**When one wife is enough: forces deterring polygyny**

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*Abstract*

Multiple proposed determinants of the long-term historical shift in marriage preference from polygynous to monogamous unions are tested simultaneously using data on a worldwide sample of 186 pre-industrial societies. Since the diffusion of monogamy though conquest and population migration is well documented, we employ network autocorrelation regression models that include the cultural transmission of monogamy as an endogenous predictor variable. Linguistic and spatial transmission processes are found to be significant factors that jointly affect the world-wide variance of monogamy, while religious transmission processes are not significant, suggesting genomic variation may play a role in shaping the incidence of monogamy. Other significant factors are reduction of extrinsic risks due to pathogen stress and endemic violence, a highly articulated extra-household division of labor, and a beneficent environment, results which are consistent with female choice as a binding constraint in marriage decisions.

*Key words*: submaterialism; prematerialism; materialism

*JEL category*: F00

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1. Cover Page (everything on one page)
   1. Abstract
      1. 100-150 words (example on previous page is 139 words)
      2. Tell what you have found, not what you will do.
   2. JEL codes here: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JEL_classification_codes>
2. Introduction
   1. First sentence should state what you do in the paper.
   2. Explain what you did so that people can understand it, and can understand its importance.
   3. Your theoretical approach should be clarified in the introduction
   4. One or two pages.
   5. Can conclude with a “roadmap” paragraph, telling the reader what the following sections will do.
3. Literature Review
   1. Discuss previous literature here, but only that directly relevant to your contribution—work that shares your theoretical approach or that conducts a very similar empirical investigation.
   2. Try not to leave anyone out who has written directly on your subject.
   3. At least three papers should be cited.
   4. Be nice to those whom you cite.
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4. Data
   1. Don’t bore the reader.
   2. Give your data source(s), and a very brief description of the data structure (for example, are the observations people, countries, block groups, counties, societies, etc).
   3. Include here the table of descriptive statistics for all variables you use in your unrestricted model.
      1. Make sure this table is self-explanatory.
      2. Use the table format that we use in class (three horizontal lines, no vertical).
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5. Methods
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6. Results
   1. Present the results in two tables: unrestricted and restricted model results. Include the VIFs, the R2, and relevant tests for econometric problems (specification, autocorrelation, heteroskedasticity).
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