



Economics Seminars

Friday 09 May 2025 at 12:00

Aula Magna Edificio Baffi

Facoltà di Scienze Economiche Giuridiche e Politiche - Viale Sant'Ignazio 74

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Guaranteed Minimum Income and Fertility (with G. Dachille and M. De Paola)

Abstract. This paper examines the impact of Italy's "Reddito di Cittadinanza" (RdC), a guaranteed minimum income program introduced in 2019, on fertility. Using administrative data from the Italian Social Security Institute and a Fuzzy Regression Discontinuity Design, we uncover regionally heterogeneous effects. While no significant impact is observed in the Centre-North, RdC recipients in the South are 1.5 percentage points more likely to have a child within two years compared to non-recipients—a 18% biennial increase. Additionally, we find no significant effect of the RdC on labor supply in the South. In contrast, beneficiaries in the Centre-North experience reductions in both months worked and labor earnings: over a nine-month period, women work 0.13 fewer months and earn €609 less, while men work 0.11 fewer months and earn €628 less—a 10% decline relative to the control group mean. These contrasting regional responses are driven by more traditional gender norms, greater financial constraints, and lower opportunity costs of childbearing in the South relative to the Centre-North.