

Paid Work, Home Production and Leisure in Times of Recession: Evidence from Italy



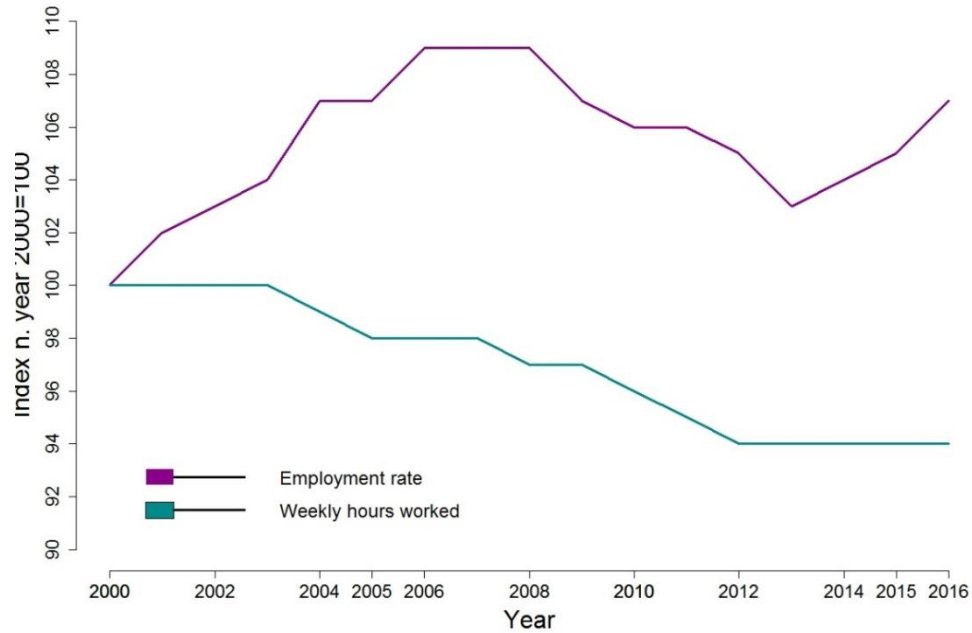
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AGENTA FINAL CONFERENCE
ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCE OF POPULATION
AGEING AND INTERNATIONAL EQUITY

Vienna, 20-22 November 2017

Motivation

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Source: Eurostat, Labor Market Statistics. OECD, Labor Force Statistics

Background

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- **Aguiar et al. (2013)** analysed time use during recession in US finding a relevant increase in unpaid work and education. By contrast, **Lehart and Zao (2010)** found support for the Great Vacation narrative
- **Folbre (2011)** stressed the role of home production as substitute for consumption expenditures
- **Bettio et al (2012)** suggest uneven distribution of increases in unpaid work to be more likely in Europe compared to US

Research questions

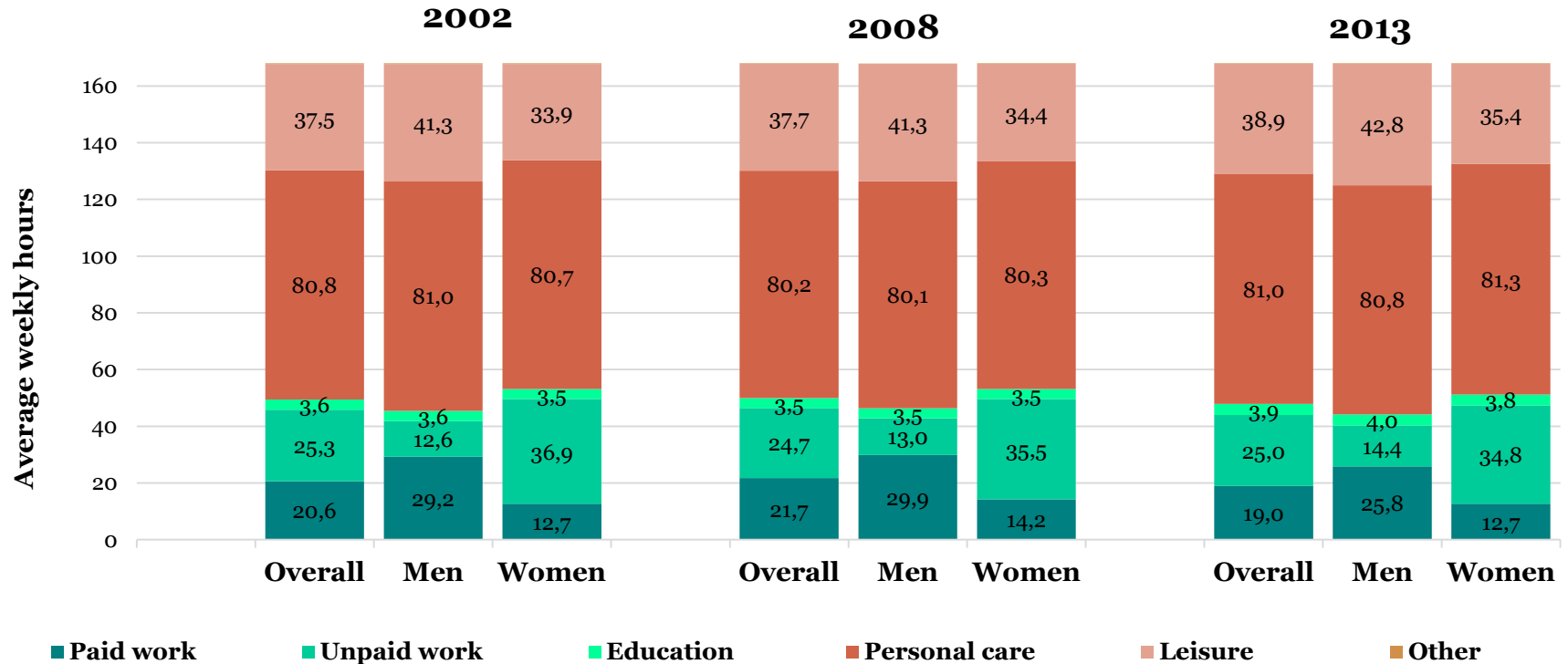
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1. How do Italians reallocate their **forgone market hours** during the recent economic crisis?
2. Is **household production** increasing its relevance as market substitute in times of economic hardship?
3. Is the economic crisis affecting negatively **gender equality** and favouring a return of backward-looking gender contracts?

Italian time use surveys: 2002/2003; 2008/2009; 2013/2014

Overview of the use of time by period

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Time use by period – regression analysis

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Key variables

- Dependent variable: time use category
- Explanatory variable: year

Controls

- Age group
- Level of education
- Couple
- Pres. of young children

Sample Size Italian Time Use Surveys (Pop. aged 15 years and over)

	Year			All
	2003	2009	2014	
Geographic Area				
North	18,949	14,840	16,762	50,551
Center	7,816	6,043	7,152	21,011
South	15,166	12,972	14,885	43,023
Gender				
Men	20,006	16,034	18,350	54,390
Women	21,925	17,821	20,449	60,195
Age group				
15-44	20,422	14,952	15,524	50,898
45-64	12,905	10,195	13,167	36,267
65+	8,604	8,708	10,108	27,420
Education Level				
High	3,221	3,422	5,185	11,828
Medium	13,874	11,164	13,698	38,736
Low	24,836	19,269	19,916	64,021
Couple				
Yes	24,664	18,498	19,973	63,135
Not	17,267	15,357	18,826	51,450
Youngest Child				
0-5 years	4,933	3,712	4,108	12,753
6-14 years	6,567	4,678	5,209	16,454
Not young children	30,431	25,465	29,482	85,378
All	41,931	33,855	38,799	114,585

Time Use by period - Men

Dependent variable	2008 vs 2002	2013 vs 2008	2013 vs 2002
Personal care	-1.02***	0.74***	-0.28 [†]
	(0.170)	(0.163)	(0.166)
Paid work	1.29***	-3.86***	-2.56***
	(0.322)	(0.309)	(0.315)
Education	0.07 [†]	0.59***	0.66***
	(0.127)	(0.122)	(0.125)
Unpaid work	0.22 [†]	1.17***	1.39***
	(0.167)	(0.161)	(0.164)
Housework	0.16 [†]	0.95***	1.10***
	(0.167)	(0.148)	(0.151)
Childcare	0.03 [†]	0.29***	0.26***
	(0.045)	(0.044)	(0.044)
Adultcare	0.04 [†]	-0.01 [†]	0.03 [†]
	(0.035)	(0.034)	(0.034)
Leisure	-0.44 [†]	1.36***	0.92***
	(0.248)	(0.239)	(0.243)
Other	-0.13***	0.01 [†]	-0.12***
	(0.015)	(0.014)	(0.015)

*** p < 0.001 ; ** p < 0.01; * p < 0.05; † p > 0.05
Standard errors in parentheses

Time Use by period - Women

Dependent variable	2008 vs 2002	2013 vs 2008	2013 vs 2002
Personal care	-0.55***	1.15***	0.60***
	(0.152)	(0.146)	(0.149)
Paid work	1.15***	-2.05***	-0.90***
	(0.233)	(0.225)	(0.229)
Education	0.21 [†]	0.412***	0.62**
	(0.118)	(0.114)	(0.116)
Unpaid work	-0.87***	-0.36 [†]	-1.24 [†]
	(0.205)	(0.198)	(0.202)
Housework	-0.83***	-0.64***	-1.47***
	(0.190)	(0.183)	(0.186)
Childcare	-0.01 [†]	0.25***	0.23***
	(0.064)	(0.061)	(0.062)
Adultcare	-0.03 [†]	0.03 [†]	-0.00 [†]
	(0.031)	(0.030)	(0.030)
Leisure	0.17 [†]	0.85***	1.03***
	(0.196)	(0.189)	(0.192)
Other	-0.11***	-0.00 [†]	-0.12***
	(0.031)	(0.013)	(0.013)

*** p < 0.001 ; ** p < 0.01; * p < 0.05; † p > 0.05
Standard errors in parentheses

Time Use by period - All

Dependent variable	2008 vs 2002	2013 vs 2008	2013 vs 2002
Personal care	-0.76***	0.95***	0.19 [†]
	(0.114)	(0.109)	(0.111)
Paid work	1.077***	-3.03***	-1.95***
	(0.200)	(0.193)	(0.196)
Education	0.13 [†]	0.49***	0.62**
	(0.087)	(0.084)	(0.085)
Unpaid work	-0.22 [†]	0.46**	0.247 [†]
	(0.141)	(0.135)	(0.138)
Housework	-0.27 [†]	0.19 [†]	-0.08***
	(0.129)	(0.124)	(0.126)
Childcare	0.05 [†]	0.26***	0.31***
	(0.042)	(0.041)	(0.041)
Adultcare	0.00 [†]	0.01 [†]	0.01 [†]
	(0.023)	(0.022)	(0.023)
Leisure	-0.11 [†]	1.12***	1.01***
	(0.157)	(0.151)	(0.154)
Other	-0.12***	0.00 [†]	-0.12***
	(0.010)	(0.010)	99

*** p < 0.001 ; ** p < 0.01; * p < 0.05; † p > 0.05
Standard errors in parentheses

How have Italians reallocated their forgone market hours?

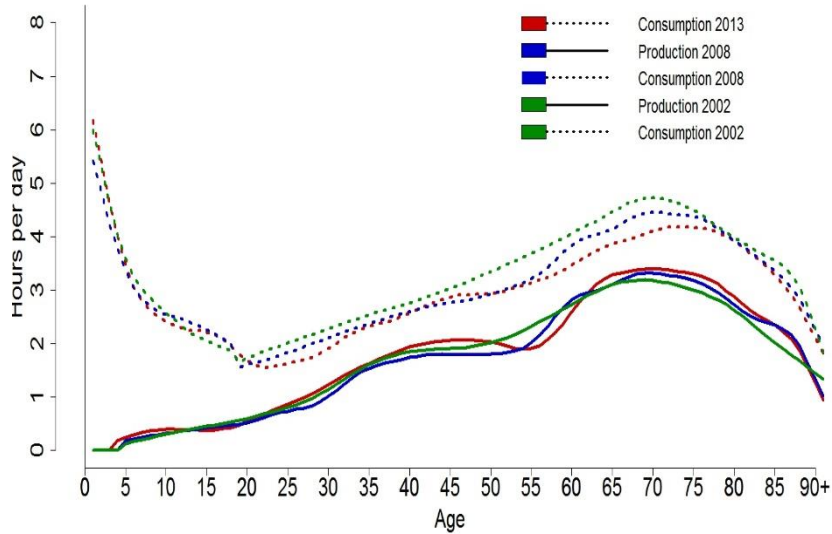
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Time use category	% values	
	Sample estimates	Regression estimates
Personal care	31.3	31.5
Education	14.2	16.1
Unpaid work	8.9	15.3
Leisure	45.4	37.0
Other	0.2	0.1

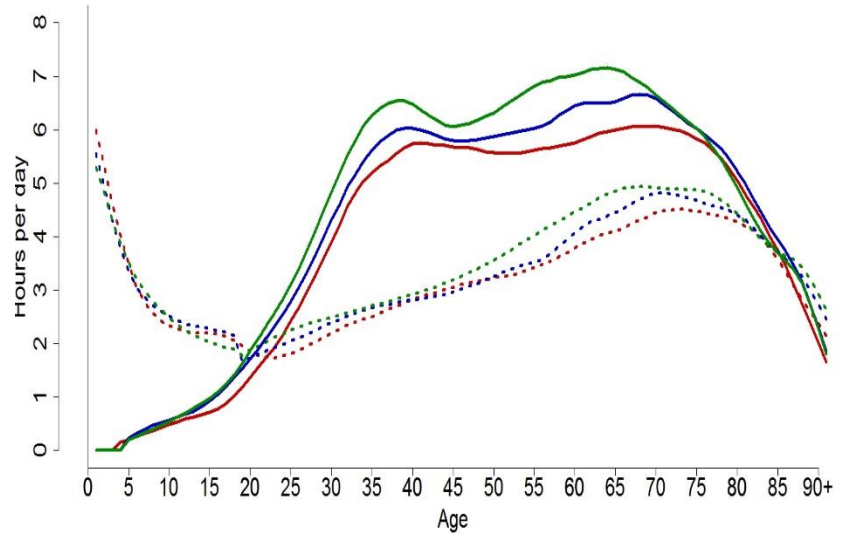
Household production and consumption

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Men

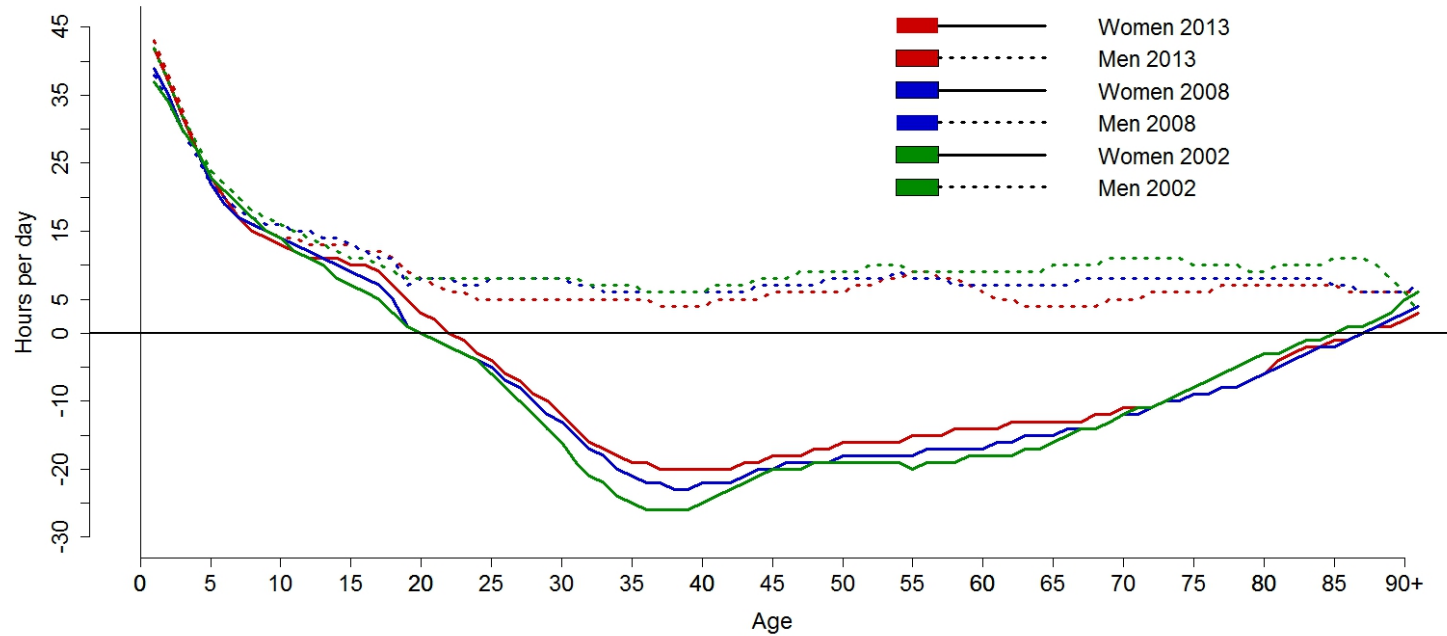


Women



Net-familiar time transfers

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Quantifying the Rush Hours of Life (RHOL*)

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Age	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
	2002		2008		2013	
15-24	36.5	42.1	37.1	41.4	35.3	41.6
25-34	47.1	53.1	48.5	54.6	44.9	50.1
35-44	53.6	59.8	53.9	59.3	52.4	57.6
45-54	50.4	58.1	53.0	58.2	50.0	55.7
55-64	38.7	51.0	39.5	49.3	39.6	49.2
65-74	25.3	42.3	26.5	42.3	26.6	41.1
75+	17.0	28.0	17.7	28.8	18.1	27.5
15+	41.4	49.0	42.1	48.6	40.4	47.0

$$RHOL = 100 * \frac{Work\ time}{(1440 - \min\ sleep)} = 100 * \frac{Work\ time}{960}$$

* Sambt J., M. Zannella, B. Hammer and A. Fürnkranz-Prskawetz (2015)

To conclude

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1. Almost 70% of the forgone market hours were absorbed by free time, 16% by education and 15% by unpaid work
2. On total household production increased. Women and men behaved differently at the regard showing declining and increasing trends over time, respectively. Changes were more concentrated in the pre-recessionary period for women, whereas during the recession for men
3. The RHOL reported evidence for a declining trend over time. Nevertheless, women were confirmed to experience longer and more intense rush hours compared to men in all the three considered years

- Our results show that gender division of work and leisure inequality have reduced in Italy during the last decade
- However, men's increasing levels of unpaid work seem to be explained by effects of the economic crisis and progresses in reducing unpaid work for women have slow-down in the recessionary compared to the pre-recessionary period.

References

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Thanks for your time



Comments/questions welcome

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