**Social Policies, Separation and Second Birth Spacing in Western Europe: Data Structure and Code**

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# Data Structure

## Construction of the Union Histories

The most important part of our data preparation was to harmonize the union histories across the different data sets. A “co-residential union” includes any episodes of living with a partner, irrespective of whether the person is married to that partner or not. In other words: A union is equivalent to living with a partner, regardless of marital status**.** For direct marriages, the start of the co-residential union is equivalent to the start of marriage. A union is not terminated by marriage. It may continue until the end of that particular co-residential episode. In the Finish register data, the Belgium and French (GGS) and in the German (pairfam) data, it is possible to distinguish the end of living with a partner and the end of marriage to that partner. This is not possible in the data for Spain and Italy. Divorce dates are recorded for marital unions, while the end of living together is not surveyed. For these countries, we assume that the end of a union is equivalent to the end of marriage. A key variable of interest is the order of the “co-residential union” (COH\_ORDER). For respondents who remain partnered with the parent of the first born child, the order of the union is “1”. For persons who are single, this variable is set to “0”. For persons who are in a co-residential with a new partner who is (probably) not the parent of the first child, COH\_ORDER is set to 2.

Table A1 provides a data extract from the cleaned co-residential histories for three persons from the data for Belgium. EVENT is the indicator variable for whether the second child is born at the end of an episode. \_t0 and \_t denote the age of the first child, measured in months. COH is the current partnership status. COH\_ORDER is the order of the partnership (either marital or non-marital). UN\_ORDER02 is a variable that denotes whether a person is still in the same union as he/she was when the first child was born. As can be depicted from the Table, the first person (ID 17) was with his/her first co-residential partner when the child was born. She separated from that person and had a second child with a new partner. The second person (ID 1234) had the first child with his/her second partner and the second child with a new partner as well. In most cases, the end of one co-residential union and the start of the next union are interrupted by spells of being separated or single. This is, however, not the case for ID 6348. He/she has a second child with a new partner without experiencing any episode of singlehood.

Figure A1: Data extract from co-residential histories

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ID | \_t0 | \_t | COH | UN\_ORDER | UN\_ORDER02 | EVENT |
| 17 | 0 | 26 | married | 1 | Union with parent of first child | 0 |
| 17 | 26 | 44 | separated/widowed | 0 | Single | 0 |
| 17 | 44 | 66 | separated/widowed | 0 | Single | 0 |
| 17 | 66 | 82 | married | 2 | New union | 1 |
| 1234 | 0 | 76 | cohabiting | 2 | Union with parent of first child | 0 |
| 1234 | 76 | 81 | separated/widowed | 0 | Single | 0 |
| 1234 | 81 | 112 | cohabiting | 3 | New union | 1 |
| 6348 | 0 | 56 | married | 1 | Union with parent of first child | 0 |
| 6348 | 56 | 60 | cohabiting | 2 | New union | 0 |
| 6348 | 60 | 69 | cohabiting | 2 | New union | 1 |

## Variables in Harmonized Data

**COH\_$ Cohabitation (1=yes, 0=no, -1=missing, -2)[[2]](#footnote-2)**

**COH\_Y$ Year start of cohabitation**

**ICOH\_M$ Month start of cohabitation (imputed randomly, if missing)[[3]](#footnote-3)**

**SEP\_$ Separation (0=ongoing, 1=separation, 2=death, -1=missing)**

**SEP\_Y$ Year end of cohabitation**

**ISEP\_M$ Month end of cohabitation (imputed randomly, if missing)**

**MAR\_$ Marriage (1=yes, 0=no, -1=missing)**

**MAR\_Y$ Year of marriage**

**IMAR\_M$ Month of marriage (imputed randomly, if missing)**

**DIV\_$ Divorce (0=ongoing, 1=separation, 2=death, -1=missing)**

**DIV \_Y$ Year of divorce**

**IDIV\_M$ Month of divorce (imputed randomly, if missing)**

**KID\_$ Birth of biological child (1=yes, 0=no, -1=missing)**

**KID \_Y$ Year of birth**

**IKID\_M$ Month of birth (imputed randomly, if missing)**

**BORN\_Y Year of Birth**

**BORN\_M Month of Birth**

**YEAR\_S Year of Survey**

**IMONTH\_S Month of Interview (imputed if missing)**

**SEX Sex of Respondent (**1: Male; 2: Female)

**EDU Education by ISCED1997 (grouped into 3 categories: 0-2/3-4/5-6)**

**MIG Migration Background ( 0: Born in country; 1: Not born in country; -1: Missing)**

**AWGT Probability weight**

## Stata Code

clear

set seed 10000

set more off

clear

global WRITE **YOURPATH**

use DATA.dta, clear

\*Converts all variables into upper cases (if lower cases due to convserison from SAS)

rename \_all, upper

\*DELETE CASES: Children born in 1990 or later

keep if KID\_Y1>=1990 & KID\_Y1<2015

\*DELETE CASES: Invalid biographical information

 drop if KID\_Y1==-1

 forvalues i=1/20 {

 cap drop if COH\_`i'==-1

 cap drop if MAR\_`i'==-1

 cap drop if SEP\_`i'==-1

 cap drop if DIV\_`i'==-1

 cap drop if COH\_Y`i'==-1

 cap drop if MAR\_Y`i'==-1

 cap drop if SEP\_Y`i'==-1

 cap drop if DIV\_Y`i'==-1

 cap drop if COH\_Y`i'>SEP\_Y`i' & COH\_Y`i'!=. & SEP\_Y`i'!=.

 cap drop if MAR\_Y`i'>DIV\_Y`i' & MAR\_Y`i'!=. & DIV\_Y`i'!=.

 }

\*DELETE CASES: Drop Twins

 drop if ym(KID\_Y2,IKID\_M2)==ym(KID\_Y1,IKID\_M1) & KID\_2==1

\*DELETE CASES: Second Child at date of censoring

 drop if ym(YEAR\_S,IMONTH\_S)==ym(KID\_Y2,IKID\_M2) & KID\_2==1

\*DELETE CASES: Drop if R's year of birth is missing

 drop if BORN\_Y==-1

\*STSETTING THE DATA

 g TIME=ym(YEAR\_S,IMONTH\_S)-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M)

 g TEST=0

 stset TIME, fail(TEST==0) id(ID)

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\*\*FERTILITY HISTORIES

 g DUR\_KID1=9999

 g DUR\_KID2=9999

 replace DUR\_KID1=ym(KID\_Y1,IKID\_M1)-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if KID\_1==1

 replace DUR\_KID2=ym(KID\_Y2,IKID\_M2)-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if KID\_2==1

 stsplit KID1, after at(0) (time=DUR\_KID1)

 stsplit KID2, after at(0) (time=DUR\_KID2)

 recode KID1 -1=0 0=1

 recode KID2 -1=0 0=1

 lab var KID1 "First Child 0=no 1=yes"

 lab var KID2 "Second Child 0=no 1=yes"

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\*\*\*PARTNERSHIP HISTORIES

 forvalues i=1/20 {

 \*Cohabitation

 cap g DUR\_COH`i'=9999

 cap replace DUR\_COH`i'=ym(COH\_Y`i',ICOH\_M`i')-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if COH\_`i'==1

 stsplit COH`i', after at(0) (time=DUR\_COH`i')

 \*Marriage

 cap g DUR\_MAR`i'=9999

 cap replace DUR\_MAR`i'=ym(MAR\_Y`i',IMAR\_M`i')-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if MAR\_`i'==1

 stsplit MAR`i', after at(0) (time=DUR\_MAR`i')

 \*Separation

 cap g DUR\_SEP`i'=9999

 cap replace DUR\_SEP`i'=ym(SEP\_Y`i',ISEP\_M`i')-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if (SEP\_`i'==1 | SEP\_`i'==2) & SEP\_Y`i'!=.a

 cap replace DUR\_SEP`i'=45\*12 if (SEP\_`i'==1 & SEP\_Y`i'==.a)

 stsplit SEP`i', after at(0) (time=DUR\_SEP`i')

 \*Divorce

 cap g DUR\_DIV`i'=9999

 cap replace DUR\_DIV`i'=ym(DIV\_Y`i',IDIV\_M`i')-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if (DIV\_`i'==1 & DIV\_Y`i'!=.a)

 cap replace DUR\_DIV`i'=ym(SEP\_Y`i',ISEP\_M`i')-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M) if (DIV\_`i'==1 & DIV\_Y`i'==.a & SEP\_Y`i'!=.a)

 cap replace DUR\_DIV`i'=45\*12 if (DIV\_`i'==1 & DIV\_Y`i'==.a & SEP\_Y`i'==.a)

 stsplit DIV`i', after at(0) (time=DUR\_DIV`i')

 }

\*ORDER OF UNION

 g COH=0

 forvalues i=1/20 {

 cap replace COH=1 if COH`i'==0

 cap replace COH=3 if SEP`i'==0 | DIV`i'==0

 cap replace COH=2 if MAR`i'==0

 }

 lab def COH 0 "single" 1 "cohabiting" 2 "married" 3 "separated/widowed"

 lab val COH COH

 g UN\_ORDER=0

 forvalues i=1/20 {

 cap replace UN\_ORDER=`i' if COH`i'==0 & (COH==1 | COH==2)

 }

\*ADJUST PARTNERSHIP ORDER AND COHABITATION STATUS FOR THOSE WHO MOVE TOGETHER WITH PARTNER WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER CHILDBIRTH

 stsplit CORRECT, after at(0,1,2,3,4,5,6) (time=DUR\_KID1)

 sort ID \_t0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+6] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==0 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+6]!=0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+5] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==1 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+5]!=0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+4] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==2 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+4]!=0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+3] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==3 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+3]!=0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+2] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==4 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+2]!=0

 by ID: replace UN\_ORDER=UN\_ORDER[\_n+1] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==5 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+1]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+6] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==0 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+6]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+5] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==1 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+5]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+4] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==2 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+4]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+3] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==3 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+3]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+2] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==4 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+2]!=0

 by ID: replace COH=COH[\_n+1] if UN\_ORDER==0 & CORRECT==5 & UN\_ORDER[\_n+1]!=0

\*TYPE OF CHILDREN

 sort ID \_t0

 g TEST01=-1

 by ID: replace TEST01=UN\_ORDER if KID1==0 & KID1[\_n+1]==1

 by ID: egen UNORDER\_KID01=max(TEST01)

 lab var UNORDER\_KID01 "Union order at birth of first child (fixed)"

 g UN\_ORDER02=.

 replace UN\_ORDER02=1 if UNORDER\_KID01==UN\_ORDER

 replace UN\_ORDER02=2 if UNORDER\_KID01!=UN\_ORDER

 replace UN\_ORDER02=0 if COH==0 | COH==3

 lab var UN\_ORDER02 "Current union order (time-varying)"

 lab def UN\_ORDER02 0 "single" 1 "with parent of first child" 2 "new union"

 lab val UN\_ORDER02 UN\_ORDER02

 save $WRITE\FINAL,replace

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\*Table: Mean Difference between First and Second Birth

 use $WRITE\FINAL,clear

 drop if KID1==0

 by ID: g EVENT=1 if KID2==0 & KID2[\_n+1]==1

 keep if EVENT==1

 generate DUR=(ym(KID\_Y2,IKID\_M2)-ym(KID\_Y1,IKID\_M1))/12

 mean DUR if UN\_ORDER02==1 [pweight=AWGT]

 mean DUR if UN\_ORDER02!=1 [pweight=AWGT]

 mean DUR if UN\_ORDER02==2 [pweight=AWGT]

 mean DUR if UN\_ORDER02==0 [pweight=AWGT]

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\*Table: Separation Probabilities by Age of First Child

 use $WRITE\FINAL,clear

 drop if KID1==0

 sort ID \_t0

 \*Generate Event-variable

 g EVENT=0

 by ID: replace EVENT=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==2

 by ID: replace EVENT=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==1

 by ID: replace EVENT=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==.

 \*Generate Time-variable

 generate TEST05=\_t if EVENT==1

 by ID: egen TIME\_eve=min(TEST05)

 by ID: egen TIME\_max=max(\_t)

 by ID: egen TIME\_min=min(\_t0)

 by ID: egen EVENT\_max=max(EVENT)

 generate TIME\_SEP=.

 replace TIME\_SEP=TIME\_eve-TIME\_min if EVENT\_max==1

 replace TIME\_SEP=TIME\_max-TIME\_min if EVENT\_max==0

 bysort ID: g SPELL01=\_n

 keep if SPELL01==1

 replace TIME\_SEP=0.002 if SPELL==1 & EVENT==1

 stset TIME\_SEP [pweight=AWGT], fail(EVENT\_max)

 sts list, at(0.003,12,24,36,48,60,72,84,96,108,120,132,144)

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\*Table: Separation and Second Births as Competing Event

 use $WRITE\FINAL,clear

 drop if KID1==0

 sort ID \_t0

 \*Event01: Separation

 g EVENT01=0

 by ID: replace EVENT01=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==2

 by ID: replace EVENT01=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==1

 by ID: replace EVENT01=1 if (COH==3 | COH==0) & COH[\_n-1]==.

 \*Event02: Second Birth

 g EVENT02=0

 by ID: replace EVENT02=1 if KID2==0 & KID2[\_n+1]==1

 \*Generate Time-variable

 generate TEST05=\_t0 if EVENT01==1

 generate TEST06=\_t if EVENT02==1

 by ID: egen TIME\_event1=min(TEST05)

 by ID: egen TIME\_event2=min(TEST06)

 by ID: egen TIME\_min=min(\_t0)

 by ID: egen DUR=max(\_t)

 replace DUR=TIME\_event1 if TIME\_event1<TIME\_event2 & TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1!=.

 replace DUR=TIME\_event2 if TIME\_event2<=TIME\_event1 & TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1!=.

 replace DUR=TIME\_event2 if TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1==.

 replace DUR=TIME\_event1 if TIME\_event1!=. & TIME\_event2==.

 replace DUR=DUR-TIME\_min

 generate EVENT=0

 replace EVENT=1 if TIME\_event1<TIME\_event2 & TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1!=.

 replace EVENT=2 if TIME\_event2<=TIME\_event1 & TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1!=.

 replace EVENT=2 if TIME\_event2!=. & TIME\_event1==.

 replace EVENT=1 if TIME\_event1!=. & TIME\_event2==.

 bysort ID: g SPELL=\_n

 keep if SPELL==1

 replace DUR=0.002 if DUR==0 & EVENT>0

 \*Cumulative Incidence Curves

 stset DUR [pweight=AWGT], fail(EVENT==1) id(ID)

 tab EVENT

 cap drop Cum\*

 stcompet SURVIVAL=ci , compet1(2)

 sort \_t SURVIVAL

 by \_t SURVIVAL: g SPELL01=\_n

 keep if SPELL01==1

 keep SURVIVAL \_t EVENT

 replace \_t=0 if \_t<1

 save $WRITE\JUNK, replace

 \*Cosmetics: Make Output Look Nice

 clear

 set obs 120

 g \_t=\_n

 save $WRITE\BLANKFILE, replace

 use $WRITE\JUNK, clear

 keep if EVENT==1

 rename SURVIVAL SURVIVAL01

 save $WRITE\JUNK02, replace

 use $WRITE\JUNK, clear

 keep if EVENT==2

 merge \_t using $WRITE\JUNK02, sort

 drop \_merge EVENT

 merge \_t using $WRITE\BLANKFILE , sort

 sort \_t

 replace SURVIVAL=SURVIVAL[\_n-1] if SURVIVAL[\_n-1]!=. & SURVIVAL==.

 replace SURVIVAL01=SURVIVAL01[\_n-1] if SURVIVAL01[\_n-1]!=. & SURVIVAL01==.

 recode SURVIVAL .=0

 recode SURVIVAL01 .=0

 l \_t SURVIVAL\* if \_t==0 | \_t==60 | \_t==120 , clean noobs

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\*Figure: Transition Probabilities To Second Child

 use $WRITE\FINAL,clear

 drop if KID1==0

 sort ID \_t0

 \*Generate Event-variable

 sort ID \_t0

 g EVENT=0

 by ID: replace EVENT=1 if KID2==0 & KID2[\_n+1]==1

 replace EVENT=2 if EVENT==1 & UN\_ORDER02!=1

 \*Keep all at risk of second birth & adjust time variable

 by ID: drop if KID2==1 & EVENT==0

 by ID: egen TEST03=min(\_t0)

 g START=\_t0-TEST03

 g END=\_t-TEST03

 \*Cumulative Incidence Curves I

 stset END [pweight=AWGT], fail(EVENT==1) time0(START) id(ID)

 cap drop Cum\*

 stcompet SURVIVAL=ci , compet1(2)

 sort \_t SURVIVAL

 by \_t SURVIVAL: g SPELL01=\_n

 keep if SPELL01==1

 keep SURVIVAL \_t EVENT

 replace \_t=0 if \_t<1

 save $WRITE\JUNK, replace

 \*Cosmetics: Make Output Look Nice

 clear

 set obs 120

 g \_t=\_n

 save $WRITE\BLANKFILE, replace

 use $WRITE\JUNK, clear

 keep if EVENT==1

 rename SURVIVAL SURVIVAL01

 save $WRITE\JUNK02, replace

 use $WRITE\JUNK, clear

 keep if EVENT==2

 merge \_t using $WRITE\JUNK02, sort

 drop \_merge EVENT

 merge \_t using $WRITE\BLANKFILE , sort

 sort \_t

 replace SURVIVAL=SURVIVAL[\_n-1] if SURVIVAL[\_n-1]!=. & SURVIVAL==.

 replace SURVIVAL01=SURVIVAL01[\_n-1] if SURVIVAL01[\_n-1]!=. & SURVIVAL01==.

 recode SURVIVAL .=0

 recode SURVIVAL01 .=0

 l \_t SURVIVAL01 SURVIVAL, clean noobs

 line SURVIVAL\* \_t

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\*Table: Multivariate Analysis

 use $WRITE\FINAL,clear

 drop if KID1==0

 drop if EDU==-1 | EDU==.

 sort ID \_t0

 \*Generate Event-variable

 g EVENT=0

 by ID: replace EVENT=1 if KID2==0 & KID2[\_n+1]==1

 \*Keep all at risk of second birth & adjust time variable

 by ID: drop if KID2==1 & EVENT==0

 by ID: egen TEST03=min(\_t0)

 g START=\_t0-TEST03

 g END=\_t-TEST03

 stset END, fail(EVENT) time0(START) id(ID)

 \*VAR: Age at First Birth

 generate AGE\_FIRST=(ym(KID\_Y1,IKID\_M1)-ym(BORN\_Y,IBORN\_M))/12

 generate AGE\_KID1=1

 replace AGE\_KID1=2 if AGE\_FIRST>=22

 replace AGE\_KID1=3 if AGE\_FIRST>=24

 replace AGE\_KID1=4 if AGE\_FIRST>=26

 replace AGE\_KID1=5 if AGE\_FIRST>=30

 replace AGE\_KID1=6 if AGE\_FIRST>=35

 \*VAR: Age of First Child

 stsplit DUR, at(24, 48, 72, 96, 120)

 \*Model

 streg ib24.DUR ib1.AGE\_KID1 ib1.EDU ib1.UN\_ORDER02 ib1.SEX, d(e)

 streg ib24.DUR ib1.AGE\_KID1 ib1.EDU#ib2.UN\_ORDER02 ib1.SEX, d(e)

\*Table: Occurrence and Exposure Table

 stptime,by(DUR)

 stptime,by(AGE\_KID1)

 stptime,by(EDU)

 stptime,by(UN\_ORDER02)

 stptime,by(SEX)

 log close

1. Correspondence Address: kreyenfeld@hertie-school.org [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Missing coding: -1: Non-response; System Missing (“.”): Not applicable. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Missing month should be imputed by a random number. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)