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Planning to have a child in the next future
The analysis of fertility intentions in Iberian Countries

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Framework

Considering the sustained decline in fertility, both in Portugal and in Spain, this study will focus on modeling the likely profile of the individuals who intended to have children in the next three years...

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Data

European Social Survey, round 5, 2010

Sample: 1555 individuals (625 from Portugal and 930 from Spain)

Methodology

Generalized Linear Models

Main objective

Model the likely profile of the respondents from Portugal and Spain who have intention to have children in the next three years

The variables

Variables	Categories
Country	1: Spain; 2: Portugal
Gender	1:Male; 2:Female
Health	1:Very good to reasonable; 2: Bad and very bad
Religion	1: Not at all religious or somewhat religious; 2: Very religious
Happy	1: Unhappy or fairly happy (≤ 7); 2: Very happy (≥ 8)
Residence place	1: A big city; 2: Small city, Country village and Farm or home in countryside
Household's income	1: Living comfortably or coping on present income; 2: Finding it difficult or finding it very difficult on present income
Conciliate	1: Not important; 2: Neither important nor unimportant; 3: Important
Partner	1: Yes; 2: No
Youngest children	1: Yes; 2: No
Education	1: Less than tertiary education; 2: Tertiary education (complete or in progress)
Gender roles	1: Agree strongly; 2: Agree; 3: Neither agree nor disagree, disagree or disagree strongly “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the sake of their own family”
Age	1: 15-26 Years; 2: 27-35 Years; 3: 36-38 Years; 4:39-45 Years

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Building the model

- **Univariate Analysis**

- Individual evaluation of each variable
- Joining categories
- Selection of significant variables to include in the model

- **Multivariate Analysis**

- Exclusion of non-significant variables
- Looking interactions between variables

- **Ensuring the quality of the model**

- Hosmer & Lemeshow goodness of fit test
- Discrimination capability: ROC curve

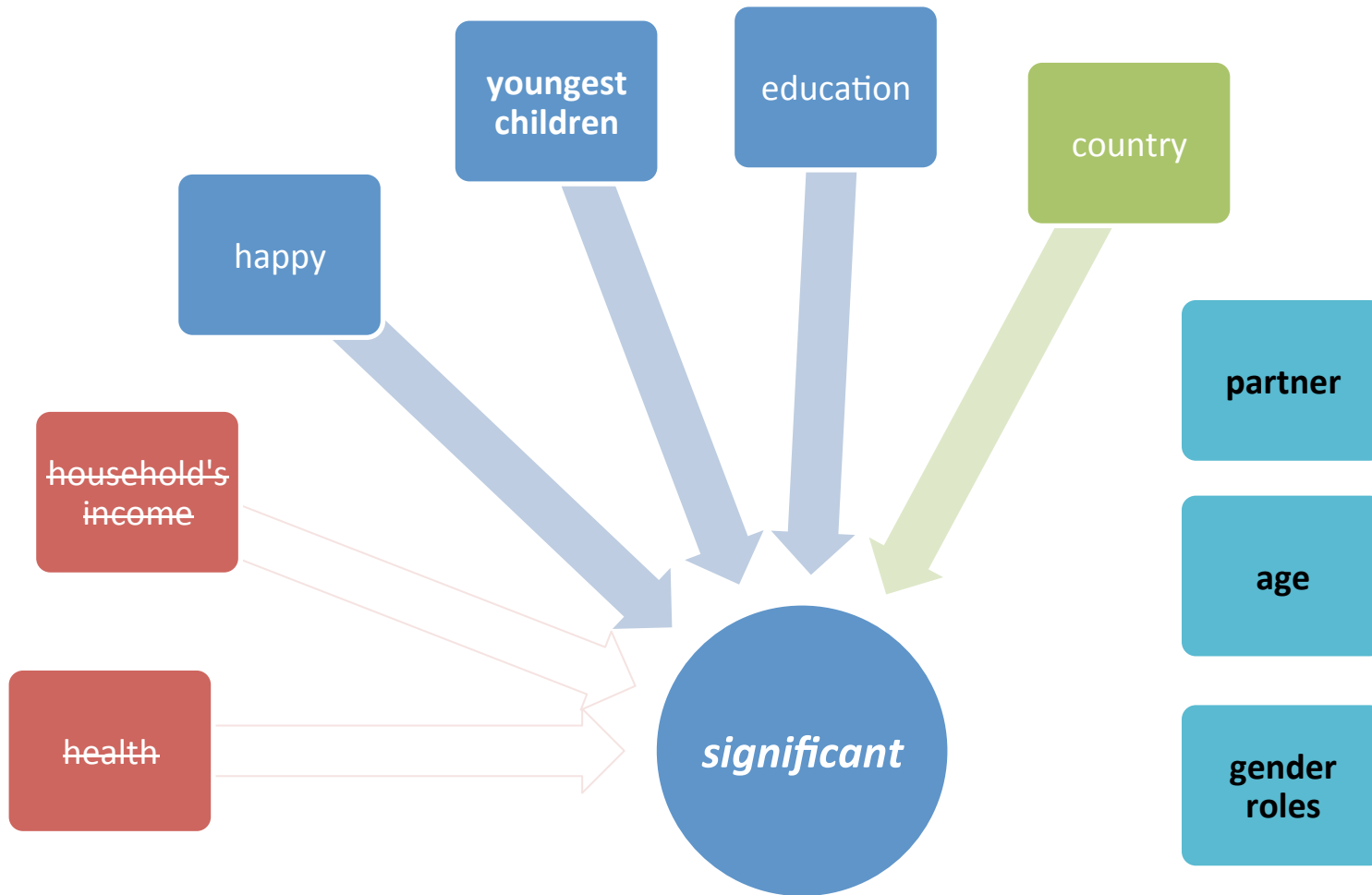
Variables and p values of univariate analysis

Variables	p values
Country	0,59
Gender	0,97
Health	0,06*
Religion	0,19
Happy	0,01*
Residence place	0,78
Household's income	0,03*
Conciliate (1: Not important; 2: Neither important nor unimportant; 3: Important)	0,61 0,20
Partner	<0,001*
Youngest children	<0,001*
Education	<0,001*
Gender roles (1: Agree strongly; 2: Agree; 3: Neither agree nor disagree, disagree or disagree strongly)	0,04* <0,001*
Age (1: 15-26 Years; 2: 27-35 Years; 3: 36-38 Years; 4:39-45 Years)	<0,001* <0,001* 0,07

Coefficients, standard deviation and p-values from logistic model adjusted

Variables	Coefficients	Standard deviation	p values
(Intercept)	-1.824	0,986	0.064
Age (27,35)	-0.134	0,709	0.850
Age (36,38)	-0.711	0,831	0.392
Age (39,45)	-3.263	0,812	<0,001
Education	0.559	0,166	<0,001
Happy	0.451	0,152	0,003
Gender roles (2)	-0.055	0,850	0.949
Gender roles (3)	1.026	0,828	0.215
Partner (No)	-1.501	0,623	0.016*
Country (PT)	0.385	0,152	0.011*
Youngest children (No)	1.877	0,197	<0,001
Gender roles (2):partner (No)	-0.560	0,582	0.336
Gender roles (3):partner (No)	-1.618	0,573	0.005 **
Age (27,35):partner (No)	0.822	0,412	0.046*
Age (36,38):partner (No)	0.885	0,539	0.101
Age (39,45):partner (No)	1.858	0,498	<0.001

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**Planning to have a child in the next future:
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The possibility of intended to have children in the next 3 years
has

- ❑ almost **2** times more for individuals with a **higher education** degree compared with those with less schooling (CI95%=]1.3; 2.0[)
- ❑ almost **1.6** times more for individuals who reported **higher levels of happiness** compared to those with lesser degree of happiness (CI95%=]1.2;2.1[)
- ❑ almost **6.5** times more for who **do not live with children** under the age of 18 compared with those living with children (CI95%=]4.4;9.6[)
- ❑ almost **1.5** times more for **residents in Portugal** compared to the residents in Spain (CI95%=]1.1;2.0[)

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The possibility of **intended to have children in the next 3 years** has...

For those **living with a partner**

- almost **26** times more for those aged **less than 27 years** of age compared to those between **39 and 45** years old
(CI95%=]5.3;128.5[)

For those **do not living with a partner**

- almost **4** times more for those aged **less than 27 years** of age compared with those between **39 and 45** years old
CI95%=]2.0;8.5[)
- almost **2** times more for those aged between **27 and 35** years old compared with those less than **27 years old**
(CI95%=]1.0;3.8[)

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The possibility of intended to have children in the next 3 years for those living with a partner and aged less than 27 years old has...

- If strongly agree that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” almost **4.5** times more (CI95%=]1.3; 15.2[)
- If only agree almost **8** times more (CI95%=]3.6;17.1[)
- If neutral or disagree almost **23** times more (CI95%=]10.8;22.6[)

... compared to those **not living with a partner**

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The possibility of **intended to have children in the next 3 years** for those that **agree** that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” and **living with a partner** has...

- ❑ If aged between 36 and 38 years old almost **3** times more
(CI95%=]1.3;8.1[)
- ❑ If aged between 27 and 35 years old almost **3,5** times more
(CI95%=]1.6;6.4[)

... compared to those **not living with a partner**

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The possibility of intended to have children in the next 3 years for those that are neutral or disagree that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” and living with a partner has...

- If aged between 27 and 35 years old almost **10** times more
(CI95%=]5.8;16.9[)**
- If aged between 36 and 38 years old almost **9** times more
(CI95%=]3.8;22.7[)**
- If aged between 39 and 45 years old almost **3.5** times more
(CI95%=]1.6;7.8[)**

... compared to those not living with a partner

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Whereas the intention of having a child may vary among those who answered "definitely not" and those who responded "probably not" - a response more indecisive - we have adjusted a multinomial model where the variable intention was divided into three categories: 0 - "definitely not", 1 - "probably not" and 2 - "probably yes and definitely yes".

Coefficients. standard deviations and p values from multinomial model

Variables	Coefficients	Standard deviation	p values
1: Age (27-35)	-0.558	0.805	0.489
2: Age (27-35)	-0.125	0.769	0.871
1: Age (36-38)	-0.907	0.416	0.029
2: Age (36-38)	-0.196	0.437	0.653
1: Age (39-45)	-1.012	0.362	0.005
2: Age (39-45)	-0.620	0.391	0.113
1: Education (Tertiary)	0.308	0.165	0.062
2: Education (Tertiary)	0.628	0.171	<0.001
1: Happy (>=8)	0.118	0.140	0.400
2:Happy (>=8)	0.528	0.156	0.001
1: Partner (No)	-3.186	0.923	0.001
2: Partner (No)	-2.841	0.685	<0.001
1: Youngest children (No)	0.992	0.211	<0.001
2: Youngest children (No)	2.565	0.214	< 0.001
1: Gender roles (Agree)	0.015	0.372	0.969
2: Gender roles (Others ^a)	-0.528	0.361	0.144

Variables	Coefficients	Standard deviation	p values
1: Gender roles (Others)	-0.126	0.364	0.728
2: Gender roles (Others)	-0.582	0.350	0.096
1: Country (Portugal)	0.003	0.143	0.983
2: : Country (Portugal)	0.354	0.154	0.022
1: Age (27-35)* Partner	2.240	0.928	0.016
2: Age (27-35)* Partner	1.667	0.949	0.079
1: Age (36-38)* Partner	1.981	0.549	<0.001
2: Age (36-38)* Partner	1.601	0.604	0.008
1: Age (39-45)* Partner	2.174	0.414	<0.001
2: Age (39-45)* Partner	2.162	0.456	<0.001
1: Gender roles (Agree)*Partner	0.816	0.873	0.350
2: Gender roles (Agree)*Partner	-0.336	0.608	0.581
1: Gender roles (Others)* Partner	0.507	0.861	0.556
2: Gender roles (Others)* Partner	-1.395	0.595	0.019
1: Constante	-0.099	0.484	0.837
2: Constante	-0.908	0.505	0.072

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The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years** has...

- ❑ **1.9** times more for a person with **higher education** than someone with a lower education (95% CI]1.3;2.6[)
- ❑ **1.7** times more for a person with a **happiness level of at least 8 in 10** when compared with lower levels of happiness (95% CI]1.3;2.3[)
- ❑ **13** times more for a person who **does not live with young children** when compared with people who live with young children (95% CI]8.5;19.6[)
- ❑ **1.5** times more for a **resident in Portugal** has almost when compared with a person living in Spain (95% CI]1.1;1.9[)

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The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years**, compared to those aged between **15 and 26** years old and **not living with a partner** increase...

- ❑ a little more than **5** times if aged between **27 to 35** years (95% CI]1.6;13.9[)
- ❑ about **4** times more if aged between **27 and 28** years old (95% CI]1.8;9.3[)
- ❑ **5** times more if aged between **39 and 45** years old (95% CI]2.9;7.5[)

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The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years**, for those **not living with a partner** and **fully agree that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family”** has about **7** times more when compared to those not living with a partner and that is indifferent or disagree (95% CI] 2.8;18.6[)

The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years**, for those **living with a partner, aged between 15 and 26 years old** and **fully agree that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family”** has about **17** times more when compared to those **not living with a partner**, aged between 15 and 26 years old and fully agree (95% CI]4.5;147.6[)

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The possibility of probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years

- If aged between **15 and 26** years and **living with a partner**, increase around **24** times compared to those **not living with partner** (95% CI]9.7;59.5[)
- If aged between **36 and 38** years and **living with a partner**, increase almost **5** times compared to those **not living with partner** (95% CI]1.8;12.9[)
- If aged between **39 and 45** years and **living with a partner**, increase almost **3** times compared to those **not living with partner** (95% CI]1.5;5.1[)

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The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years**

- ❑ If aged between **15 and 26** years, **living with a partner**, and **indifferent or disagree** that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” increase around **69** times compared to those with same age and opinion but **not living with partner** (95% CI]28.8;165.9[)
- ❑ If aged between **27 and 35** years, **living with a partner**, and **indifferent or disagree** that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” increase around **13** times compared to those with same age and opinion but **not living with partner** (95% CI]2.4;72.0[)

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The possibility of **probably intended to have or intended to have children in the next 3 years**

- ❑ If aged between **36 and 38** years, **living with a partner**, and **indifferent or disagree** that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” increase around **14** times compared to those with same age and opinion but **not living with partner** (95% CI]5.4;36.0[)
- ❑ If aged between **39 and 45** years, **living with a partner**, and **indifferent or disagree** that “a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family” increase around **8** times compared to those with same age and opinion but **not living with partner** (95% CI]4.7;13.5[)

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Concluding remarks

Being the lengthening of school trajectory of the factors commonly mentioned as a cause of the postponement of parenthood, attending or have completed tertiary education has a positive effect on intention to have children.

For both countries, the partnership still a relevant variable regarding the intention of childbearing in the next future. However, Portugal residents reveal more possibilities comparing to Spain residents, suggesting that fertility rates in Portugal can expect some recovery in the coming years; recovery that can be associated to the birth of the first order since the possibility of have intention is lower among those living with children.

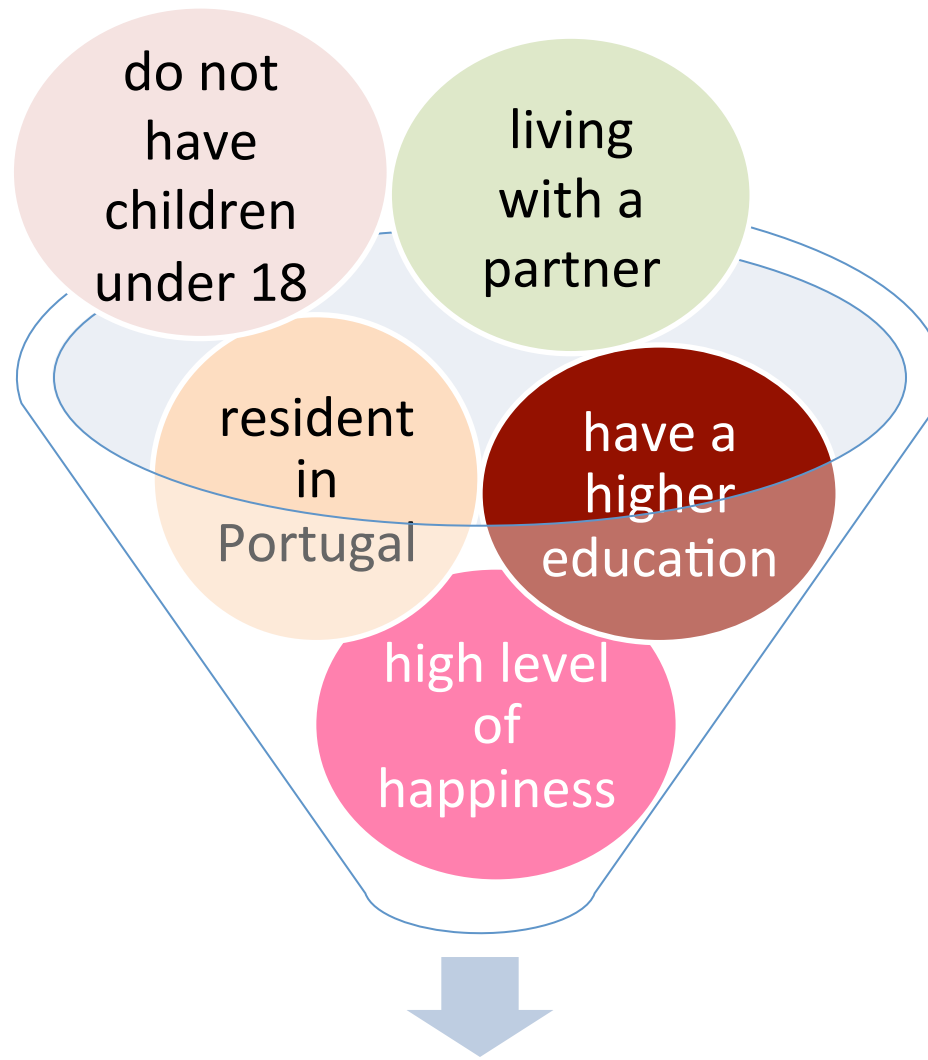
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Concluding remarks

The possibilities of "probably or definitely intend to have children in the next three years" are higher among individuals living with a partner.

The different perceptions about the "role" of the women also provide evidence of relevance in the intention and varies according to the age and living or not with a partner. For example, living with a partner and being indifferent or disagree that "a woman should be prepared to reduce their paid work for the good of her family" increase the intention, namely among the youngest people (<27) compared to those on same age, with same opinion but not living with a partner.

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More likely to intend to have a children in the next three years

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Thank you for your attention !

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