at time point  $t$  from its mean<sup>11</sup>. This interpretation employs within variation to solidify the effect of *circumstances* in time  $t$  relative to the ones at every time point via an averaging procedure. This method privilege is not found for models with cross-sectional information or longitudinal data sets with pooled approaches.

As for the term time dimension deviation from its mean ( $\gamma_t - \bar{\gamma}$ ) in equation 2.5, it exists for each predicted value. Therefore, this does not affect the within variation attached to index of *circumstances* deviation<sup>12</sup>.

Moreover, we exploit the assumption that in the individual fixed effect model, as specified in equation 2.5,  $\varepsilon_i$  is the zero-mean time-invariant part of the error term. We interpret this part as an upper-bound estimate of the fixed element of *unobserved effort* or innate ability . The possibility that *effort* or innate ability varies over time so that it has a time-variant element is an interesting case, yet beyond the scope of the study. We encourage the readers to peruse this topic.

### 2.3.3 Assessing the long-term effect of the circumstances

Once equation 2.5 is estimated to extract the individual indexes of the effect of *circumstances* deviation for each time point  $t$  ( $\Delta \hat{Y}_t$ ) –also referred to as the individual index of effect of *circumstances* - and of innate ability ( $\hat{\varepsilon}_i$ ), we turn to the third-stage of our analysis. This stage will focus on the cohorts of students who stopped school by the time the last survey was taken (i.e. 2007) and use these measures to explain long-term educational and earning outcomes. The purpose of this stage is mainly to assess whether and to what extent the educational gains obtained during

<sup>9</sup>Some source of complete derivation is i.e. by Allison (2009).

<sup>10</sup>Clustered standard errors.

<sup>11</sup>The deviation implies the magnitude of pre-determined *circumstances* affecting the outcomes, i.e. the small deviation of  $X$  from its mean at time  $t$  leads to a small impact on the deviation of  $Y$  from its mean at time  $t$ . In addition, deviation has two directions, negative and positive. Pursuing pre-determined circumstances that affect the outcomes direction might utilize this approach.

<sup>12</sup>It is important to notice, however, that STATA routine for estimating the fixed-effect through xtreg,fe command has a bit different method to produce the predicted values in order to introduce back the constant. Under the constraint that  $\bar{\varepsilon} = 0$ , the fixed-effects model reformulation from Gould (2013) is modified into two-way fixed-effect version so that for each cohort  $(Y_{it} - \bar{Y}_i - \bar{Y}) = \alpha + \beta(X_{it} - \bar{X}_i - \bar{X}) + \gamma_t + (\mu_{it} - \bar{\mu}_i - \bar{\mu})$ . The reformulation does not affect the within variation of index of *circumstances* since the additional terms do not contain individual subscript  $i$ .

school-age through the beneficial effect of circumstances persist over time and contribute to long term achievements such as educational attainment at the last survey period in 2007, enrolment in tertiary education and wage earned as young adults.

These long term effects for each cohort are obtained from the following three sets of regressions (we ignore the constant and error terms for simplification):

$$\text{Completed years of education}_{i,2007} = \theta^E (\widehat{Y_{i,2007}} - \bar{Y}_i) + \tau^E \hat{\varepsilon}_i \quad (2.7)$$

which are estimated with a zero truncated Poisson model by maximum likelihood estimation;

$$\text{Enrollment in university}_{i,2007} = \theta^U (\widehat{Y_{i,2007}} - \bar{Y}_i) + \tau^U \hat{\varepsilon}_i \quad (2.8)$$

where the dependent variable is a dummy which equals 1 if the individual is enrolled in university and the effects are estimated with a maximum likelihood probit model;

$$\text{Log wage per day}_{i,2007} = \theta^W (\widehat{Y_{i,2007}} - \bar{Y}_i) + \tau^W \hat{\varepsilon}_i \quad (2.9)$$

that is estimated with a Heckman selection model where selection is predicted by using age, years of education, and dummies for female gender, being married, and for enrolment in university.

Equation 2.7, 2.8 and 2.9 work with two different sets of sample, observation in 1997 and observation in 2000. Hence, the average outcome over time  $\bar{Y}_i$  depends on when the observation entered the survey. More specifically, for  $t = 1997$  the outcome average  $\bar{Y}_i$  is estimated over the time period 1997, 2000 and 2007. While for  $t = 2000$ ,  $\bar{Y}_i$  is from the time period 2000 and 2007.

We lastly consider the relationship between inequality of opportunity and educational budgeting policy. In doing so, we aim to see whether allocating more resources to the education sector had any effect on the equalization of opportunities among students and thus therefore mitigated the influence of circumstances on individual educational achievements.

We therefore model our indexes of the effect of circumstances as a function of lagged educational budget spending and the lagged values of the dependent variable. Our regression of interest for each cohort takes the following form:

$$\Delta \hat{Y}_{i,p,t} = \varphi + \theta \Delta \hat{Y}_{i,p,t-s} + \delta \text{budget}_{p,t-x} + \gamma_t + v_{i,p,t} \quad (2.10)$$

where  $\Delta \hat{Y}_{i,p,t}$  is the individual index of the effect of circumstances measured in time t for individual i, living in province p;  $\Delta \hat{Y}_{i,p,t-s}$  is the lagged value of the index as measured in the previous survey available,  $\text{budget}_{p,t-x}$  is the share of the budget devoted to education in province p at time t-x, where x is two, three or five years depending on whether the dependent variable is observed in 1997, 2000 or 2007 and  $\gamma_t$  are the time fixed effects,  $v_{i,p,t}$  is the idiosyncratic error term with zero expectation.

There is a concern that the standard errors in equation 2.7, 2.8, 2.9 and 2.10 are downward biased. In the second stage analysis, the age adjusted attainment is an estimated variable from the first stage analysis and the estimation excludes this kind of uncertainty. The complication of parametric inference consequently gets bigger in the third stage analysis. We thus rely on bootstrapping to estimate the final standard errors. In this fashion, the implicit assumption is that the sets of observations are independently and identically distributed. We expect that this assumption holds true, as we have included the sampling weights in the first stage analysis to correct for the probability of being selected into the survey.

## 2.4 Data and Descriptive Analysis

### 2.4.1 Data

Our main data comes from the 1997, 2000 and 2007 waves of the Indonesia Family Life Survey (IFLS) which is a longitudinal individual and household survey data conducted in 13 Indonesian provinces spread out in the islands of Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, Bali and West Nusa Tenggara.

There are interesting features in the IFLS which make this data particularly suited to our research needs. First, the data featuresis featured by high recontact rates (Frankenberg and Thomas 2000) that contribute significantly to data quality by lowering the bias due to non-random attrition. Second, in addition to the information on theto basic demographic and socio-economic characteristics of all the household's members, the IFLS collected detailed information on various educational aspects (e.g., current schooling grade; age at which the child first enrolled at school; number of correct

answers given in a cognitive test) as well as on earnings which are necessary to analyze inequality of opportunity in educational outcomes and intergenerational mobility.

To scrutinize the educational budget policy, we extracted lagged annual provincial revenue data (“Anggaran Pendapatan dan Belanja Daerah”-APBD) from The Indonesian Ministry of Finance (Ministry of Finance - Government of Indonesia, 1997-2007, 2007)<sup>13</sup>. The data are available for public, but the formats are different. Data for 1994/1995 and 1996/1997 combine the budget of education, youth, sport and faith under the same umbrella, while data in 2002 has specific section for educational budget. Even though the correlation established for 2007 and other waves are not head-to-head comparable, they still give some benefits regarding the general description of the relationship between educational policies and educational inequality of opportunity.

#### 2.4.2 Levels and trends of inequality of opportunity in education in Indonesia

Table 2.1 shows our estimates of the inequality of educational opportunity, measured as the R-squared of a set of several regressions run separately for each province, year and cohort.

On average these figures suggests that pre-determined *circumstances* account for a relatively low portion of the total variance of attainment, yet but there are remarkable differences among provinces as well as, between cohorts and over time.

We see that –in most of the cases- the inequality of opportunity measure seems to be relatively higher for the oldest cohorts, a finding, this one, which goes against our initial expectations. This is due to the fact that one would reasonably assume that while young kids are very much dependent on their family choices, as a person gets older, his achievements and choices tend to be less “dependent” on her parents’ choices.

It can also be observed, however, that inequality of opportunity has decreased in almost all the Indonesian provinces analyzed in this paper. Some notable exceptions are South Sumatra, where the portion of overall inequality in educational attainments, accounted for by inherited *circumstances*, grew for the older cohort from 27% in 1997 to 44% in 2007 or in South Kalimantan, where, for the youngest cohort it shows an increase of almost 50 percentage points.

In Table 2.2 we report the decomposition of inequality of opportunity into partial shares by individual *circumstances*. These estimates, which are based on the cross sectional dataset from 1997,

<sup>13</sup>The provincial revenue in our model is not the budget dedicated for province administration. Instead, we use the sum of district revenues in each province, as the development budget is concentrated at the district level, particularly after decentralization.

suggest that mother's and father's education are associated with the largest share of inequality in educational achievements. In some provinces, however, the relative contribution of inherited wealth status measured by ownership of the house and of several assets is particularly prominent. This is for the example the case of Central Java, where ownership of the house and TV counts relatively much more than parental education, as together they account for almost 40 percentage points of the overall share of explained inequality of opportunity in the oldest cohort. Another interesting example is Lampung, where ownership of farm land accounts for about 21 percentage points of overall inequality in the cohort 11-14 years.

### **2.4.3 Educational mobility and the role of pre-determined circumstances in driving educational achievements**

This section aims at examining the influence of pre-determined *circumstances* in the educational attainments of the two cohorts of Indonesian students analyzed here. In this section we get a first glimpse at the extent to which the effect of these circumstances is sticky across generations of the same household.

As a first explorative step we cover adults or individuals who graduated or dropped out since the first period of observation and apply a sequential response model (Maddala, 1983; Mare, 1981) in order to assess the association of pre-determined circumstances with the decision of an individual to continue or to exit school at each level.

More specifically, we use a sequential logit model that considers the sequence of the binary response variable. It allows the explanatory variables to unequally influence the probability of staying in one level or moving on to the next level. Moreover, the probability of being in one level takes into account the probability of being in the previous level. Educational levels fit into this modeling strategy as, in order to graduate from primary school, one needs to be enrolled in primary school. Then the decision to be made is either to stay in that level and never graduate (i.e. drop out/exit) or complete primary school (graduate)<sup>14</sup>.

We therefore exploit the longitudinal dimension of our data by following individuals who either left or graduated from each school level by the last wave of the survey in order to assess the extent

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<sup>14</sup>See Figure B1 reported in the Appendix.

to which pre-determined, inherited *circumstances* (such as the socio-economic status of the family observed in the first wave) affect individual probability to proceed towards further levels of schooling.

Table 2.1: Aggregate index of inequality of educational opportunities

	1997				2000				2007			
	Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18		Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18		Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18	
	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>	Obs.	R <sup>2</sup>
North Sumatera	172	0.237	102	0.171	180	0.279	102	0.244	156	0.218	90	0.205
West Sumatera	120	0.451	75	0.418	117	0.343	77	0.464	65	0.301	50	0.332
South Sumatera	116	0.246	45	0.277	139	0.405	54	0.455	47	0.487	38	0.444
Lampung	99	0.377	36	0.513	108	0.249	45	0.495	76	0.433	40	0.285
DKI Jakarta	179	0.236	130	0.291	137	0.333	127	0.191	88	0.293	48	0.365
West Java	263	0.319	128	0.343	283	0.227	142	0.319	201	0.236	129	0.124
Central Java	230	0.234	122	0.235	221	0.185	121	0.215	147	0.232	113	0.120
DI Yogyakarta	77	0.320	62	0.356	82	0.141	60	0.358	54	0.268	58	0.296
East Java	243	0.151	114	0.268	219	0.314	162	0.255	168	0.247	128	0.223
Bali	100	0.372	53	0.541	94	0.289	58	0.319	79	0.298	64	0.249
West Nusa Tenggara	140	0.241	47	0.436	156	0.213	71	0.358	112	0.297	98	0.123
South Kalimantan	74	0.177	31	0.374	73	0.444	29	0.629	63	0.650	34	0.533
South Sulawesi	104	0.382	39	0.443	98	0.266	46	0.453	90	0.263	58	0.384

We code the sequential steps from entering primary school to entering higher education as an ordinal variable which ranges from 1 (lowest level) to 7 (highest level)<sup>15</sup> and run separate sets of regressions for the two five-years cohorts of individuals sampled. Results are reported in Tables 2.3 and 2.4.

<sup>15</sup>See Table B2 reported in the Appendix.



2 OPPORTUNITIES IN EDUCATION: ARE FACTORS OUTSIDE INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY REALLY PERSISTENT? EVIDENCE FROM INDONESIA 1997-2007

Table 2.2: Decomposing inequality of educational opportunity into individual circumstances share

	Total	Gender	Mother's Education	Father's Education	Rural	TV	House	Farm Land	Household Appliances	Electricity
<b>PANEL A: Cohort 11-14</b>										
North Sumatra	0.150	0.002	0.053	0.042	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.016	0.014	0.002
West Sumatra	0.379	0.049	0.072	0.019	0.025	0.054	0.004	0.032	0.066	0.034
South Sumatra	0.202	0.004	0.043	0.087	0.013	0.009	0.013	0.017	0.014	0.008
Lampung	0.330	0.011	0.044	0.038	0.103	0.006	0.017	0.067	0.019	0.022
Jakarta	0.157	0.003	0.064	0.061	-	0.008	0.011	0.002	0.003	0.004
West Java	0.284	0.003	0.057	0.117	0.052	0.022	0.001	0.011	0.022	0.001
Central Java	0.239	0.025	0.054	0.063	0.022	0.032	0.008	0.002	0.031	0.003
Yogyakarta	0.275	0.037	0.075	0.102	0.001	0.046	0.004	0.003	0.005	0.026
East Java	0.146	0.023	0.027	0.029	0.011	0.019	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.035
Bali	0.315	0.012	0.091	0.073	0.003	0.081	0.007	0.009	0.012	0.016
W. Nusa Tenggara	0.189	0.007	0.057	0.050	0.001	-0.023	0.008	0.001	0.015	0.028
South Kalimantan	0.072	0.002	0.005	0.024	0.002	0.015	0.001	0.007	0.006	0.002
South Sulawesi	0.315	0.043	0.051	0.117	0.003	0.016	0.005	0.010	0.061	0.010
<b>PANEL B: Cohort 15-18</b>										
North Sumatra	0.102	0.000	0.038	0.024	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.005	0.017	0.012
West Sumatra	0.279	0.030	0.091	0.012	0.046	0.009	0.004	0.008	0.032	0.024
South Sumatra	0.250	0.030	0.121	0.032	0.013	0.024	0.002	0.005	0.011	0.006
Lampung	0.449	0.004	0.229	0.031	0.057	0.047	-	0.027	0.013	0.026
Jakarta	0.236	0.038	0.054	0.080	-	0.011	0.050	0.002	-	-
West Java	0.240	0.006	0.084	0.082	0.022	0.011	0.001	0.009	0.006	0.014
Central Java	0.130	0.019	0.011	0.005	0.017	0.035	0.017	0.001	0.003	0.009
Yogyakarta	0.228	0.004	0.018	0.063	0.003	0.001	0.033	0.001	0.004	0.040
East Java	0.300	0.021	0.044	0.044	0.021	0.101	0.001	0.010	0.020	0.029
Bali	0.360	0.018	0.119	0.062	0.059	0.041	0.011	0.001	0.047	-
W. Nusa Tenggara	0.280	0.009	0.011	0.027	0.019	0.011	0.033	0.052	0.006	0.106
South Kalimantan	0.306	0.017	0.021	0.003	0.107	0.016	0.003	0.005	0.008	0.028
South Sulawesi	0.332	0.043	0.030	0.048	0.016	0.077	0.027	0.022	0.008	0.004

Note: Based on cross-sectional data from IFLS 1997.

Table 2.3: Sequential Logit model for educational levels. Results for cohort 11-14

	1 vs 2-7	2 vs 3-7	3 vs 4-7	4 vs 5-7	5 vs 6-7	6 vs 7
Father's Educ.	0.248 (3.13)	0.097 (2.14)	0.155 (1.59)	0.126 (3.25)	-0.111 (1.13)	0.187 (3.00)
Mother's Educ.	0.061 (0.74)	0.180 (3.53)	0.018 (0.16)	0.162 (3.49)	0.185 (2.00)	0.141 (2.32)
Female	-0.212 (0.59)	-0.039 (0.15)	1.088 (2.25)	-0.223 (0.95)	-0.108 (0.22)	0.456 (1.61)
Rural	0.174 (0.36)	-0.021 (0.07)	0.127 (0.25)	-0.949 (3.41)	0.799 (1.22)	-0.316 (0.88)
TV	0.311 (0.65)	0.486 (1.51)	0.206 (0.39)	0.679 (2.29)	1.260 (1.80)	-0.766 (1.44)
House	1.032 (1.81)	-0.153 (0.28)	1.562 (2.31)	-0.066 (0.15)	-0.263 (0.35)	0.967 (2.29)
Other buildings	0.936 (1.13)	0.466 (0.75)	2.045 (1.97)	0.687 (1.61)	1.545 (1.34)	0.368 (0.94)
Farm Land	0.180 (0.49)	0.709 (2.42)	0.031 (0.07)	-0.125 (0.51)	0.190 (0.29)	0.687 (2.29)
Livestock	0.445 (1.19)	-0.563 (2.21)	-0.440 (0.90)	-0.113 (0.47)	-0.033 (0.05)	-0.846 (2.49)
Vehicles	1.057 (2.80)	0.781 (3.02)	0.584 (1.35)	0.023 (0.10)	0.293 (0.49)	0.120 (0.35)
HH Appliances	0.112 (0.24)	0.980 (2.77)	0.103 (0.15)	-0.344 (0.87)	-2.720 (2.37)	1.020 (1.32)
Receivables	-0.003 (0.01)	-0.545 (1.33)	0.962 (1.15)	0.007 (0.02)	1.352 (1.09)	-0.701 (1.44)
Jewelry	0.541 (1.45)	0.080 (0.30)	-0.386 (0.86)	0.576 (2.38)	1.376 (2.45)	0.188 (0.61)
Electricity	0.493 (1.17)	-0.110 (0.32)	1.072 (1.75)	-0.038 (0.10)	0.253 (0.24)	0.912 (1.04)
Age	0.134 (1.28)	-0.126 (1.38)	0.280 (1.51)	-0.126 (1.50)	-0.032 (0.17)	0.451 (4.07)
Constant	-3.991 (1.69)	2.310 (1.11)	-6.938 (1.62)	2.655 (1.42)	4.016 (0.97)	-16.441 (5.82)
Observations	812					

Note: Sample is delimited to individuals who stopped schooling by 2007 or graduated from senior high school by 2007. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. The estimation includes age as the control variable and sampling weight. Education levels are enter Primary School (1), graduate Primary School (2), enter Junior High School (3), graduate Junior High School (4), enter Senior High School (5), graduate Senior High School (6), enter higher education (7). Stata module for sequential logit model is seqlogit (Buis, 2007).

Our findings show that parental education positively influences school survival across most of the levels of education. Among both cohorts of students, we observe that maternal education positively affects the probability of being enrolled in senior high school and, for the oldest cohort, it is also significantly associated (and with a relatively larger coefficient) with higher odds of proceeding towards higher levels of education after graduation from high school.

Father's education instead seems to positively affect the probability of both generations graduating from primary school. It can be observed that the magnitude of these probabilities is always larger for the youngest generations, which may imply that the importance of such a *circumstance* in driving

educational choices has grown over time.

Table 2.4: Sequential Logit model for educational levels. Results for cohort 15-18

	1 vs 2-7	2 vs 3-7	3 vs 4-7	4 vs 5-7	5 vs 6-7	6 vs 7
Father's Educ.	-0.009 (0.12)	0.179 (3.03)	-0.129 (0.72)	0.125 (2.40)	-0.128 (1.23)	0.114 (2.06)
Mother's Educ.	0.286 (3.12)	0.137 (2.13)	0.273 (1.35)	0.163 (2.58)	0.032 (0.30)	0.186 (3.39)
Female	-0.203 (0.47)	0.134 (0.43)	0.461 (0.53)	0.307 (0.97)	1.814 (1.65)	0.587 (1.93)
Rural	0.290 (0.50)	0.020 (0.05)	-1.914 (2.44)	-0.706 (1.93)	-0.314 (0.42)	0.469 (1.33)
TV	0.328 (0.65)	0.615 (1.70)	0.308 (0.38)	1.396 (3.73)	2.325 (3.32)	0.288 (0.58)
Farm Land	0.632 (1.30)	0.103 (0.29)	1.224 (1.36)	0.410 (1.07)	0.391 (0.39)	-0.003 (0.01)
Livestock	-0.524 (1.05)	-0.024 (0.08)	-0.565 (0.64)	-0.679 (1.94)	0.252 (0.27)	-1.226 (3.58)
Vehicles	-0.016 (0.03)	0.755 (2.55)	0.341 (0.43)	-0.473 (1.30)	0.492 (0.61)	0.853 (2.24)
HH Appliances	0.893 (1.81)	0.236 (0.58)	-1.269 (0.99)	0.267 (0.58)	-0.134 (0.11)	0.885 (0.83)
Jewelry	0.751 (1.71)	0.118 (0.38)	2.440 (2.47)	0.497 (1.52)	-2.036 (1.72)	-0.371 (1.01)
Age	-0.165 (1.18)	-0.208 (2.30)	-0.260 (0.87)	0.036 (0.30)	0.016 (0.06)	0.290 (2.43)
Constant	4.985 (1.26)	4.705 (1.95)	11.217 (1.36)	-1.919 (0.61)	3.053 (0.43)	-12.006 (3.66)
Observations	512					

Note: Sample is delimited to individuals who stopped schooling by 2007 or graduated from senior high school by 2007. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. The estimation includes age as the control variable and sampling weight. Education levels are enter Primary School (1), graduate Primary School (2), enter Junior High School (3), graduate Junior High School (4), enter Senior High School (5), graduate Senior High School (6), enter higher education (7). Stata module for sequential logit model is seqlogit (Buis, 2007).

Moreover, we can observe the presence of a gender gap (in favour of girls) in higher education levels. However, it also seems that the gap has been closing for the youngest generation, as the difference has lost statistical significance and in the case of the probability of enrolling in tertiary education, its magnitude has shrunk.

## 2.5 Findings

### 2.5.1 Persistence of unequal educational opportunities

We now turn to the inferential part of our analysis. It aims at unravelling the consequences of

unequal opportunities in education because of exogenous pre-determined circumstances has on a person's future life outcomes.

Considering the distribution of young students' rewards according to *efforts* and *circumstances* is a very meaningful exercise in that it can tell how large a role pre-determined *circumstances* play in influencing schooling opportunities ( given the limited responsibility of children that might have been tolerated in the past) that persist over the individual life's course.

By doing this, we can also get a clearer picture of the persistence or "stickiness" of the effects of inherited *circumstances* and therefore their repercussions for intergenerational mobility. In particular, we look at the effects in terms of future education achievement and of earnings on four different cohorts of students ranging from the oldest ones, aged 15-18 in 1997 and aged 15-18 in 2000, to the youngest ones, aged 11-14 in 1997 and aged 11-14 in 2000.

Panel A in Table 2.5 shows the results for the effects that inequality of educational opportunity experienced in the past has on future school achievements (i.e. on the highest grade completed in 2007).

As discussed in Section 2.3, we measure the deviation of pre-determined circumstances in 2007 from its average over the periods of observation by the fitted values of the educational achievement equation and, for the sake of interpretation, we normalize these fitted values in order to get an index which goes from 0 to 100. The larger the value of this index, the stronger effect from the latest circumstances on educational achievement relatively compared to those from the previous circumstances, within each individual.

Table 2.5: Persistence in inequality of opportunity and future educational achievements

Panel A	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dep. Var.:	Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18	
Final Years of Education	2000	1997	2000	1997
Effect of Circumstances	0.014 (49.09)	0.006 (32.97)	0.002 (14.35)	0.002 (11.06)
Innate Ability	0.022 (50.48)	0.018 (44.64)	0.008 (21.47)	0.013 (26.84)
Panel B				
Dep. Var.:	Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18	
Tertiary Education				
Effect of Circumstances	0.044 (2.38)	0.030 (4.34)	0.002 (0.37)	0.005 (1.06)
Innate Ability	0.065 (2.18)	0.008 (4.52)	0.038 (3.18)	0.048 (2.49)

Note: T ratios in parentheses. Circumstances and Innate Ability are measured respectively by the normalized fitted values and the time-invariant residual obtained from panel, fixed effects estimation. Col 1 and 3: Samples are students from cohorts 11-14 and 15-18 years old in 2000 who stopped schooling by 2007. Panel A: Obs.: 1188 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 600 (cohort 15-18). Panel B: Obs.: 394 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 312 (cohort 15-18). Col 2 and 4: Samples are students from cohorts 11-14 and 15-18 years old in 1997 who stopped schooling by 2007. Panel A: Obs.: 986 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 408 (cohort 15-18). Panel B: Obs.: 367 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 193 (cohort 15-18).

As these results suggest a significant cumulated and persistent effect of pre-determined *circumstances* seems to exist. The more educational opportunities that are granted to a person based on her inherited *circumstances*, the larger her educational reward in the near future will be.

The coefficient on the effect of *circumstances* index indicates the difference between observation with the lowest support of pre-determined *circumstances* during the last period compared to those of the earlier periods (the standardized index of fitted values is 0) and the observations with the highest ones (the standardized index of fitted values is 100) ranges from around 1.4 years for youngest cohort aged 11-14 in 2000 to around 0.2 years for the oldest cohort (aged 15-18 in 1997).

One possible interpretation of the difference in the magnitude of the effect between the youngest

cohorts 11-14 and the oldest cohort 15-18 is related to the fact that, due to their young age and therefore lower maturity, young adolescents depend much more on the choices made by their parents. Nevertheless, when comparing the coefficients for the youngest cohort measured in 2000 and the one in the same age-range measured in 1997, our results also show that the current influence of *circumstances* is stronger for the youngest generations, possibly implying that the distribution of educational opportunities have become more concentrated over time.

On the other hand, for each of the cohorts under investigations the role of innate ability is relatively larger than the power of *circumstances* and -when comparing the effect of the two youngest cohorts- it has also grown over time.

Moreover, when considering the results in Panel B on the probability of enrolling in tertiary education, we see that the indirect effect of current *circumstances* via education achievements is not at all statistically significant for the two oldest cohorts. Conversely, among the youngest generations we observe a positive and significant independent effect. Nevertheless, the effect of innate ability is not only larger, but -as implied by the difference in the coefficients- has also grown relatively faster than the effect of *circumstances*.

When looking at the results obtained from a simple Heckman model estimating the association between earnings and the effect of *circumstances* index (see Table 2.6), one can also see that there is a close and positive relationship between the role that latest *circumstances* played in the allocation of educational rewards during adolescence and future earnings perspectives.

Table 2.6: Persistence in inequality of opportunity. Wage equations.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Cohort 11-14	Cohort 11-14	Cohort 15-18	Cohort 15-18
	2000	1997	2000	1997
<b>Effect of Circumstances</b>	0.004 (0.23)	0.011 (2.07)	0.007 (1.45)	0.004 (1.19)
<b>Innate Ability</b>	0.013 (0.60)	0.023 (2.06)	0.017 (1.54)	0.037 (2.32)

Note: T ratios in parentheses. MLE estimation with bootstrapped standard errors. Dep. Var. is log wage per day in 2007. Variables included: years of education in 2007, age in 2007, sex, married, tertiary education, wealth index.

Circumstances and Innate Ability are measured respectively by the normalized fitted values and the time-invariant residual obtained from panel, fixed effects estimation.

Col 1 and 3: Samples are students from cohorts 11-14 and 15-18 years old in 1997 who stopped schooling by 2007. Obs.: 639. Cens. Obs.: 329 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 245. Cens. Obs.: 101 (cohort 15-18).

Col 2 and 4: Samples are students from cohorts 11-14 and 15-18 years old in 2000 who stopped schooling by 2007. Obs.: 684. Cens. Obs.: 404 (cohort 11-14). Obs.: 377. Cens. Obs.: 168 (cohort 15-18).

However, we see that in most of the cases the effect of current *circumstances* is not statistically different from zero and relatively small in magnitude if compared to the effect of innate ability.

These results –that echo back to our previous results on tertiary education as well as our aggregate figures on inequality of opportunity- imply that in our sample any “unfair” reward mechanisms at school did not tend to persist and were not reflected in future earning perspectives.

## 2.5.2 Educational inequality of opportunity and public policy

Our next research question is whether educational budgeting policy has played a role in evening the allocation of opportunities among the Indonesian students. We have observed that equality of opportunity in education (as measured by the aggregate index at the province level as well as proxied by the individual index of effect of the *circumstances*) has tended to improve slightly over time. Was this improvement associated with an increase in the budget devoted to education?

In order to answer this question, we exploit the panel dimension of our data and estimate a fixed-effects model relating the between-provinces variation in the budget share devoted to the education

sector to the between-province variation in inequality of opportunity, as measured by our effect of *circumstances* indices obtained for the cohorts 11-14 and 15-18.

The results, which are reported in Table 2.7, show that while one of the oldest cohorts has experienced better pro equality policies, there is a more stable, positive and significant relationship between inequality of opportunity and spending in education when considering the results obtained for the youngest cohort.

These findings may be interpreted as such despite the differences in the way financial resources have been spent over time.

The oldest cohort of students, aged 15-18 in 2000, seems to have benefited extensively from various supply side interventions, targeting especially secondary school (such as the realignment of the education system and the creation of new vocational schools) that were realized in the aftermath of the 1997 crisis. By simply increasing and diversifying the supply of education, these policies created more opportunities for secondary school students to achieve higher education levels. At the same time, the campaign concerning the benefits of studying at vocational schools to increase the demand side has also been actively taking place. Students or households that have no intention of obtaining tertiary education were advised to attend vocational schools, since this schooling type has a lower opportunity cost as the skillful fresh graduates are more ready to enter the job market than the traditional high school graduates.

On the other hand, the effectiveness of the allocation of provincial budgets to primary and junior high schools has been more ambiguous: more resources were devoted to hire a greater number of teachers, assigning each teacher to teach one subject and therefore decreasing the students/teachers ratios. Yet –as remarked in various reports (Suryadarma and Jones, 2013; OECD and Asian Development Bank, 2015) - this mechanism has been highly inefficient, especially for small schools that are mostly located in remote and disadvantaged areas where problems related to teachers' lack of motivation and absenteeism were more frequently observed.



Table 2.7: Inequality of opportunity in education and public policy

Dep. Var.: Effect of Circumstances Index	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Cohort 11-14	Cohort 11-14	Cohort 15-18	Cohort 15-18
	2000	1997	2000	1997
Lag Educational Budget Share	1.33 (11.49)	1.28 (5.23)	-3.35 (5.47)	0.24 (0.39)
Lag Effect of Circumstances Index	-0.36 (3.26)	-0.12 (2.24)	-0.48 (3.83)	-0.14 (2.13)
Time Fixed Effects	yes	yes	yes	yes
Observations	2584	2561	1465	1129
Sample observed in:	2000-2007	1997-2000-2007	2000-2007	1997-2000-2007

Note: The lags for the educational budget share are of two, three and five years depending on whether the dependent variable is observed in 1997, 2000 or 2007. T ratios in parentheses.

## 2.6 Concluding remarks

Educational outcomes are important for achieving a wide array of important personal goals. Having the opportunity of being well educated also has its own intrinsic value, regardless of the effect education can have on other, contemporaneous or future, outcomes. Every person should be able to exert her fundamental right of being educated, but -of course- this does not necessarily imply that everybody should achieve the same level of education. However, according to both ethical and efficiency-related arguments, the only source of inequality in educational achievements should be related to the heterogeneity in effort committed to studying, and not on inherited factors which are simply outside the scope of individual responsibility.

This simple consideration has motivated the present study which contributes to previous literature by, firstly, accruing current knowledge on inequality of educational opportunities in Indonesia, which has experienced remarkably high rates of economic growth as well as reductions in economic poverty. The country stands out when considering average national figures on education by benefiting from massive supply side interventions which boosted school enrolment rates (Duflo, 2001). Yet, despite these gains, there are still two important challenges that the country needs to face: the first one is the increasing trend of income inequality and inequality of opportunity in the health dimension (World

Bank, 2014) and the other one related to large disparities within and between provinces and regions in many quantitative and qualitative indicators of school achievement (World Bank, 2011; OECD and Asian Development Bank, 2015).

Second, we identified the factors (or “*circumstances*”) that account most for overall inequality of educational opportunity and found that parental educational background is one of the most important pre-determined *circumstances* that affect educational inequality of opportunity.

We contribute to previous literature on this field by devising an “individual” index of the effect of *circumstances*, which is given by the fitted values representing the importance that, for each individual, the deviation of current *circumstances* from its average have on her educational achievement. By using this index we were able to show how persistent these *circumstances* are over the individual life’s course and thus how relentless current levels of inequality of opportunities are.

We also observe for the youngest cohorts a positive trend between inequality indices and educational budget share. This evidence may suggest that the increase in the educational budget share has not been efficient and has led to an increase in inequality.

### **3 The Impact Analysis of Fuel Subsidy Reduction Compensation Program on Education in Indonesia: the BKM and the BOS**

#### **Abstract**

In this paper, we evaluate the short run impact of two educational subsidies that were part of the fuel subsidy reduction compensation programs in Indonesia during the 2006/2007 academic year, namely BKM scholarships and BOS out-of-pocket expenses, on education outcomes and household expenditure. These are two different poverty-based targeting transfer programs that have been represented by one single treatment variable in our data source, the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS), thus the clear identification of each program is very important to the disentanglement of the estimated effects. The evaluation becomes complicated because there is an effect of the past scholarship program to be considered, as well as overlapping periods of two interventions and the presence of BOS in the higher hierarchy as the school focused intervention at the same time. Utilizing the combination of several methods, we find that targeting the poor was done inefficiently and that the transfer coverage was too small. In addition, we find that educational attainment increases, on average, by 4 months after one year of intervention for compulsory grades 1-9. This magnitude, however, is an upper bound of the effect of intervention accumulation over time and is most likely coming from the BOS spillover effect. We also observe crowding out household expenditure to anticipate the transfers. Finally, we find a positive relationship between past scholarship programs and educational attainment, which suggests that targeted subsidies also have a long term impact.

Based on a joint work with Stephan Klasen and Inmaculada Martinez-Zarzoso.

### 3.1 Introduction

Monetary interventions on education have been a part of development programs in many countries. They are often a way for the developing countries, which often do not provide adequate resources to struggling households, to send their children to school. Typically, the government is expected to redistribute income through subsidies to poor children so that the lowest stratum of the society also has access to education. An alternative is often a universal subsidy where all children get similar benefits from the intervention.

There is a lot of literature on impact evaluations in education. These studies give us a better understanding of and the areas where interventions had a significant impact on education outcomes and what exactly was done. The mixed evidence suggests, however, that more studies are required to capture more dimensions of the interventions and to provide a clearer picture, including the dynamic relationship between the cash transfer and household expenditure in education.

The motivation of our study in Indonesia is very much related to the spirit above. After the Asian financial crisis in 1997, education subsidies to poor households was introduced to retain school attendance under a big umbrella of *Jaringan Pengaman Sosial* (JPS) program. The JPS scholarship phased out after 5 years and was replaced by *Bantuan Khusus Murid* (BKM), a similar program that targeted poor households. More educational subsidies continued in the following periods, while comprehensive assessments on the impact of the previous programs were not adequate<sup>1</sup>. This hindrance was noticed by Jimenez and Patrinos (2008), who stated that the problems that usually follow the expansion of the intervention stem from a lack of knowledge concerning the subsidies' marginal advantage.

Our contribution to this topic is complementing and expanding the literature on the impact of educational subsidies in Indonesia through identifying the impact sizes and discussing the sources of suboptimal outcomes of the cash transfer program dedicated to education given in the 1996/1997 academic year. The assistance includes BKM scholarship and out-of-pocket expense from BOS grant. We also include limited assessment of the impact of school grant on the outcomes.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 3.2 includes the literature review exploring the empirical evidence on financing education and impact studies, as well as description of the interventions. We

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<sup>1</sup>The existing impact studies for BOS i.e. Sparrow (2007) and Cameron (2009); for JPS, World Bank (2007; 2009), Al-Samarrai et al. (2014).

discuss data and methodology in Section 3.3. Section 3.4 focuses on the results while conclusion and policy implications are given in Section 3.5.

## **3.2 Literature Review**

### **3.2.1 Financing education and impact evaluations at a glance**

Developing countries usually have financial restrictions when they determine the priority budget for development, and to an extent for education. This limitation could be different across countries. The most effective strategy to expand access and improve the quality of education thus depends on the specific profiles of the country. For instance, there has been much debate regarding whether financing education should be the full responsibility of government or if households should have a higher level of participation.

On the one hand, the argument in favor of user fee introduction is reasonable when the supply side is unsatisfied, i.e. there has been years of underinvestment and neglect of the public education system, and user payment is expected to improve the quality of the teaching-learning process. Students are definitely better off with this system when free public education does not exist, but it loses substance when the problem is on the demand side. One example of user fee case is in Chad, where paying the schooling fee was the only option left for the children because high demand existed even from the poorest households, yet it was not accompanied by the supply side. Children would be worse-off if that choice is unavailable (Jenkner and Hillman, 2002). A user fee for compulsory education, however, is similar to a regressive tax. Eventually it burdens the poorest group of the society since the cost of schooling is fixed. Moreover, relying on private financing is not sustainable and will in the end produce higher inequality through a more exclusive schooling system because school fees are a barrier to education (see Kattan and Burnett 2004; World Bank and UNICEF 2009).

On the other hand, arguing that public spending should finance education has more rational grounds, as long as the taxation system is progressive (Jimenez, 1986). It is an effective mean of income distribution that fulfills the equity principle. Additionally, externalities, scale of economics and market imperfection defend public spending reasoning from the efficiency perspective. Hence, intervention through financial subsidies to education is relevant provided that full financing system for education is not an option. In developing countries with suboptimal progressive tax, nevertheless,

equity gets away and it is worse if the spending type is regressive, i.e. university absorbs the largest part of the subsidy. Meanwhile, inefficiency occurs when the resources are misallocated, such as when the wrong students are selected to receive the subsidy or no incentive is provided for the administrators to allocate the subsidy fairly. Inefficiency during the intervention will slower the implementation and eventually degrade the benefits Jimenez and Patrinos (2008). Those barriers make difficult to see the potential impact of the interventions.

Suboptimal outcomes in educational performance given the interventions is not a good news. The policies will be seen as ineffective by political opponents: thus future budgets might move into other areas. Education is a long term investment and unnecessary distraction concerning the financing system should be avoided at all cost. A reliable assessment through a series of impact studies would be beneficial in providing a framework of understanding what needs to be improved.

There has been a lot of impact evaluation research concerning interventions in education. The reviews can be found in the studies from i.e. Glewwe and Muralidharan (2015), Evans and Popova (2015), Conn (2014), Glewwe et al. (2013), Kremer et al. (2013), Krishnaratne et al. (2013), Masino and Niño-Zarazúa (2015), McEwan (2015), Asim et al. (2015), and Murname and Ganimian (2014). The large body of literature suggests mixed findings for the impact of monetary intervention. For instance, providing free education indiscriminately has an overall positive impact on education (Bhalotra et al., 2014). In addition to this, reducing transportation costs from home to school has a positive effect on attendance and attainment (Murname and Ganimian, 2014). Yet, evidence from Malawi and Uganda reveals that universal intervention where fees are abolished and more classrooms are built, shrinks the quality of education (Jenkner and Hillman, 2002).

Interventions can also have an impact on household expenditure. Das (2004) utilizes the maximization approach to evaluate the impact of government subsidies on inequality in educational expenditure. His study from rural Zambia shows that when the cash is allocated with clear guidance and rules, and when the implementation considers the distribution of wealth within and across different schools, the second best approach was successful in reaching the correct schools. However, even when the grant distribution was highly progressive, it failed to act as an equalizing transfer since it crowded out household spending at all levels and the extent of substitution was greatest among the poor. There is also no significant association between the size of the subsidy and the beneficial outcomes. Concerning the learning outcomes, Das et al. (2002) find that cash grants have no impact on learning outcomes.

After learning from other studies, we shift our attention to Indonesia, which after the 1997 Asian financial crisis started paying more attention to education and released several subsidy policies in order to improve human capital even though it was and has been constrained by a tight development budget. Among the various types of interventions, our study has largely focuses on conditional transfers. This is a supply side type of intervention targeting households, as the transfers are conditioned on the households' children attending school. It aims at equity in order to provide free education to the poorest group, even though it does not dismiss the high opportunity cost factor. Another type of intervention included in our study is creating a demand for schooling by improving access and school quality through school grants. This is a universal subsidy that considers the positive externalities of education, in that the whole society is better off when people are educated.

#### **3.2.2 Country context: Indonesia**

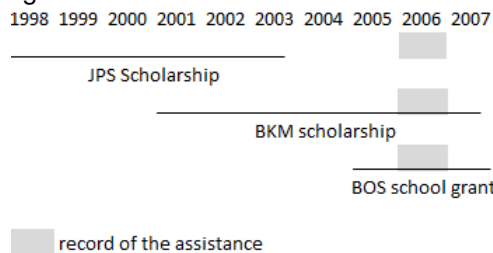
Public education in Indonesia normally charges a user fee, even though it is generally less expensive than those of the private schools. During the Asian financial crisis in 1997, many people suffered from economic turbulence. The *Jaringan Pengaman Sosial* program (JPS) was therefore launched to the population overcome the negative impacts of the crisis that increased the number of poor people quickly. One of the targeted areas was education, where a scholarship program was established to cover the fees of millions of students in order to retain school participation (see Sparrow 2007 and Cameron 2009 for the impact studies). The program, however, ended after five years and was completely replaced by a similar type of program with a simplified delivery system called *Bantuan Khusus Murid* (BKM) that started in 2001 following the initial increase of fuel domestic price.

Four years later, another subsidy program at the school level, named *Bantuan Operasional Sekolah* (BOS) as the part of the second fuel subsidy reduction compensation program, was introduced. How large the marginal impact of those interventions was remains unclear when the next subsidies were released<sup>2</sup>. In order to complement other studies, we contribute to this part of literature by evaluating the impact of both programs on education outcomes and household spending on education. Our interest is specifically on the impact of cash transfers on households, yet the impact of grant to school is provided as comparison and to test its spillover effects. We also discuss the possible source of suboptimal outcomes and how they could be improved.

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<sup>2</sup>Such as *Bantuan Siswa Miskin* (BSM), *Beasiswa Bidik Misi*, *Kartu Indonesia Pintar* (KIP).

Figure 3.1: Timeline of education subsidies



The timeline of the educational assistance program is presented in Figure 3.1, showing the three programs that overlap each other. This fact is both an important feature as well as a critical barrier of this study, since a clear identification is required to measure the marginal effect of the concerned programs. The next sections investigate the backgrounds of the BKM and the BOS programs. We also explain how to cover the JPS scholarship, which is not the target of this study but acts as the confounding, in the methodology section.

### The BKM

The reduction of fuel subsidies in 2001 was the main motivation behind launching the scholarship programs BKM or Students Special Assistance, which was the complement of the JPS scholarship whose purpose was to extend the coverage of financing basic and secondary education. Fuel subsidy reductions trigger volatility of the basic food prices and erodes household expenditure. Poor households most likely dealt with the situation by reducing non-basic expenditures to survive, including decreasing their the investment in education. Hence, students from these households would have been the most vulnerable ones. Scholarships such as the BKM were launched to help them stay in school during the crisis. BKM was therefore the main policy (together with JPS scholarship until it ended in 2003) that kept children in school. It started in 2001 and the fund was from the savings of fuel subsidies reduction. The semester allowance for primary school students was about 6.25 USD, for junior secondary school students the number was double and for senior secondary students it was more than double.

The mechanism and allocation of BKM funds follow the principles of decentralization where the poverty index, the number of student and the number of schools determine how much is allocated to each district (*kabupaten/kota*). The district committee distributes the funds to schools after receiving



the list of the approved nominees. To become a BKM beneficiary, which was determined at school level, was similar to the previous JPS program and somewhat flexible. It considers of socio economic background of the family, dropping out history, the distance from home to school, the number of siblings under 18 years old at least three persons, and if the nominee is an orphan. A gender based rule also applies as at least 50 percent of the participants have to be girls.

Kompas Daily (2011) reported that in the first semester the total number of participants for the BKM program was 5,075,000 students. In the same article, it cited a high profile official who indicated that the mechanism used to select the correct beneficiaries was too much work for the committees at the school and district levels since the time frame provided for the selection was quite short, and they had to select beneficiaries from tens of millions of students. The following period, the take up rate was nearly 20 percent for primary school students and 26 percent for junior secondary students in 2004 (Hardjono et al., 2010). Finally in 2006, the number of recipients was 8,283,200 (SMERU, 2006). BKM gradually phased out after the Schools Operational Assistance (BOS) program was introduced and it ended entirely in 2011.

Before BKM was introduced, JPS was used to cover students grade 5-12. When BKM was introduced, the first year covered grade 1-4 to complement JPS. However, it covered all grades in the second year and continued to do so until BOS was launched. As BOS was being a universal subsidy for compulsory grade<sup>3</sup>, BKM then covered only for grade 10-12.

To the best of our knowledge, a rigorous impact study of this program is not identifiable. A study from SMERU (2003), however, suggests that this program was not designed with a good monitoring system and lacked of long-term financial planning. Surprisingly, they do not find leakage as a serious problem, which is contrary to the finding on the JPS scholarship from Sparrow (2007) .

### **The BOS**

The second phase of fuel subsidy reduction occurred in 2005. The government implemented a similar policy to prevent students from leaving schools by allocating part of the savings from the fuel subsidies reduction for education. This time, the recipients shifted from households to schools and was entitled the *Bantuan Operasional Sekolah* (BOS). The main aim of this program was to improve the quality of the schools and achieve better education outcomes. There was operational assistance

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<sup>3</sup>BOS started to cover senior secondary level only since the 2013/2014 academic year.

for schools prior BOS was implemented. However, BOS coverage was much wider and school involvement in BOS was not appointed, rather it was on voluntarily basis and called for applications.

This program depended on public participation to ensure transparency through the involvement of parents and school committees in making decision about how the grant was used. This rule shows how an effort was made to keep the project on the right track. Good governance is an important key successfully to managing large financing programs in education, as demonstrated by Rajkumar and Swaroop (2008) in their study about how public spending on primary education can increase primary education attainment. Literature that endorses community involvement in designing projects includes Khwaja (2009) and Reinikka and Svensson (2002). This argument is the part of a larger study on aid effectiveness, which argues that the role of institutions matters (see Acemoglu et al. 2001; Burnside and Dollar 2000; Frye and Shleifer 1997; Djankov et al. 2002).

The number of students becomes the basis for determining the amount that is transferred to schools. This means, schools with higher number of students obtain a higher amount of funding. The capita grant assigned for each primary school student per semester in 2006 was US\$ 24.21 and US\$ 33.44 for every junior secondary school student (Government of Indonesia, 2011). According to the BOS Guideline Book 2006, the goal of BOS was to provide free education for poor students and to reduce education costs for other students, in order for students to acquire a better quality of basic education and be able to complete it<sup>4</sup> (SMERU, 2006). The average growth of the BOS budget was 32.7 percent per year, and in 2010 the World Bank agreed to financing this program under the name School Operational Assistance-Knowledge Improvement for Transparency and Accountability (BOS-KITA) (Government of Indonesia, 2011).

The number of participants that attended BOS schools in 2006 was 39,700,000 with the grant amount totaling was IRD 9,900 billion, which is equals to about USD 1,1 billion (ILO, 2015). The guidelines specified for how the BOS grant should be spent including abolishing regular fees, paying for school supplies, maintenance and monthly bills, remunerating local teachers and staffs, training teachers and compensating for students activities<sup>5</sup>. In addition to this, schools were allowed to directly send some money to poor students to compensate them for their transportation cost. Contrarily, there was also a room to charge students if schools found that their total expenditure exceeded the grant. School heterogeneity i.e. no standardized expenditure, made the amount of money charged to each

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<sup>4</sup>Completing 9 years compulsory education.

<sup>5</sup> see Table C1 in the Appendix for complete description

student largely vary across different schools<sup>6</sup>. The only strict exception was for students who were identified as being from poor households. In that case, schools were not allowed to charge them, regardless of the decision made for other students. The definition of poor students, however, was not strictly defined as was the case for the BKM program. Only occasionally schools require a certificate from a village official explaining that the students were from an impoverished background (SMERU, 2006).

A field study from SMERU (2006) finds that only 47 percent of their school sample actually sent the transfer to poor students, which is around 6.5 percent of total students, or equal to 22 percent of poor students. The expenditure for poor students was quite low and was usually not within the top five expenditures. They also observe that rich private schools tended to reject BOS grant.

The fraction of school that rejected the grant was less than 5 percent. The main reason behind this was that the rules that had to be obeyed were too much. The fees from the wealthy students covered everything and it was enough to maintain school independency. This is a strong incentive to reject BOS.

Meanwhile, World Bank (2009) indicates that schools tended to use BOS funds for teacher honorarium instead of on poor students. Moreover, although community involvement was enforced to support the transparency, they suggest that most schools participating in the grants ignored this party when making the allocation decisions. Additionally, Indonesian Corruption Watch (ICW) estimates that BOS only treated 30-40 percent of operational schools, which is significantly lower than the calculation from the Ministry of Education which claimed it to be about 70 percent (Kontan, 2010).

Massive allocation of public spending with improper supervision eventually leads to potential misuse, as reported from national and local newspapers. ICW indicated two points of BOS implementation that required higher levels of supervision when money is transferred from districts to schools and when there is hidden business being done using BOS funding. Several schools bribed districts officials to ease the transfer process, while the hidden businesses were created when schools printed mandatory worksheets for students and charged the expenditure to BOS (Kontan, 2010). Another source of leakage through the headmasters, as they are the only authority at school. This is twice as problematic, as having a single decision maker violated the regulation that required not only public participation but additional teacher involvement in decision making and management as well. But the lack of strict monitoring system allowed for this practice.

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<sup>6</sup>In some areas local authorities also played an important role in deciding whether they would allow schools to charge the households of students if schools received the grant.

ICW reported that the estimation of BOS grant manipulation calculation by Indonesian Supreme Audit Board in 2007 and 2008 for 3.237 schools was nearly 3 million USD with the average misappropriation for each school being around 1,450 USD. They observed only 36.5 percent of schools were free from the grant misuse. Moreover, there are 33 cases of corruptions related to BOS during 2004-2009 with the estimated loss of nearly 1.4 million USD. School principals as well as the heads and staffs of district education offices were suspected as the culprits (Kompas Daily, 2011).

Since the grant did not demand a good performance to be given, another form of misuse might have taken place, such as inflating the number of pupils in order to attain a larger grant. During this period, the student database was not accurate thus was able to ease this practice. However, if schools inflated the number of students in the BOS proposal to anticipate a higher number of previously predicted new students for the next academic year, they were able to make adjustments in the following phase.

World Bank (2007) suggests it is hard to assess the actual impact of the grant because a demand for achievement did not exist and there was a lack of transparency. However, they manage to attain some findings through the correlation of the grant with the growing number of students from poor households that were being enrolled, even though this effect was temporary. They also find that the initial phase of the BOS implementation is associated with 6 percent drop of annual education spending for households. This figure is relatively low compared to the per capita BOS grant allocated to students through the schools. The reduction is found to be from students from the poorest households and from students who attended government schools. After schools became familiar with BOS, the spending gradually increased again.

In addition, they notice that schools boosted the number of non-civil servant teachers up by 50 percent after the BOS grant was launched<sup>7</sup>. The impact on transition rates from primary to secondary education was also temporary, and there was no significant jump after increasing the amount of the grant. The BOS grant is also associated with the initial decline in educational spending for primary and junior secondary students. They suspect that low level of public participation in determining how the BOS was used is the key answer behind those suboptimal returns. Another reason is that other financing resources dropped after BOS policy was introduced. Whereas, the use of BOS has been limited and strictly regulated that creates difficult situation for schools who had to balance their typical needs that were not listed in the BOS coverage (Al-Samarrai et al., 2014). Additional evidence from

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<sup>7</sup>For government schools, there was a limitation of spending 10 to 20 percent for teachers honorarium

Kharisma (2013) suggests that there was no significant impact of BOS on dropout rates for students age 7-15. Therefore, in general the BOS program seems to have done less to expand access to education and improve quality than its true capacity.

### 3.3 Data and methodology

#### 3.3.1 Data

Our data is Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS). This survey contains four completed waves, i.e. 1993, 1997, 2000 and 2007. As BKM was firstly introduced in 2001 and BOS started in 2005, we use the observation in 2000 to capture the information before the intervention, i.e. BKM or BOS (see Methodology for the precise definition of the intervention). Furthermore, IFLS records the response of the intervention in 2006/2007 academic year<sup>89</sup>. Therefore, the observation in 2007 can reveal the impact of this intervention, with the possibility of capturing the effect of the previous interventions in 2001-2005 that were not registered by the survey.

IFLS is known to have rich information on the socio-demographic of households: information that is closely related to some eligibility rules and traditional covariates. More specifically, we are able to link the parental information on the educational attainment to the children's information in order to control for the intergenerational mobility persistence. There are three levels of education: primary (grade 1-6), junior secondary (grade 7-9) and senior secondary (grade 10-12). For further discussion, we use the term level and grade interchangeably. Since the reported transfer was in the 2006/2007 academic year, the BKM scholarship was specifically for grades 10-12, while out-of-pocket expenses from BOS was for the compulsory grades 1-9.

Our main sample is from the post treatment period in 2007. It is limited to students that were at school in 2006/2007 academic year so it remained eligible for the transfer<sup>10</sup>. We also ignore households that reported that their educational expenditure exceeded 30 percent<sup>11</sup>. Moreover, there

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<sup>8</sup>We assign the observation as getting exposed to the intervention if the respondents stated they received the transfer. This group consists of two subgroups: those who could report the amount of the assistance and those who could not. We employ the subgroup analysis for robustness check and find that results from the overall sample is more similar to those from subgroup that reported the amount of the assistance. Results of subgroups are not shown.

<sup>9</sup>see Table C1 in the Appendix for the complete questionnaire

<sup>10</sup>If students drop out or stop attending school during the transition period, the school can list them as a nominee, conditioned on their coming back to school (source: the annual BOS Guidance Book).

<sup>11</sup>Our exploratory analysis suggests that household educational expenditure that is larger than 30 percent seems to be outlier. Moreover, this number is too high that makes it unlikely to happen. One possibility of this case is measurement errors was occurred during the survey.

is information at the school level for a limited number of observation in the survey. Hence, we are able to link this information to some students to assess the spillover effects of BOS school grant<sup>12</sup>.

### 3.3.2 Methodology

In this paper, we propose the combination of several methods to evaluate the targeting practice and the impact of the intervention on the outcomes of interest. Our intervention is defined as the cash transfer sent to households from the BKM program or the out-of-pocket expense from the BOS grant sent from schools to households, depended on the grade, in 2006/2007 academic year. Furthermore, we focus on evaluating the impact of this intervention on two outcomes, educational performance and household expenditure. Educational performance includes cognitive test scores and educational attainment. Cognitive test scores are not available for the entire sample since the tests were assigned to selected students. Educational attainment is calculated by combining the reported level and the highest grade attended, i.e. junior secondary school at the second grade equals to grade 8, although the actual years of schooling might be longer, or in a very rare cases shorter by means of an acceleration program. The impact on household expenditure is measured by the share of the household's expenditures that is spent on education.

We analyze the impact with two different approaches. The first one is using cross sectional information to assess the association between the intervention and the outcomes, while at the same time controlling for other factors. Our preliminary analysis indicates that for the education outcomes, namely cognitive test scores and educational attainment, the intervention is not proved to be endogenous<sup>13</sup>. This is a feasible perspective since the selection process does not include education-related outcomes as the basis of choosing participants. We thus argue that assistance is an exogenous treatment variable for these outcomes. Assistance is nevertheless most likely to be endogenous when outcomes are highly correlated with economic variables. Consequently, to model the association with learning outcomes we will use a simple framework such as ordinary least square for cognitive test scores and a poisson regression for educational attainment. The utilization of an instrumental variable model is additionally required to deal with endogeneity of household educational spending.

The second approach is done by employing panel data to examine the differences in outcomes before and after the intervention. The difference-in-difference method removes the fixed differences

<sup>12</sup> All variables and their descriptive statistics are presented in Table C3 in the Appendix.

<sup>13</sup> This is a robust case, as endogeneity test is insignificant and statistics lambda from the treatment effect model also suggests that selectivity is insignificant.

between the control and treated groups over time, so that what is left is expected to be the relatively pure effect of the treatment after controlling for several confoundings i.e. gender dummy, residential dummy, repetition dummy, educational level, parental educational attainment and province fixed effects. This approach is enhanced by propensity score matching to provide a counterfactual observation.

In addition to this, we use sampling weights in the inferential analysis to reduce sampling bias. Our robustness check, done by comparing goodness of fit of tests between models with and without sampling weights, suggests that models with sampling weights have in general better fittings<sup>14</sup>.

Finally, we need to emphasize that we measure the marginal effects of the transfers under the assumption that other factors, including household spending, does not anticipate the transfer by making adjustment. If this assumption does not hold, the actual impact will potentially be different and parameter adjustments should be made, which is beyond the scope of the study.

### Formal model

Our general model for the impact study using cross-section information is

$$Y_i = \gamma W_i + \beta X_i + \varepsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3.1)$$

$Y_i$  is the outcome variables of individual  $i$ ,  $W_i$  is the dummy variable, taking the value 1 if individual  $i$  gets the assistance and zero otherwise,  $X_i$  is a set of exogenous control variables that determine the outcomes  $Y_i$ . If assistance is exogenous, then this model translates into linear regression for the outcome cognitive test score; and poisson regression for educational attainment.

Whereas, the assistance variable  $W$  might be endogenous for educational spending outcome, because the eligibility rules are pretty much related with socio-economic background and those could have affected the decision about whom deserved the transfer. The formal form of this relationship is  $E(W, \varepsilon) \neq 0$ . If this is the case,  $\gamma$  is not a consistent estimator in OLS model. Our strategy is to use

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<sup>14</sup>We assess the goodness of fit by using Root Mean Squared Errors (MSE) for linear regression and log pseudo likelihood for Poisson regression. We find that models with weights outperform models without weights in regression analysis more often. Furthermore, log pseudolikelihood is always bigger for Poisson regression with weights compared to the non weights counterpart. In IV model, the issue of goodness of fit is more relevant to the first stage regression, that is whether endogeneity is a real problem. The same sample shows that p-values of endogeneity tests for models with weights are smaller in most cases. It indicates that excluding weights might be correlated with the lower power to detect endogeneity. We wrap this part by concluding that for our sample it is preferable to employing models with weights and the interpretation of the results follow the same manner. Results without weights are not shown here.

the Instrumental Variable (IV) model to deal with endogeneity by replacing the actual realized values of  $W$  with different values that correlate the with actual  $W$  and are at the same time uncorrelated with  $\varepsilon$  conditioned on all other covariates  $X$ . Let us call this variable  $Z$ .

The linear projection of  $Z$  on  $W$

$$W_i = \pi Z_i + \mu_i, i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3.2)$$

We require that  $E(Z, \varepsilon) = 0$ . Moreover, the estimated coefficient shall be  $\pi \neq 0$ . If we can find such variables, our instruments are valid and informative. Moreover,

$$\dot{W}_i = \pi Z_i + \mu_i, \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\dot{W}_i$  is a latent endogenous variable,  $Z_i$  is a vector of exogenous variables to predict the selection outcome  $\dot{W}_i$ ,  $\Phi(o)$  is the standard normal cumulative distribution function,  $\varepsilon_i$  and  $\mu_i$  are bivariate normal with mean zero and covariance matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\varepsilon & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . The IV model considers  $\dot{W}$  in equation 3.3 as the direct replacement of  $W$  in such the outcome regression for the IV model is

$$Y_i = \gamma \dot{W}_i + \beta X_i + \varepsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3.4)$$

Whereas, difference in difference method with the pre-treatment covariates has a formal model as follow:

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot period_i + \beta_2 \cdot treated_i + \beta_3 \cdot period_i \cdot treated_i + \beta_k \cdot X_{k,i} + \varepsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3.5)$$

where *period* is a dummy variable indicating the baseline or before the treatment given, if period is zero (i.e. year 2000), and the follow-up, or after the treatment given, if period is one (i.e. year 2007), *treated* is a dummy variable zero or one, indicating the control and the treated group, consecutively.  $\beta_3$  is the DiD or the impact and  $X_{k,i}$  is the *k*th covariate of individual *i*.



Propensity score matching is another method in impact evaluation that provides a counterfactual observation from statistical matching that accounts for the covariates which predict receiving the treatment (see Guo and Fraser 2014). The simple comparison between outcomes of the treated and outcomes of the non-treated is based on a substantial overlap between the two groups. The common supports in the matching in order to meet the overlapping assumption are household wealth index and if they are exposed to JPS scholarship period. The latter variable is defined as “high” to indicate that observations with the value one get assistance with a higher intensity rate throughout their basic and secondary educational periods. It is unknown if they truly received the JPS scholarship. This variable thus reflects only the possibility of receiving the treatment or the spillover effect.

Our final approach is the combination of both methods to present estimates that can simultaneously reduce the confounding bias as well as remove fixed differences between the two groups. Since the Rubin causal model is applied, we argue that results from this approach has a stronger causal interpretation<sup>15</sup>.

### The instruments

To find an instrument that is only correlated with the endogenous variable and not with other predictors is challenging in most cases. We consider two instruments in our models. The first one is an individual mistargeting dummy. To produce this variable, we regress three eligibility requirements in vector  $\tilde{X}$  against the transfer dummy  $W$  using probit model as in equation 3.6.

$$W = \beta\tilde{X} + \varepsilon, \varepsilon \sim N(0, 1) \Rightarrow \hat{W} = \hat{\beta}\tilde{X} \quad (3.6)$$

$$\tilde{W} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \hat{W} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\hat{W}$  is the linear prediction,  $\tilde{W}$  is the binary predicted value,  $\tilde{X}$  is the a vector of explanatories that defines the formal eligibility rules. The eligibility rules in this model are a wealth index, orphan dummy and dummy for when the number of siblings under 18 is more than 2. Other eligibility rules are not

<sup>15</sup>Additionally, we use a Gaussian kernel density and bootstrap of 1000 replications to provide a more precise estimation of the matching.

included in the model for several reasons, i.e. the information on the distance between the home and school is unavailable, whereas disruption predicts one of the outcome categories perfectly.

The predicted values  $\tilde{W}$  are cross-checked with the original values  $W$  as expressed in equation 3.7 to determine  $M$ , the dummy of mistargeting. We assign  $M$  as having the value of 1 if predicted and original are different, 0 otherwise.

$$M = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \tilde{W} \neq W \\ 0 & \text{if } \tilde{W} = W \end{cases} \quad (3.7)$$

It is clear from equation 3.6 and 3.7 that  $M$  is highly correlated with  $W$ . However,  $M$  is less likely to correlate with the outcomes.

To add randomness, we introduce the second instrument. This is defined as the dummy representing whether a district had a mayor election in 2005 or after 2005. We argue that this political process creates geographic separability, meaning that the chance of being chosen to participate in the program is dependent on geographic location. More specifically, it is related to individual transfers in 2006 because if the incumbent lost the chair or could not join the election because they had already served their second term, then the new mayor would select new people to fill the high profile positions in the government. Consequently, they were in the learning mode for the first year and did not have enough time to properly prepare and execute the programs in 2006. Whereas, districts that had a mayor election after 2005 had the advantage of knowledge continuation, since if a district had an election in 2006, the new government would have most likely just served the public to the end of 2006 or in early 2007. At the same time, it is unlikely that this dummy variable is related to household educational spending, which arguably makes it a valid instrument.

### 3.4 Results

The results are presented in five parts. The first part investigates how well the budgets reached their intended beneficiaries. The second, the third and the fourth parts then turns to the impact of government subsidies on educational performance and household spending on education. The final part discusses the impact variation on subgroups.

### 3.4.1 Targeting

Targeting is an important part of the subsidies project, especially when the coverage is not universal. When assistance is provided, policy makers normally try to save less disadvantaged students from existing school during the crisis. Put differently, it is meant to be poverty-based targeting. However, a multi-level targeting scheme with somewhat flexible requirements and without one exact cut-off point complicates the impact evaluation. Hence, we simply investigate targeting effectiveness through the exploratory analysis using a descriptive and visualization approach<sup>16</sup>.

Table 3.1: The intervention based on the poverty line status

Treatment	Status	Observation	Below national poverty line 2007	Below USD 1.25 (PPP adjusted)
The assistance	Treated	630	0.722	0.887
	Control	1,576	0.645	0.815
Other assistance	Treated	77	0.727	0.857
	Control	2,129	0.665	0.835

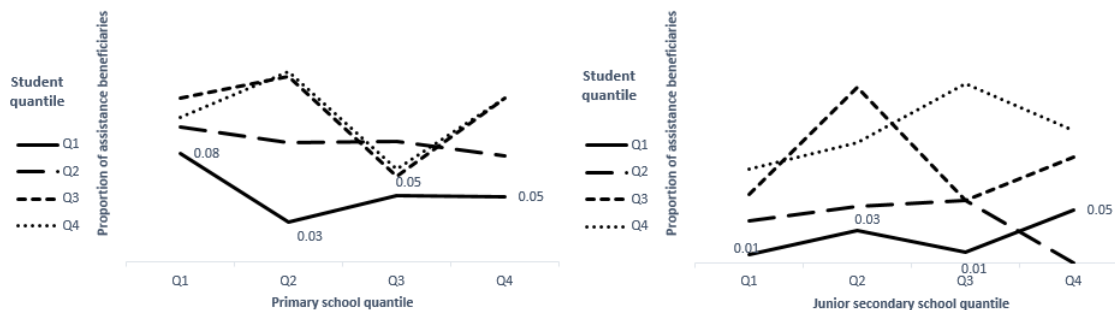
Observation unit is cross-sectional data of student living in the household with maximum 30% educational expenditure in 2007. The treatment is given in 2006/2007 academic year and the poverty line status is estimated in 2007 based on household income per capita calculated from parental salaries. National poverty line 2007 is USD 0.522 for rural and USD 0.668 for urban adjusted by 2007 exchange rate.

Table 3.1 demonstrates some information about the inclusion and exclusion error for subsamples after matching it with information on the parental income. For those who are in the control group, 65 percent of the students are from households below the national poverty line. This figure increases to 82 percent when switching to the international poverty threshold. Meanwhile, in the treatment group 72 percent of the students are from households that are below national poverty line. This number increases to 89 percent for the international poverty line. We provide the figures from other forms of assistance for a comparison, which might or might not have a problem with basing eligibility on poverty levels. The patterns turn out to be relatively similar.

Using the international poverty line as the benchmark, we find that the inclusion error is one for every ten deserving students. Furthermore, there is a large exclusion error which reaches 8 out of 10 intended students who do not receive the benefits of the transfer. If the targeting is correct, this number decreases into 7 out of 10. The large number of students who are in the exclusion area suggests that the coverage of the subsidies is inadequate.

<sup>16</sup>The information on parental income and school quantiles are available for subsamples.

Figure 3.2: The distribution of assistance beneficiaries across quantiles of school expenditure



Student quantiles are from the household wealth index, which is estimated by including household assets and living condition. School quantiles are constructed by the level of school estimation on annual expenditure per capita.

Then we look at the information for primary and junior secondary school in Figure 3.2. In this graph, our purpose is to detect the schools' behavioral patterns concerning the transfer when school is richer or poorer. The school quantiles are approximated by calculating their annual expenditure per capita, while student quantiles come from the household wealth index. We observe that in both levels of education, the poorest students represented in the first quantile have the smallest chance of getting assistance in each of the school quantiles, except for the highest quantile of junior secondary school.

Moreover, students from the highest quantiles got a substantial benefit since they received a relatively larger share of the subsidy in every school quantile. While we should keep in mind that this finding comes from raw information and that sampling bias also plays a role, it seems to be consistent with the previous findings of serious inclusion and exclusion errors. The regressive type of spending identified in Figure 3.2 is against the redistribution principle, which is what the literature warned.

We also pay attention to the households with more than one children at the same and different educational levels. We observe that children from the same household and at the same educational level fall into the same group of intervention, either all of them getting the transfer or none. However, this is a different case when households have children at different educational levels, which is shown in Table 3.2. It seems that there is a sibling pressure when households send their children at the same school - which they usually do for the same level of education - that does not apply if siblings go to different schools.

Table 3.2: Children in households that receive different treatment, all grades.

Number of participant	Total number of children			
	2	3	4	5
1	278	147	36	5
2	0	69	12	0
3	0	0	24	5

### 3.4.2 The impact of assistance on cognitive test score

Table 3.3 presents the linear regression where intervention is the treatment variable. Some control variables include a dummy of higher intensity to the assistance program (high) where a value of one represents exposure to the period of JPS scholarship in certain educational levels back in 1998-2003<sup>17</sup>, educational levels in 2007 where grade 1-6 (primary school) is the baseline followed by grade 7-9 (junior secondary) and 10-12 (senior secondary), a repetition dummy, the share of household educational expense, a log total household expenditure per capita, male dummy, age, rural dummy, parental educational attainment and province fixed effect. In addition, we control for the previous score in 2000. This means we measure the change of the outcome associated with the level of explanatory variables instead of measuring the level of the outcome itself.

The analysis is divided into three parts. The first column is for the overall sample. The second column is for participants from the BOS assistance program who were in grade 1-9 in 2006. The third column for students in grade 10-12 in 2006 who received the BKM scholarship.

We find that intervention does not have a significant effect on cognitive test score changes for all samples. The major contribution instead is given by educational level, the past score, mother educational attainment, repetition and residential type. Higher educational levels and higher mother educational attainment indicates a higher score, while living in rural areas and experiencing repetition suggest a lower score.

Students in grade 1-9 have an additional significant explanatory variable that is the total household expenditure per capita in the positive direction. Meanwhile, students in grade 10-12 seem to have a lower score if they are male, however their scores are not affected by repetition or total household expenditure per capita.

These estimations, however, do not take into account that there is fixed differences between groups of participants and non-participants over time. Therefore, we provide Figure 3.3 that presents

<sup>17</sup>By tracking the grades back to the last year of the JPS scholarship implementation in 2003, we estimate that in general that 5th graders in 2003 were 9th graders in 2007. So in IFLS 2007, grade 9 and above were the ones who got exposed to the JPS scholarship program.

the difference-in-difference method in the combination with propensity score matching (PSM-DiD) to deal with that issue as well as provide counterfactual observations.

Figure 3.3 presents three graphs following a similar manner of Table 3.2 that separates the overall sample into grades 1-9 and grades 10-12<sup>18</sup>. The graph in the left side is for the overall sample. It demonstrates a significant different starting point of both groups, where the control group has an average higher score before the treatment. Their scores are very close, however, after the treatment period. The DiD is 5 points, indicating that the treatment has a positive impact on scores for the majority of participants.

Moving to the graph in the middle panel for grades 1-9, we observe an identical pattern with the previous finding where the large difference before the treatment gets very narrow after the treatment. The DiD, is nevertheless slightly lower at 4.1 points, and significant at 10 percent level. For grades 10-12, the treatment effect is negative (the DiD is -1.16 points) and insignificant. As the intervention for grades 1-9 and grades 10-12 actually comes from two different programs, the most possible explanation for their differences is that there is a spillover effect from school grant BOS for grade 1-9.

The assessment of BOS spillover effect is provided in Figure 3.4<sup>19</sup>. It again employs a PSM-DiD method only for those who attend schools that receive BOS<sup>20</sup>, with and without the transfer. We find that there is no significant DiD between the pure exposure to the grant and the exposure to the grant with the transfer attached, before and after the treatment. This evidence indicates that the effect we observe in Figure 3.3 more likely comes from the grant, rather than from the individual assistance. We can hence think of Figure 3.3 in the middle part as the representation of the grant effect.

The effect represented in Figure 3.3 middle panel is not necessarily zero, but it has a low level of significance because it has a quite large standard error. It suggests that some schools effectively translated the grant into quality improvement, probably by arranging more tutorials or hiring qualified teachers, while some others did not.

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<sup>18</sup>see Table C4 in the Appendix for the complete results

<sup>19</sup>see Table C5 in the Appendix for the complete results

<sup>20</sup>For score there is only one graph to compare those who receive the assistance and those who only attend the BOS school participants. The comparison between treatment groups groups with control group - that does not receive anything - is not feasible because the sample size for control group is too small.

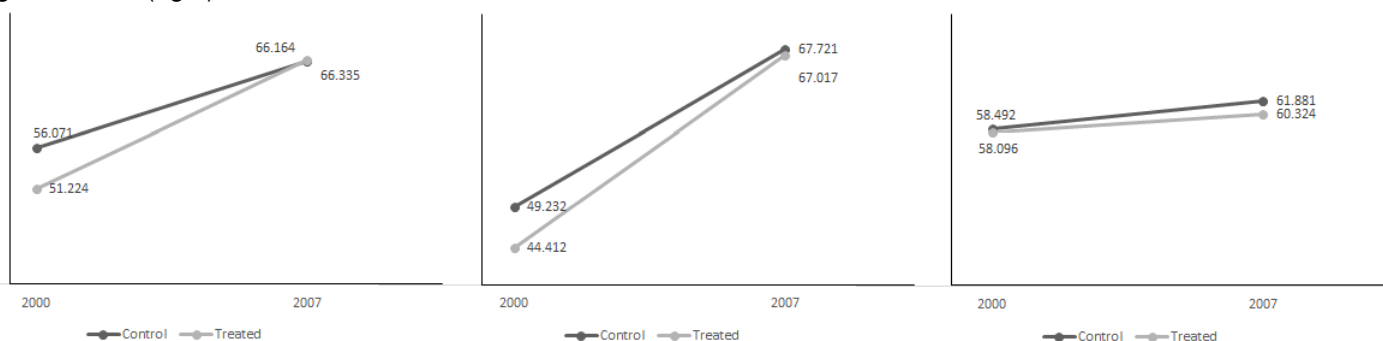
3 THE IMPACT ANALYSIS OF FUEL SUBSIDY REDUCTION COMPENSATION PROGRAM ON EDUCATION IN INDONESIA: THE BKM AND THE BOS

Table 3.3: The impact of the intervention on cognitive test score

Sample in 2006	Overall	Grade 1-9	Grade 10-11
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Dependent variable	Cognitive test score 2007		
Intervention	0.188 (1.137)	0.596 (1.293)	-1.944 (2.445)
High	0.599 (1.846)	1.673 (1.965)	-
Score in 2000	0.090*** (0.018)	0.058** (0.025)	0.141*** (0.028)
Grade 7-9	10.234*** (3.623)	10.184*** (3.807)	-
Grade 10-12	11.619*** (3.931)	9.848** (4.364)	-
Repetition	-2.552** (1.159)	-3.058* (1.747)	-1.633 (1.579)
Share of educational household spending	0.019 (0.077)	0.124 (0.125)	0.010 (0.102)
Log total household expenditure per capita	0.762 (0.539)	1.707** (0.729)	0.291 (0.780)
Male	-0.839 (0.740)	-0.143 (1.143)	-1.633* (0.982)
Age	-0.293 (0.344)	-0.388 (0.751)	-0.031 (0.468)
Rural	-3.280*** (0.789)	-1.385 (1.138)	-4.815*** (1.133)
Mother years of schooling	0.500*** (0.133)	0.636*** (0.208)	0.364** (0.168)
Father years of schooling	-0.079 (0.115)	-0.184 (0.184)	-0.054 (0.138)
Province FE	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	1605	811	794
R-squared	0.181	0.197	0.174
Root MSE	13.857	14.728	12.792

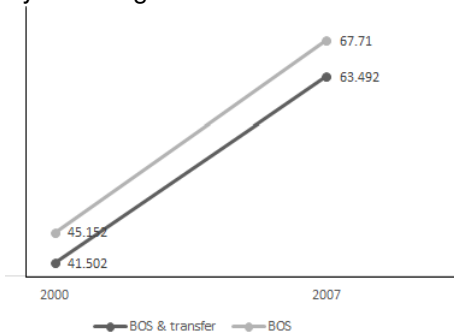
Observation unit is students in 2007 who were still at school in 2006 when the assistance was given. The observation is limited with maximum 30% educational expenditure to avoid measurement errors. Models include sampling weights. The significance levels are 0.01 (\*\*\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.1 (\*). Robust standard errors are in parentheses.

Figure 3.3: PSM-DiD analysis of cognitive test score for overall sample (left), grade 1-9 (middle) and grade 10-12 (right)



Treatment group: receiving the transfer. Control group: not receiving the transfer.

Figure 3.4: PSM-DiD analysis of cognitive test score to test BOS spillover effect grade1-9



### 3.4.3 The impact of assistance on educational attainment

Table 3.4 presents the impact of assistance on educational attainment for the overall sample, grades 1-9 and grades 10-12. The poisson regression is shown with the coefficients that are interpreted as the incidence rate ratio. The result concludes that there is not enough evidence of intervention having an association with the increase in attainment for neither the overall sample nor for the subsamples. Instead, the effect of past scholarship programs seems to be more significant after controlling for the educational level. The expected incidence rate for the increase in attainment with having exposure to the period of the past scholarship after controlling for educational level is 1.133 times higher or 13.3 percent difference for overall sample. It is slightly higher about 13.5 percent difference for grades 1-9. In contrast the marginal effect of high is not tractable for grades 10-12 as all of them are assumed to have gotten exposed to the period of JPS scholarship program.

Among the control variables in overall sample, past attainment, educational level, repetition, log total household expenditure per capita, gender, age and parental educational attainment are im-



portant elements to explain the variation of the increase on attainment. For instance, a student experiencing at least one repetition has an expected increase on attainment 12.3 percent less than a student without repetition, holding other factors constant. Additionally, a 10 percent difference in spending for total household expenditure per capita is associated with a 12 percent difference on the increase of attainment. Also, male seems to have lower rate of attainment compared to female with 2.8 percent difference. And finally, 10 percent difference of mother education is associated with 4 percent difference on student increase on educational attainment, and in case of father education is 3 percent difference.

The information from grades 1-9 is quite similar to the information from overall sample. Higher graders, however, face a slightly different situation where repetition and total household expenditure per capita reduce the significance levels. Meanwhile, parental educational attainment is not significant at all for schooling improvement. Instead, the increase of 10 percent share of household educational expenditure and of total household expenditure are associated with 1 percent and 4 percent differences of attainment consecutively.

### 3 THE IMPACT ANALYSIS OF FUEL SUBSIDY REDUCTION COMPENSATION PROGRAM ON EDUCATION IN INDONESIA: THE BKM AND THE BOS

Table 3.4: The impact of the intervention on educational attainment using Poisson regression

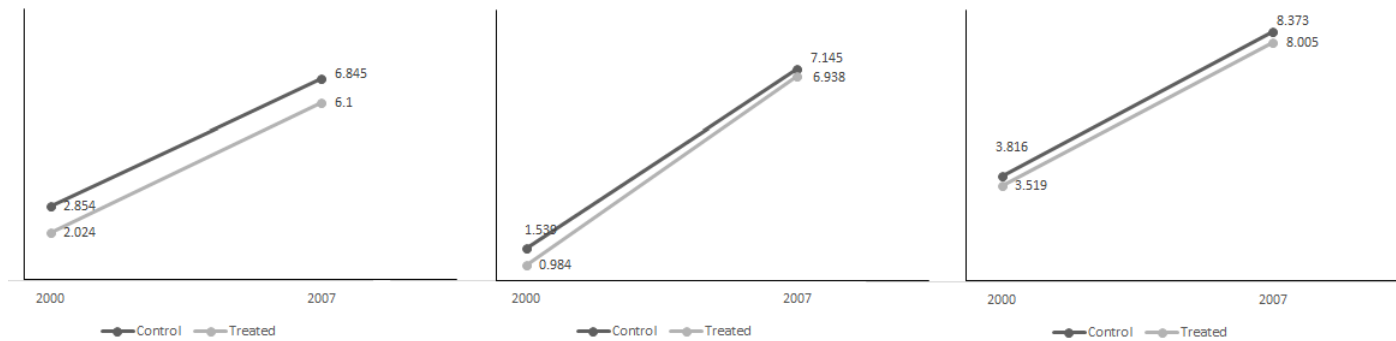
Sample in 2006	Overall	Grade 1-9	Grade 10-12
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Dependent variable	Educational attainment 2007		
intervention	0.994 (0.006)	0.995 (0.007)	0.986 (0.009)
High	1.133*** (0.009)	1.135*** (0.011)	-
Ed. attainment 2000	0.951*** (0.014)	0.930*** (0.006)	1.030*** (0.005)
Grade 7-9	1.147*** (0.014)	1.100*** (0.015)	-
Grade 10-12	1.128*** (0.020)	1.056** (0.023)	-
Repetition	0.877*** (0.007)	0.860*** (0.010)	0.963* (0.008)
Share of educational household spending	1.000 (0.0005)	1.001 (0.007)	1.001* (0.0004)
Log total household expenditure per capita	1.012*** (0.003)	1.012*** (0.004)	01.004* (0.002)
Male	0.972*** (0.005)	0.967*** (0.006)	0.995 (0.004)
Age	1.142*** (0.004)	1.161*** (0.005)	1.029*** (0.004)
Rural	0.997 (0.005)	1.002 (0.007)	0.998 (0.005)
Mother years of schooling	1.004*** (0.001)	1.005*** (0.001)	1.001 (0.007)
Father years of schooling	1.003*** (0.001)	1.005*** (0.001)	1.000 (0.001)
Province FE	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	4978	4178	800
Log pseudolikelihood	-9849.006	-7954.526	-1850.511

Observation unit is students in 2007 who were still at school in 2006 when the assistance was given. The observation is limited with maximum 30% educational expenditure to avoid measurement errors. Models include sampling weights. The significance levels are 0.01 (\*\*\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.1 (\*). Robust standard errors are in parentheses.

A second approach is portrayed in Figure 3.5 using PSM-DiD. Contrary to the previous finding, we detect that the DiD of educational attainment is significant for grade 1-9. After one year of intervention, the schooling period of 1-9 graders extends for another 4 months on the average. However, this effect vanishes for grades 10-12, which again evokes the suspicion that the school grant might endorse the

### 3 THE IMPACT ANALYSIS OF FUEL SUBSIDY REDUCTION COMPENSATION PROGRAM ON EDUCATION IN INDONESIA: THE BKM AND THE BOS

Figure 3.5: PSM-DiD analysis of educational attainment for overall sample (left), grade 1-9 (middle) and grade 10-12 (right)

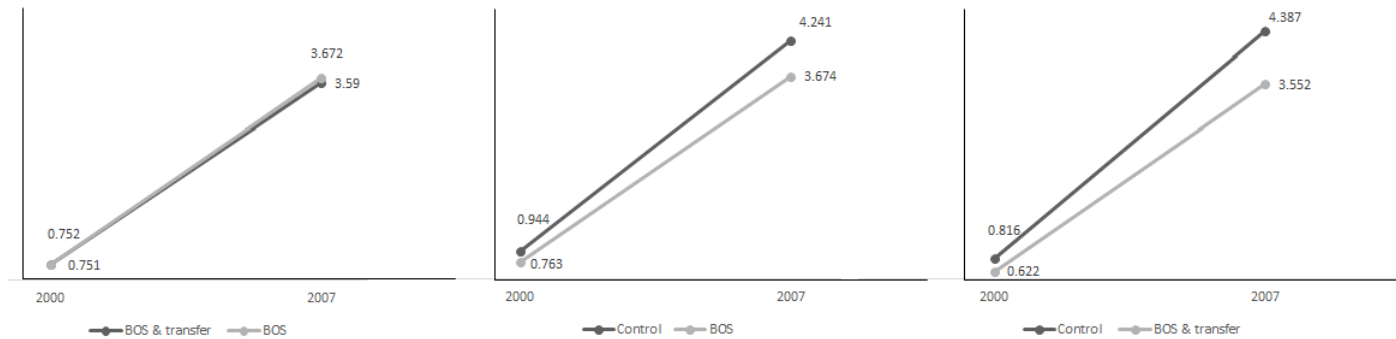


Treatment group: receiving the transfer. Control group: not receiving the transfer.

impact. The assessment of school grant spillover effect for grades 1-9 is presented in the next figure.

Figure 3.6 shows the DiD for two treatment groups - BOS and BOS with individual transfer - and one control group. We compare BOS without transfer and with transfer on the left side, BOS without transfer and control in the middle, and BOS with transfer and control on the right side.

Figure 3.6: PSM-DiD analysis of educational attainment to test BOS spillover effect grade 1-9



Treatment groups: (i) attending BOS school and receiving the transfer; (ii) attending BOS school. Control group: attending non BOS school and receiving no transfer.

As was the case for score, there is no significant DiD between BOS with and without transfer. The positive effect of intervention, therefore, is most likely rooted from the school grant that expands the access of education through the offer of lower or even no tuition fees and abolish other administration fees. As for the comparison with control group, both treatments show no significant DiD either. Moreover, the control group always has a relatively higher educational attainment that fits the description

of how rich private schools typically perform. It indicates that the performance of subsidies capacity did not achieve the same level of what the private spending does on attainment. Yet, it might be worse without the subsidies. In addition to that, there is a concern that the household adjust their educational spending back to the level before receiving the transfer. If this is the case, it might explain why the transfer does not effectively increase the attainment.

#### **3.4.4 The impact of the assistance on household educational expenditure**

Table 3.5 presents the instrumental variable models for the overall sample (column 1) and subsamples (column 2 for grades 1-9 and column 3 for grades 10-12). Each model consists of the first and second stage regressions. The F-test of the first stage regressions for the overall sample suggests that the instruments are jointly not weak. Moreover, the individual t-statistics indicates that each instrument is relevant in explaining the probability of being selected into the assistance program. Moving to the second stage regression, the intervention is associated with a decrease on household educational spending. Households anticipate the transfer by reducing the share of educational expenditure by 1.23 percent on average, controlling for other factors. This is a clear sign of crowding out household expenditure. Additionally, experiencing the past scholarship period, having a higher total household expenditure per capita, being a male, being older and living in rural areas are also associated with the lower share of household educational spending, while higher grades and higher parental attainment support more expense.

When examining the subsamples, we observe that results from the overall sample is mostly driven by grades 1-9 that yield identical significant factors except for repetition, gender and age. However, the intervention does not have a significant association with educational expenditure for grades 10-12.

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Table 3.5: The impact of the intervention on household educational expenditure

Sample in 2006	Overall		Grade 1-9		Grade 10-12	
	(1)		(2)		(3)	
Dependent variable	1st stage	2nd stage	1st stage	2nd stage	1st stage	2nd stage
Educational attainment 2007						
Mistargeting	0.485*** (0.017)	-	0.514*** (0.018)	-	0.300*** (0.053)	-
District election 2005	-0.062*** (0.013)	-	-0.072*** (0.015)	-	0.018 (0.018)	-
intervention	-	-1.228*** (0.323)		-0.951*** (0.308)	-	-9.605 (2.762)
High	-0.026* (0.025)	-0.503* (0.271)	-0.012 (0.024)	-0.529* (0.274)	-	-
Ed. spending 2000	-0.004* (0.002)	0.195*** (0.053)	-0.008** (0.003)	0.256*** (0.045)	-0.005 (0.001)	0.051 (0.084)
Grade 7-9	-0.053** (0.024)	2.215*** (0.268)	-0.062** (0.026)	1.756*** (0.270)	-	-
Grade 10-12	-0.145*** (0.039)	4.661*** (0.439)	-0.112*** (0.041)	5.037*** (0.496)	-	-
Repetition	-0.028 (0.017)	0.315* (0.190)	-0.044** (0.020)	0.178 (0.197)	0.009 (0.028)	0.420 (0.623)
Log total household expenditure per capita	-0.011* (0.007)	-0.739*** (0.075)	-0.012 (0.008)	-0.565*** (0.077)	-0.004** (0.009)	-1.456*** (0.207)
Male	0.029** (0.012)	-0.256* (0.134)	0.028** (0.013)	-0.212 (0.139)	0.004 (0.018)	-0.644 (0.426)
Age	-0.007* (0.004)	-0.182*** (0.043)	-0.003 (0.005)	-0.046 (0.045)	0.0001 (0.009)	-0.421** (0.180)
Rural	0.006 (0.013)	-0.715*** (0.146)	-0.007 (0.015)	-0.800*** (0.152)	-0.021 (0.020)	0.280 (0.463)
Mother years of schooling	-0.006*** (0.002)	0.081*** (0.025)	-0.006*** (0.002)	0.067*** (0.026)	-0.005* (0.003)	0.161** (0.078)
Father years of schooling	0.003 (0.002)	0.132*** (0.023)	0.002 (0.002)	0.152*** (0.024)	0.002 (0.003)	0.040 (0.074)
Province FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	4986		4812		804	
Endogeneity test	[0.014]		[0.142]		[0.389]	
F test	431.82		455.81		16.84	
Hansen J stat	[0.424]		[0.286]		[0.000]	

Observation unit is students in 2007 who were still at school in 2006 when the assistance was given. The observation is limited with maximum 30% educational expenditure to avoid measurement errors. Models include sampling weights. The significance levels are 0.01 (\*\*\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.1 (\*). Robust standard errors are in parentheses.

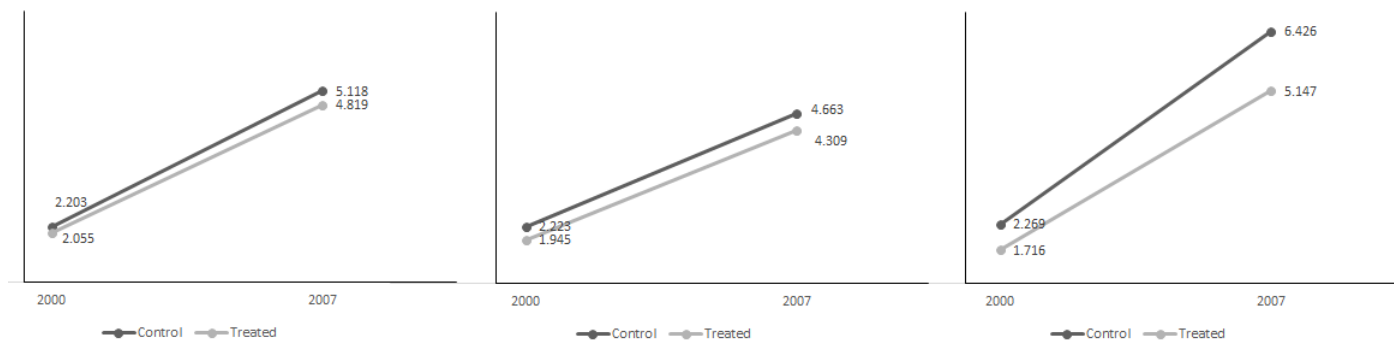
Figure 3.7 provides a PSM-DiD approach. We find that none of the samples show a significant DiD concerning the treatment effect on household educational expenditure, even though all signs are negative. The next step is to test BOS spillover effect for grades 1-9 since some spending in education must have been gone after the school grant was introduced.

Testing the spillover effect reveals that the effect of BOS with and without the transfer on household expenditure in education (Figure 3.8) is similar. It suggests that the marginal effect of individual assistance seems to be insignificant on spending. Comparing them to the control group shows

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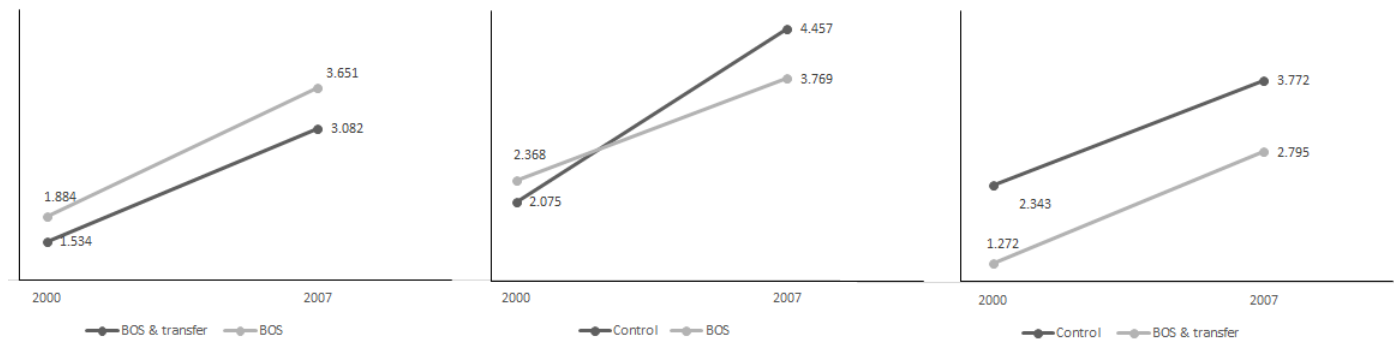
that out-of-pocket expenses from BOS does not substantially change the level spent for education. Therefore, the substitution effect seems to happen from the transfer to household expenditure and converges into the spending level prior to the intervention. As for the grant, the effect is not essentially zero, yet it is insignificant since it has a large standard error. School and district heterogeneity in managing the grant is possibly be the main source of the large variation.

Figure 3.7: PSM-DiD analysis of household educational spending for overall sample (left), grade 1-9 (middle) and grade 10-12 (right)



Treatment group: receiving the transfer. Control group: not receiving the transfer.

Figure 3.8: PSM-DiD analysis of household educational spending to test BOS spillover effect grade 1-9



Treatment groups: (i) attending BOS school and receiving the transfer; (ii) attending BOS school. Control group: attending non BOS school and receiving no transfer.

### 3.4.5 Heterogeneity analysis

Table 3.6: Impact for subgroups

	Grade 1-9			Grade 10-12		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)
Female	3.569	0.154	-0.095	-1.102	-0.115	0.183
Male	5.196	0.240**	-0.456	-5.584	-0.096	-2.522**
Urban	6.413*	0.157	-1.078*	-1.344	-0.056	0.931
Rural	2.594	0.325***	0.014	-5.379	-0.157	-1.407
Non Java residence	1.200	0.199	-0.112	-0.123	-0.087	-0.600
Java residence	6.425**	0.293***	-0.094	-1.323	-0.149	0.065
Q1	-	0.162	-0.124	-	-	-
Q2	2.553	0.280	-0.784	-6.270	-0.439	0.600
Q3	13.624**	0.212	-0.577	-	-0.432	0.133
Q4	6.601**	0.104	0.084	-1.927	-0.251	1.285

Note: (1) is cognitive test score; (2) is educational attainment; (3) is household expenditure in education. Q1-Q4 are wealth index quantiles. Blank cells indicates there is not enough observation to analyse in the related subgroups. The method is DiD-PSM. The significance levels are 0.01 (\*\*\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.1 (\*).

Table 3.6 presents the results of PSM-DiD for various socio-economics and demographic groups. It consists of two different educational levels and assesses the impact on learning as well as spending outcomes. We find that the participants grade 1-9 who live in urban areas, in Java and are from the richer households have a positive impact on the increase of cognitive test scores. Furthermore, being male, living in rural areas and living in Java are beneficial to increasing participants' attainment. Contrarily, living in urban areas means a decrease on spending, given the subsidy.

We need to keep in mind, however, that the grant is probably the main reason behind the significant impact of the treatment for the compulsory grades. This suspicion is strengthened by evidence from higher grades, where the intervention has no impact on education outcomes for different subgroups. The transfer for senior secondary level, instead, substitutes for household expenditure in education for males.

### 3.5 Conclusions and policy implications

Education subsidies are the answer to the question of how governments can provide access to education through income redistribution schemes. In this paper, we point out several aspects concerning two education subsidies given in Indonesia as the consequence of increasing domestic oil prices during 2001 to 2005. The education subsidies of our interest are *Bantuan Khusus Murid* (BKM) in the form of direct transfers to households and *Bantuan Operasional Sekolah* (BOS) as the grant for schools, where schools can send a fraction of it as an out-of-pocket expense to poor students.

This variable, therefore, is a combination of a targeted subsidy and a derivation of universal subsidy that were implemented at the same period of time.

Our data from the Indonesian Family Life Survey 2007 simply unify both transfers into one single treatment variable and this variable documents the assistance received in the 2006/2007 academic year. We examine the impact of the intervention on two education outcomes, as well as on household educational expenditure. Our study contributes to the literature by identifying barriers that hold back the optimal impact of educational subsidies and the impact size under such constraints.

The procedure defining who is eligible for BKM has a poverty threshold as the baseline determines the priority provinces/districts and the amount of the transfer. However, schools have the final nomination list - also for out-of-pocket spending from BOS - and even with very clear guidelines, schools are able to select the nominees according to their own judgment because there is no strict monitoring system of the participants profile. Our preliminary analysis indicates mistargeting is an issue for this particular policy. We find that approximately 10 percent of the funding was mistargeted to non-poor students and 80 percent of the poor was excluded from the intervention. However, the take up rate for BKM was not large and the literature suggests that out-of-pocket expense from BOS funding was also little. Those might be the reasons why we observe quite a large amount of exclusion. Even if the targeting had been perfectly correct, the exclusion rate would only be reduced to 70 percent. This indicates that the coverage of the subsidies was too small.

We do not find a significant association between the intervention and education outcomes in the cross section analysis. The DiD-PSM approach shows, however, that cognitive test scores increase by 5 points for the overall sample and educational attainment increases around 4 months for grades 1-9 after one year of intervention. In the latter case, further examination suggests that the positive effects are most likely coming from the BOS instead of the individual subsidies. The grant size for each student was considerably large and implemented without an adequate monitoring system. Nevertheless, this program was still able to deliver some positive outcomes in the short run. This example shows that universal subsidies can work well and would possibly be better with more effective management. Moreover, there seems to be a long term effect of the past subsidies on educational attainment. Controlling for education level, exposure to the JPS scholarship period is associated with 13 percent difference in educational attainment.

Educational spending has a different story. Intervention is associated with a 1 percent decrease in household expenditure on education. In addition, we find that the transfer has a substitution effect



on educational expense from the panel data approach, where the spending quickly converges to its level prior the intervention.

Households' behavioral reactions, regarding how they adjust their own investments in education when they receive subsidies, should be considered when planning the program. In particular, the argument that the program should be stopped since there is no strong positive impact can be avoided if the program managers anticipate this issue. Das's (2004) suggestion of avoiding crowding out household educational expenditures by focusing on the inputs that are unavailable in the competitive market or that complement the household's provision, for instance school bus services, could also be useful.

The goal of conditional transfers in our study is to keep the attendance at its current level and to an extent to increase the attainment. In general, there is slight positive evidence. The size of the impact, however, is not yet optimal and some areas could be improved, including the targeting and supervision as well as coming up with a strategy to anticipate crowding out household spending. The Indonesian government now uses cash transfer programs for basic and secondary education to replace the BKM, namely Bantuan Siswa Miskin/BSM (Poor Student Assistance) and Kartu Indonesia Pintar/KIP (Smart Indonesian Card), which also use poverty-based targeting and have quite large coverage. Learning from past programs would allow the program managers to (re)formulate those subsidies to obtain a larger benefit, including making the transfers complement school grants in the best possible way<sup>21</sup>.

The BOS is now the main education subsidy program that includes the coverage of senior secondary school. The primary purpose of this program is to improve the quality of education. We find that the short run effect on cognitive skills is insignificant, not because this is a zero effect, but a large confidence bound seems to be the reason. As the literature has suggested, institutional quality matters when aiming for large scale aid to be effective. In particular, school heterogeneity, and to some extent the supervision at the district level, are the key areas that could influence the large variation in the participants' outcomes. Maybe, more time is also required to see the significant effect on quality.

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<sup>21</sup>According to the 2015 BOS technical guide, schools are still allowed to transfer the money to poor students for transportation cost, providing uniforms, shoes and learning supplies provided that the beneficiaries were not the participants of other government assistance such as KIP.

## Appendix A

Table A1: Freedom House and Maddison GDP per capita

Dependent variable:	5 year (M1)	10 year (M2)	20 year (M3)	5 year average (M4)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	1.094*** (1.673)	-0.714** (0.261)	-1.638*** (0.190)	1.991*** (0.168)
Lag log income per capita	-0.197 (0.140)	-0.305 (0.271)	0.326* (0.169)	-0.223 (0.137)
OECD (D)	2.529* (1.319)	0.997 (0.954)	-0.432 (0.661)	3.696*** (1.293)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>				
Lag Democracy	-***	+	No	-
Lag Log income per capita	+***	+***	+***	+**
OECD (D)	+**	+***	-	+
Country fe	No	No	No	No
Year fe	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	-2.342*** (0.643)	1.357 (1.335)	458.996 (8.142e+4)	-10.100*** (1.206)
Lag log income per capita	-0.074 (0.313)	-1.219** (0.543)	-10.590 (1.052e+4)	-0.022 (0.075)
OECD (D)	-20.843 (4.515e+4)	-18.525 (5.565e+6)	-432.161 (4.841e+7)	-10.100 (1.206)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Year fe	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	9.722*** (2.486)	4.274** (2.119)	-16.046*** (5.124)	21.497*** (6.572)
Lag log income per capita	5.056** (2.221)	1.985 (2.253)	20.303*** (4.523)	4.914 (3.481)
OECD (D)	-12.680 (1.707e+4)	19.482 (3.975e+4)	-52.419 (5.307e+1)	-23.898 (6.996e+3)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	858	384	141	858
Country	136	127	88	136
Global deviance	-148.574	-146.031	-256.316	-402.312
AIC	727.426	659.969	309.684	215.688
SBC	2809.942	2252.078	1144.183	1684.861

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Models M1-M3 are estimated using 5, 10 and 20 year intervals, respectively. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

Table A2: Polity IV and Maddison GDP per capita

Dependent variable:	5 year	10 year	20 year	5 year average
democracy	(M1)	(M2)	(M3)	(M4)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	1.477*** (0.177)	-0.310 (0.288)	-2.754*** (0.452)	2.579*** (0.173)
Lag log income per capita	0.102 (0.152)	0.146 (0.271)	0.168 (0.440)	0.034 (0.132)
OECD (D)	1.515** (0.639)	2.224** (1.077)	2.851** (1.273)	1.300** (0.577)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>				
Lag Democracy	+	+**	No	-
Lag Income per capita	+*	+	+***	-
OECD (D)	-	+***	-***	+
Country fe	No	No	No	No
Year fe	Yes	No	No	Yes
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	-17.983 (0.141)	-21.945 (5.917e+4)	1.010e-9 (7.614e+4)	-173.571*** (4.533e+1)
Lag log income per capita	-3.969** (1.914)	-3.133 (2.100)	-5.217e-9 (1.959e+4)	0.358 (0.381)
OECD (D)	40.100 (2.762e+6)	39.306 (1.255e+6)	2.116e-6 (1.822e+6)	-13.512 (5.477e+3)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Year fe	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>				
Lag democracy	24.099*** (2.268)	8.038 (5.840)	0.723 (1.671e+1)	27.827*** (2.620)
Lag log income per capita	-0.670 (2.013)	-3.706 (5.566)	1.013 (1.980e+1)	9.537** (4.044)
OECD (D)	25.301 (3.609e+5)	67.210 (1.382e+7)	43.809 (2.381e+7)	-32.268 (2.170e+7)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	858	384	141	858
Country	136	127	88	136
Global deviance	-808.347	-355.637	-281.966	-1096.838
AIC	76.653	450.363	288.034	-478.838
SBC	2150.17	2042.472	1128.431	990.335

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Models M1-M3 are estimated using 5, 10 and 20 year intervals, respectively. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

Table A3: Results with annual data for income variable Penn World Table GDP

Dependent var.	Freedom House				Polity IV			
Equation	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\nu$	$\tau$	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\nu$	$\tau$
Democracy								
lag 1	3.674*** (0.104)	-***	-20.434*** (1.509)	30.028*** (3.177)	4.510*** (0.066)	-***	-1.516e+4 (1.116e+5)	151.446*** (36.567)
lag 2	-0.163 (0.132)	+**	0.361 (1.354)	2.480 (3.475)	0.064 (0.061)	-	100.58 (1.810e+3)	3.596 (48.161)
lag 3	0.078 (0.125)	+***	0.159 (1.166)	0.154 (3.009)	-0.061 (0.075)	+***	609.54 (1.803e+3)	8.173 (43.408)
lag 4	-0.002 (0.117)	-***	-1.414 (1.088)	0.364 (3.095)	0.103 (0.085)	-*	-257.12** (107.55)	16.027 (27.584)
lag 5	-0.014 (0.098)	+	0.799 (0.799)	0.480 (2.280)	-0.151** (0.072)	+***	520.15*** (151.72)	-4.244** (2.071)
Log income per capita								
lag 1	0.001 (0.209)	+**	-0.850 (1.300)	-3.372 (0.507)	-0.055 (0.119)	-***	142.06*** (29.54)	4.585 (8.757)
lag 2	-0.075 (0.300)	-***	1.009 (1.931)	5.199 (7.097)	-0.299* (0.165)	-***	-18.280 (26.890)	1.503 (11.994)
lag 3	-0.021 (0.274)	+***	-0.399 (1.938)	4.717 (5.960)	0.204 (0.141)	+***	-79.120*** (26.650)	-8.169 (11.713)
lag 4	0.035 (0.270)	-***	-0.450 (1.833)	-11.012*** (5.168)	0.372*** (0.124)	+***	32.200 (31.630)	1.254 (11.432)
lag 5	-0.067 (0.191)	+	0.490 (1.146)	6.326*** (2.810)	-0.191* (0.105)	-***	-34.050 (24.660)	2.387 (6.585)
OECD (D)	0.367*** (0.135)	-	-1.007 (0.798)	-0.314 (0.507)	0.389* (0.220)	+	1081.44 (112.040)	-0.047 (1.120)
Country fe	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Year fe	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Observation	2427				2427			
Country	117				117			
Global deviance	-2391.466				-4665.036			
AIC	-2011.466				-4283.036			
SBC	-910.528				-3176.034			

$\mu$  is the mean equation,  $\sigma$  is the scale equation;  $\nu$  is the zero inflation equation;  $\tau$  is the one inflation equation. The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

Table A4: Results with annual data for income variable Maddison GDP

Dependent var.	Freedom House				Polity IV			
Equation	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\nu$	$\tau$	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\nu$	$\tau$
democracy								
lag 1	4.055*** (0.083)	-***	-23.089*** (1.389)	31.581*** (3.282)	4.871*** (0.053)	-***	-156.114*** (21.681)	145.158*** (29.859)
lag 2	-0.111 (0.098)	-	0.143 (1.322)	2.450 (3.583)	-0.050 (0.054)	+*	0.327 (14.229)	16.385 (37.717)
lag 3	0.126 (0.087)	+***	-0.208 (1.143)	0.714 (3.416)	-0.016 (0.081)	+***	1.317 (13.429)	3.226 (40.684)
lag 4	-0.154* (0.085)	-***	-1.059 (1.089)	-0.167 (3.250)	0.152 (0.087)	-***	-0.910 (12.694)	20.734 (31.665)
lag 5	-0.021 (0.071)	+	0.272 (0.805)	1.808 (2.191)	-0.295*** (0.061)	+***	0.671 (7.005)	-5.165*** (1.905)
Log income per capita								
lag 1	0.241 (0.174)	-***	-0.152 (1.389)	-6.454 (4.627)	-0.171** (0.086)	-***	4.595 (4.569)	2.875 (12.200)
lag 2	-0.519** (0.263)	-*	-1.293 (2.251)	10.167 (7.762)	-0.086 (0.153)	+**	-5.236 (5.737)	-18.968 (17.490)
lag 3	0.274 (0.225)	+***	0.729 (1.955)	-0.836 (6.228)	0.088 (0.151)	+**	2.525 (5.732)	17.982 (13.412)
lag 4	-0.052 (0.172)	-***	1.242 (1.580)	-9.003* (4.719)	0.098 (0.158)	+***	-3.371 (4.810)	-8.728 (8.741)
lag 5	-0.009 (0.117)	+***	-0.507 (0.871)	6.131** (2.418)	-0.032 (0.108)	+	1.621 (2.239)	6.334 (4.235)
OECD (D)	-0.250 (0.609)	-	-1.629** (0.781)	1.429*** (0.414)	0.326** (0.164)	+*	-13.210 (6.644e+4)	2.543** (1.103)
Country fe	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Year fe	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Observation			2835				2835	
Country			134				134	
Global deviance			-3086.879				-6284.997	
AIC			-2622.879				-5820.997	
SBC			-1242.526				-4440.624	

$\mu$  is the mean equation,  $\sigma$  is the scale equation;  $\nu$  is the zero inflation equation;  $\tau$  is the one inflation equation. The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge.

Table A5: Modeling OECD membership as the causal factor of higher democracy

Dependent variable:	5 year		10 year		5 year average	
democracy	(M1)	(M2)	(M3)	(M4)	(M5)	(M6)
<b>Mean equation (<math>\mu</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	1.290* (0.706)	0.768 (0.512)	-7.689*** (0.648)	-1.083 (1.035)	1.774** (0.668)	2.897*** (0.456)
Lag log income per capita	1.137** (0.571)	0.156 (0.550)	3.125*** (0.408)	0.015 (0.698)	0.448 (0.619)	-0.103 (0.540)
Lag OECD (D)	No	No	No	No	-0.056 (0.326)	0.420 (0.265)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scale equation (<math>\sigma</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	-***	+	-***	-***	-***	-***
Lag log income per capita	No	No	No	No	+***	-***
Country fe	No	No	No	No	No	No
Year fe	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Zero inflation equation (<math>\nu</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	39.259 (2.721e+5)	1.910e-8 (2.514e+5)	6.878e-7 (1.012e+6)	9.840e-7 (3.198e+5)	5.026e-7 (3.503e+5)	-2.045e-9 (7.643e+5)
Lag log income per capita	-1.882 (3.647e+5)	-5.198e-9 (2.531e+5)	6.902e-7 (1.429e+6)	6.094e-7 (4.101e+5)	-5.185e-7 (3.030e+5)	-9.614e-9 (7.118e+5)
Lag OECD (D)	-27.162 (1.622e+5)	1.920e-8 (2.574e+5)	3.602e-7 (1.002e+6)	1.434e-7 (3.166e+5)	3.774e-7 (2.085e+5)	-1.340e-8 (6.296e+5)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>One inflation equation (<math>\tau</math>)</b>						
Lag democracy	42.912** (1.779e+1)	17.176*** (4.624)	28.873** (12.680)	5.304** (2.654)	13.549 (11.111)	19.863** (5.168)
Lag log income per capita	0.416 (4.265)	9.920* (5.802)	5.072*** (1.874)	3.499*** (3.099)	- (11.792(2.708))	1.980 (1.668)
Lag OECD (D)	1.434 (2.822)	6.350* (3.819)	2.336 (1.492)	-0.662 (0.968)	1.409 (4.566)	-5.263 (5.168)
Country fe	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Year fe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observation	216	216	109	109	209	209
Country	28	28	28	28	27	27
Global deviance	-73.868	-90.084	-47.468	6.457	-102.798	-147.615
AIC	166.132	149.916	106.532	160.457	135.202	90.385
SBC	571.165	554.950	313.766	367.691	532.939	488.123

The coefficients are in logit form for the equations for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , in log form for the equations for  $\nu$  and  $\tau$ . The equation for  $\sigma$  only shows the direction of relationship and its significance level. Significance levels are 0.1 (\*), 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.01 (\*\*\*). Standard errors are in parentheses with "qr" type, which assumes there is no correlation among the parameters. Country fixed-effects and year fixed-effects are used only when the algorithms converge. Models with odds number use Freedom House variable, models with even numbers use Polity4 variable. The income variable for all models is from Penn World Table.

## Appendix B

Table B1: Descriptive Statistics

Panel A: 1997	Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18	
	Obs	Mean/proportion	Obs	Mean/proportion
Attainment	2341	5,575	2145	8,288
Father's attainment	2171	5,886	1938	6,056
Mother's attainment	2281	4,864	2086	4,821
Residence (rural dummy)	2339	0,545	2145	0,501
Age	2341	12,586	2145	16,456
Panel B: 2000	Cohort 11-14		Cohort 15-18	
Variable	Obs	Mean/proportion	Obs	Mean/proportion
Attainment	2619	5,715	2690	8,589
Father's attainment	2401	6,142	2395	6,195
Mother's attainment	2544	5,222	2594	5,053
Residence (rural dummy)	2619	0,576	2690	0,494
Age	2619	12,539	2690	16,482

Source: own elaboration on IFLS data

Figure B1: Educational transition

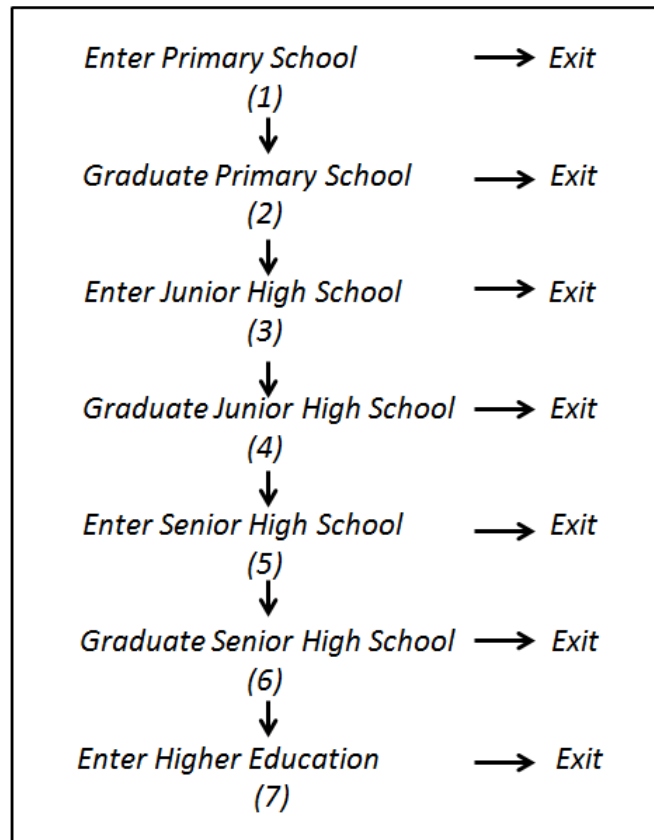


Table B2: Coding educational steps

Level	Value
Enter Primary School	1
Graduate Primary School	2
Enter Junior High School	3
Graduate Junior High School	4
Enter Senior High School	5
Graduate Senior High School	6
Enter Higher Education	7



## Appendix C

Table C1: The question in IFLS 2007 section DL and DLA (education)

DL43, DLA43J & DLA103, DLA103J. From what source was this assistance, and what was the total value? (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)
A. GNOTA
C. Government (other than BOS)
D. Community group
E. Religious group
F. Family
I. School committee
J. BOS (DL43) — BOS/BKM Fund (DLA103)
K. Foreign government/foundation/individual
L. Domestic Non-Government Institution
Source: IFLS 2007

Table C2: What to spend? BOS Operational Guidelines 2005 & Guide Book 2006

No	Operational Guidelines 2005	No.	Guide Book 2006
1.	Registration form	1.	Everything related to registration fees
2.	Text books and supplementary books for libraries	2.	Text books and references books for libraries' collection
3.	Teacher trainings for quality improvement (i.e. MGMP/MKS etc.)	3.	School supplies (i.e. writing books, chalks, pencils, practical materials, student registration books, inventory books, newspaper subscription, sugar, coffee and tea)
4.	School exams and tests	4.	Student activities (i.e. remedials, enrichment, sports, arts, scientific activities, scouts, red cross and similar activities)
5.	School supplies (i.e. notebooks, chalks, pencils and practical materials)	5.	School exams, tests, and progress reports
6.	Simple maintenance cost	6.	Teaching profession development (i.e. KKG/MGMP and KKKS/MKKS)
7.	Monthly bills and service-related cost (i.e. electricity and telephone)	7.	School maintenances (i.e. (re)painting, repair leaking roofs, repair doors and windows, repair furnitures and others)
8.	Honorariums for non-permanent teachers and non-permanent non-teacher personnels	8.	Monthly bills (i.e. electricity, water, telephone including costs for new installment if the vicinity has covered the network)
9.	Student activities (i.e. remedial, enrichment and extracurricular)	9.	Honorariums for teachers and educational personnels who are not paid by central or local government. Civil service teachers have their welfare incentives as the responsibility of local government.
10.	Transportation cost assistance for students from poor families	10.	Transportation costs assistance for students from poor families
11.	Dormitory costs and religious-related equipments for religious-based schools	11.	Dormitory costs and religious-related equipments for religious-based schools
		12.	BOS management and administration
		13.	The leftover - when available - can be used to spend for visual aids equipment, instructional medias and school furnitures

Source: SMERU Newsletter (2006)

Table C3: Statistics descriptive

Variable	Year	Observation	Mean/ <i>median</i> <i>/proportion</i>	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Educational attainment	2000	5,693	0.972	1.653	0	11
	2007	6,748	5.771	3.040	1	12
Cognitive test score	2000	1,798	57.271	25.042	0	100
	2007	1,760	78.450	15.946	0	100
The assistance	2000	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.155	-	-	-
Nominal of the assistance (USD)	2000	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	1,045	8.372	9.595	0.166	83.079
Household educational expenditure (%)	2000	5,738	1.537	2.157	0	25.122
	2007	6,748	4.141	4.629	0	29.465
Total household expenditure per capita (USD)	2000	5,735	207.800	421.540	15.960	6,425.000
	2007	6,741	307.25	3,923.116	33.439	113,937.200
Household income per day (USD)	2000	1,950	1.400	1.890	1.400	22.580
	2007	2,210	1.670	2.970	0.019	27.815
Wealth index (1-100)	2000	5,708	48.124	14.540	0	90.824
	2007	6,674	41.343	13.990	0.898	77.099
Male	2000	5,738	0.520	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.514	-	-	-
Rural	2000	5,738	0.553	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.495	-	-	-
Age	2000	5,694	4.783	3.340	0	15
	2007	6,748	11.852	3.428	4	22
Repetition	2000	1,847	0.001	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.143	-	-	-
High	2000	2,265	0.077	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.321	-	-	-
Father ed. attainment	2000	4,913	7.242	4.060	0	12
	2007	6,166	7.309	4.804	0	12
Mother ed. attainment	2000	4,975	6.668	3.910	0	12
	2007	6,209	6.854	3.926	0	12
Other assistance	2000	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.036	-	-	-
Nominal of other assistance (USD)	2000	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	242	20.276	36.574	0.334	445.032
BOS	2000	0	-	-	-	-
	2007	2,614	0.949	-	-	-
Grade 1-6	2000	2,220	0.986	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	0.574	-	-	-
Grade 7-9	2000	2,220	1.350	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	24.100	-	-	-
Grade 10-12	2000	2,220	0.009	-	-	-
	2007	6,748	18,52	-	-	-

Observation unit is students in 2007 who were still at school in 2006 when the assistance was given. The observation is limited with maximum 30% educational expenditure to avoid measurement errors. Models include sampling weights. The significance levels are 0.01 (\*\*\*) , 0.05 (\*\*) and 0.1 (\*). Total household expenditure is the sum of food expenditure, non food expenditure and education expenditure for one year. The measure of total household expenditure per capita and household income per day are median. Dummy variables are measured by proportion. Household income accumulates the wage of father and mother. Expenditure and income in 2007 are deflated to 2000. Wealth index is calculated by using household assets and living condition.

Table C4: PSM-DiD. Results for the treatment group: the transfer.

	Baseline			Follow-up			DiD
	Control (1)	Treated (2)	Diff (3)	Control (4)	Treated (5)	Diff (6)	
<b>Score</b>							
Overall	56.071 (0.791)	51.224 (1.553)	-4.847*** (1.693)	66.164 (2.217)	66.335 (2.351)	0.171 (1.153)	5.017** (2.055)
Grade 1-9	49.232 (1.117)	44.412 (1.802)	-4.820** (2.058)	67.721 (1.704)	67.017 (1.868)	-0.704 (1.392)	4.116* (2.454)
Grade 10-12	58.492 (1.296)	58.096 (3.000)	-0.396 (3.006)	61.881 (4.551)	60.324 (4.860)	-1.557 (2.223)	-1.161 (3.824)
<b>Attainment</b>							
Overall	2.854 (0.038)	2.024 (0.069)	-0.830*** (0.080)	6.845 (0.080)	6.100 (0.083)	-0.745*** (0.067)	0.085 (0.104)
Grade 1-9	1.446 (0.041)	1.127 (0.058)	-0.319*** (0.070)	6.437 (0.056)	6.352 (0.065)	-0.086** (0.040)	0.234*** (0.082)
Grade 10-12	3.816 (0.052)	3.519 (0.317)	-0.297** (0.139)	8.373 (0.099)	8.005 (0.163)	-0.368*** (0.136)	-0.071 (0.194)
<b>Spending</b>							
Overall	2.203 (0.104)	2.055 (0.162)	-0.147 (0.171)	5.118 (0.564)	4.819 (0.646)	-0.298 (0.600)	-0.151 (0.622)
Grade 1-9	2.223 (0.012)	1.945 (0.136)	-0.278* (0.162)	4.663 (0.520)	4.309 (0.589)	-0.355 (0.586)	-0.077 (0.598)
Grade 10-12	2.269 (0.149)	1.716 (0.217)	-0.554*** (0.204)	6.426 (0.496)	5.147 (0.718)	-1.279 (0.798)	-0.726 (0.810)

Clustered standard errors are in parentheses.

Table C5: Results for the treatment groups: BOS with and without the transfer, grade 1-9.

	Baseline				Follow-up				DiD
	Control (1)	Treated (A) (2)	Treated (B) (3)	Diff (4)	Control (5)	Treated (A) (6)	Treated (B) (7)	Diff (8)	
<b>Score</b>									
C.1	-	41.502 (3.729)	45.152 (3.340)	3.650 (5.033)	-	63.493 (4.226)	67.710 (3.666)	4.218 (3.255)	0.568 (6.141)
<b>Attainment</b>									
C.1	-	0.752 (0.091)	0.751 (0.059)	-0.001 (0.106)	-	3.590 (0.071)	3.672 (0.062)	0.082 (0.085)	0.084 (0.138)
C.2	0.816 (0.447)	0.622 (0.120)	-	-0.194 (0.433)	4.387 (0.356)	3.522 (0.105)	-	-0.835** (0.347)	-0.641 (0.530)
C.3	0.944 (0.434)	-	0.763 (0.109)	-0.181 (0.413)	4.241 (0.296)	-	3.674 (0.099)	-0.567** (0.274)	-0.386 (0.484)
<b>Spending</b>									
C.1	-	1.534 (0.190)	1.884 (0.170)	0.350 (0.250)	-	3.082 (0.200)	3.651 (0.266)	0.569* (0.332)	0.218 (0.415)
C.2	2.343 (0.670)	1.272 (0.223)	-	-1.071 (0.698)	3.772 (1.045)	2.795 (0.329)	-	-0.977 (1.049)	0.094 (1.260)
C.3	2.075 (0.601)	-	2.368 (0.461)	0.293 (0.735)	4.457 (1.144)	-	3.769 (0.363)	-0.688 (1.129)	-0.981 (1.366)

Treatment A is BOS with the transfer. Treatment B is BOS without the transfer. Comparison 1 (C.1): Treatment A vs treatment B. Comparison 2 (C.2): Treatment A vs Control. Comparison 3 (C.3): Treatment B vs Control. Clustered standard errors are in parentheses.

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