

Study Guide for Final: Econ 135
Economics of Gender in Developing Countries

Multiple choice question: What to read carefully...

1. Chapters 6-10 in Women and Development
2. Chapters in Engendering Development 4 and 6
3. Factory Daughters

Short answer questions

1. Can you explain in clear, succinct terms what a regression is, using a graph to illustrate? Then be sure you understand the interpretation of coefficients and t-statistics.
2. What are the various reasons why formal, state-sanctioned marriage is an important and interesting economic phenomenon?
3. If we took a supply and demand approach to marriage, what is the right way to interpret the price in this marriage?
4. What does the supply and demand approach to marriage say about polygyny and the 'marriage squeeze'?
5. In a marriage market, what would you expect to happen to the marriage price if there were many more pre-term abortions of girls?
6. What is the 'unitary' theory of the household? (be sure to include a discussion of Becker's Rotten Kid theorem)
7. What is the Nash bargaining solution, and why is it interesting in the context of households?
8. What is the evidence on differential mortality and morbidity for African economies, between boys and girls?
9. What theories account for variation in son preference across regions or countries or social groups? What is virilocality, and what does it have to do with son preference?
10. What is meant by a z-score? What do height-for-age, weight-for-age and weight-for-height measure?
11. What is Garg and Morduch's test of sibling rivalry? Explain the regressions they run; what variables are included. What do they find for Ghana? Are there similar results in Indonesia?
12. What do models of education investments suggest are some major determinants of the gendering of education?
13. What is meant by the 'returns to education'? How are these returns measured?
14. What two important statistical problems are confronted when trying to estimate the returns to education using wage equations?
15. How are the effects of credit programs estimated using statistical analysis? What are the econometric problems in this context? How can the problems be overcome?

Longer essay questions (examples)

1. In discussions of the unequal welfare of women in many developing countries, some economists might argue that evidence of differential occupations and earnings does not constitute evidence of unequal welfare, because men and women live together in households and so share incomes. Counter this argument by discussing the evidence and arguments surrounding household sharing and 'joint' or 'unitary' decision making. In other words, explain tests of household models. What are the findings of the literature? Elaborate on the tests of Udry and those analyzing the expenditures of households.
2. What are some of the ways that son preference can be measured or detected? Give some specific examples on the results of these tests from China and Indonesia.
3. There are two kinds of gender conflicts, one between men and women within households, the other between men and women in the political arena, outside of households. Give four concrete examples, from the readings and class discussion, of economic structures that affect the welfare of women that are determined in the political arena outside the household. Discuss the cases, and explain why conflict over economic institutions can sometimes lead to inefficient outcomes.
4. At the dinner during a job interview, someone notes that you took a class on the economics of gender in developing countries. Your future employer (if you impress her), asks what you read, and you answer that you read a fascinating book called *Factory Daughters*, by Diane Wolf. You suddenly realize that you made a mistake- never say anything is fascinating because sure enough, she asks, "Oh really," in a skeptical tone, "What was so fascinating about it?" Now,

you don't want to appear naive ("I never knew people in Indonesia were so poor!"), so you proceed to give a sophisticated summary of the book's fascinating arguments. In the space provided below, summarize your thoughts (do not take a jokey style in writing this- give a serious answer).