

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/how-much-his-or-her-job-loss-influences-fertility-a-couple-approach/>

The speaker's paper investigates how job loss affects couples' decisions to have children in both the short and medium term. The research emphasizes the growing involvement of women in the job market and the impact of economic pressures on family planning. The study addresses two specific scenarios: job loss for either the male or female partner and compares these with couples who maintain stable employment.

Key findings indicate that job loss generally decreases the likelihood of couples having children in the subsequent year across both the UK and Germany. Notably, women's job loss has a more pronounced long-term negative impact on fertility compared to men's job loss. The study also highlights that factors such as income levels, earnings distribution, and parental status significantly influence how couples respond to job loss.

The research draws on extensive datasets from Germany and the UK to analyze couples over time, noting that the dynamics of family planning decisions are complex and influenced by various social and economic factors. The study concludes that job loss does not create an opportunity for couples to conceive, particularly for women, and suggests that policies should focus on protecting women's employment and enhancing family support systems to alleviate the impact of job loss on fertility decisions.