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Economic Uncertainty and Fertility: Macro and Micro Evidence

Abstract

Demographers have long been interested in the role of economic uncertainty in family behavior. Economic uncertainty may be interpreted as an individual risk factor, mainly related to the labor market (e.g. unemployment, short-term contract jobs, underemployment, or a combination of these), but it may also be conceptualized as a macro-level phenomenon, reflecting the general uncertainty felt by people in times of economic turbulence. The Great Recession, spanning 2007 to 2009 and featuring

downturns in both financial and labor market fortunes, has fueled interest in understanding whether economic uncertainty, which does not appear to be a transient phenomenon, affects fertility. This talk presents main theoretical perspectives and reviews a range of new macro and micro evidence on the impact of economic uncertainty on fertility across Europe. It concludes by offering prospects for future research on the topic

Thursday 31st May
from 1pm to 2pm
Campus Luigi Einaudi

Seminar room n. 36
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