Online Appendix for "Women's Empowerment, the Gender Gap in Desired Fertility, and Fertility Outcomes in Developing Countries"

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This online appendix provides regression tables and additional empirical results.

1 Women's Empowerment, Fertility, and Development

Across countries, there is a strong relationship between women's empowerment and fertility. As a measure of empowerment, we consider the OECD Development Centre's Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), which measures discrimination against women in social institutions (formal and informal laws, social norms, and practices). The index is scaled between 0 and 1, where higher values correspond to more discrimination and hence less empowerment of women. Our fertility measure is the total fertility rate in 2010 from the World Development Indicators. In Figure 1 we plot the SIGI value in 2014 and the fertility rate for each of the 105 countries with available data. There is a strong positive correlation of 0.66 between SIGI and fertility.

We next explore how much of this association can be explained by the overall level of development. Table 1 reports results from regressing the fertility rate
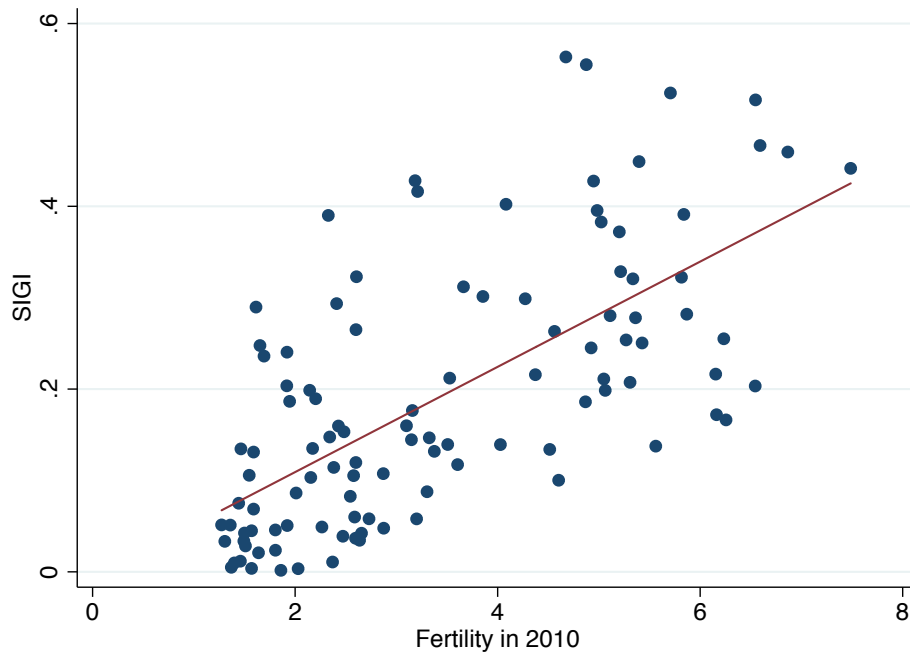
Figure 1: SIGI and total fertility rate in 2010

on the logarithm of GDP per capita (2010, World Development Indicators, PPP adjusted in current international dollars) and SIGI. We find a highly significant and quantitatively large association between SIGI and fertility. The estimated coefficient of 3.98 implies that a one-standard deviation decline in SIGI (i.e., more empowerment) is associated with a decline in fertility of 0.57.

2 Differences in Desired Fertility between Women and Men

We now use data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) to document differences between women and men in desired fertility. We focus on information on the ideal number of children; for respondents who already have children, the survey question is: "If you could go back to the time you did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be?" The summary statistics for the sample of countries with available DHS data are reported in Table 2. In the full sample, the average total fertility rate is 3.95. The desired number of children is on average higher for men than women (5.13 compared to 4.15). The average difference between men and

2

Table 1: SIGI regressions

	(1) Fertility	(2) Fertility
GDP per capita, PPP	-0.937***	-0.933***
	(0.0562)	(0.0913)
SIGI		3.981***
		(0.696)
Constant	11.47***	10.62***
	(0.533)	(0.857)
Observations	189	105
R^2	0.599	0.691

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the total fertility rate in 2010. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.

women is 0.77. Because polygamy can play a role in the observed differences in desired fertility between men and women, we report the summary statistics separately for the sample of countries with available polygamy data, as well as for countries with below and above median polygamy level. In countries with high levels of polygamy, both men and women on average desire a higher number of children. However, the difference between men and women within the same country is also higher at 1.62 compared to 0.38 for countries with below median polygamy. At the same time, countries with high levels of polygamy also have higher values of SIGI, implying lower female empowerment in these countries.

In Tables 3 and 4, we explore how polygamy and female empowerment are associated with the gender gap in desired fertility. In particular, we regress the mean difference in ideal number of children between married men and married women on the percentage of men with multiple wives (% polygamy) and SIGI. In Table 4, we also control for log GDP per capita in all specifications. The results suggest that both polygamy and low levels of female empowerment are key

Table 2: Summary statistics from Demographic and Health Surveys

	All Mean (SD)	Polygamy Available Mean (SD)	Below Median Polyg. Mean (SD)	Above Median Polyg. Mean (SD)
Total fertility rate 15-49	3.95	4.55	3.85	5.37
	(1.35)	(1.24)	(1.08)	(0.87)
Ideal children for married men	5.13	5.82	4.34	7.55
	(2.50)	(2.51)	(1.56)	(2.32)
Ideal children for married women	4.15	4.87	3.96	5.93
	(1.53)	(1.64)	(1.29)	(1.36)
Difference in ideal children	0.77	0.95	0.38	1.62
	(0.97)	(1.04)	(0.45)	(1.15)
SIGI	0.19	0.27	0.24	0.31
	(0.14)	(0.11)	(0.10)	(0.12)
% Polygamy		9.94	3.91	16.97
		(8.16)	(2.58)	(6.62)
Observations	116	39	21	18

Data from the most recently available Demographic and Health Surveys (various). "Polygamy available" refers to the sample of countries where polygamy data is available. % Polygamy refers to the percentage of married/in union men with 2 or more wives. In the sample with available data, the median polygamy level is 7.8%. Mean and standard deviations (in parentheses) are reported.

predictors of the gap in desired fertility between men and women, even after controlling for the level of development.

Table 3: Explaining cross-country differences in desired fertility between men and women

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
% Polygamy	0.0977***			0.0900***		
	(0.0192)			(0.0206)		
% Polygamy (Missing coded as 0)		0.0921***			0.0869***	
		(0.0163)			(0.0191)	
SIGI			4.368***	1.525	0.907	2.158*
			(1.213)	(1.188)	(0.923)	(1.112)
Polygamy over 20%						1.411***
						(0.470)
Constant	-0.0197	0.0726	-0.252	-0.343	-0.0978	0.159
	(0.144)	(0.0848)	(0.250)	(0.309)	(0.189)	(0.331)
Observations	39	51	47	36	47	36
R^2	0.585	0.621	0.281	0.613	0.639	0.411
Y-Mean	0.951	0.773	0.791	0.981	0.791	0.981

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the difference in mean ideal number of children between married men and married women. % Polygamy refers to the percentage of married/in union men with 2 or more wives. In columns (2) and (5), countries with missing polygamy data are assigned 0% polygamy. Polygamy over 20% is a dummy that indicates if the country has over 20% polygamy. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.

Table 4: Explaining cross-country differences in desired fertility between men and women – controlling for GDP

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
% Polygamy	0.107***			0.0979***		
	(0.0217)			(0.0223)		
GDP per capita, PPP	0.211*	0.202*	-0.179	0.215	0.204*	-0.0273
	(0.122)	(0.106)	(0.124)	(0.134)	(0.112)	(0.131)
% Polygamy (Missing coded as 0)		0.104***			0.0970***	
		(0.0201)			(0.0214)	
SIGI			3.859***	1.646	1.090	2.127*
			(1.319)	(1.186)	(0.938)	(1.152)
Polygamy over 20%						1.399***
						(0.499)
Constant	-1.752	-1.643*	1.304	-2.132*	-1.861*	0.382
	(1.068)	(0.953)	(1.172)	(1.206)	(1.036)	(1.200)
Observations	39	51	47	36	47	36
R^2	0.604	0.642	0.300	0.632	0.659	0.411
Y-Mean	0.951	0.773	0.791	0.981	0.791	0.981

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the difference in mean ideal number of children between married men and married women. GDP per capita refers to logarithm of GDP per capita, PPP in constant international 2011 dollars. % Polygamy refers to the percentage of married/in union men with 2 or more wives. In columns (2) and (5), countries with missing polygamy data are assigned 0% polygamy. Polygamy over 20% is a dummy that indicates if the country has over 20% polygamy. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p < .10$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$.

3 Differences in Fertility Intentions at the Micro Level

We next utilize the microdata from the Demographic and Health Surveys for Burkina Faso (2010-2011) and Ethiopia (2011-2012). To reduce dependence on outliers, in the following results we restrict attention to couples whose desired number of children for both the man and the woman are less than 15. Because we are interested in the relationship between desired fertility and actual fertility, we also restrict attention to couples whose fertility is likely to be completed, i.e. couples with the woman at least 40 or 45 years old. We report the summary statistics for this sample in Table 5 for Burkina Faso and Ethiopia separately. In Burkina Faso, the age gap between the husband and the wife is on average 5.9 years for women who at least 40 years old/6.8 years for women who at least 45 years old. Total fertility is on average 6.4/6.6 for women and 8.6/8.9 for men. Desired fertility on average is close to actual for women, slightly less for men. Within the same couple, the difference in desired fertility is on average 0.9/1.0. Polygamy is high in Burkina Faso, with almost 40% of the women living in a polygamous household. Women also do not have much say in the household. Only 25% have some say in own health care and 20% have some say in large household purchases.

In comparison, Ethiopian couples also have large age gaps of around 6 years. Total fertility is also similar to that of Burkina Faso with 7 children on average for women. There is, however, a larger difference between actual and desired fertility. On average, women's ideal number of children is almost 2 less than actual. The difference in ideal number of children between the husband and wife is similar to that in Burkina Faso. Men on average desire one more child than their wives. Polygamy is rare in Ethiopia. Only 5% of women live in polygamous households. While women are less likely to work (64% compared to 83% in Burkina Faso), they have much more say in household decisions. A large majority of women have some say in the four categories we examine: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family or relatives, and what to do with money the husband earns.

To illustrate the wide range of fertility preferences within couples, Figure 2 plots the distribution of the difference between a married man's desired fertility and

Table 5: Summary statistics for DHS microdata

(a) Burkina Faso, 2010-2011

	Women 40+ Mean (SD)	Men with wives 40+ Mean (SD)	Women 45+ Mean (SD)	Men with wives 45+ Mean (SD)
Age	43.60	50.38	46.74	52.63
	(2.85)	(5.15)	(1.38)	(4.52)
Age gap	6.78		5.89	
	(4.76)		(4.43)	
Years of education	1.24	1.84	1.27	1.96
	(3.30)	(3.94)	(3.58)	(4.19)
Education gap	0.59		0.67	
	(2.22)		(2.06)	
Total children	6.42	8.59	6.64	8.92
	(2.38)	(4.58)	(2.54)	(4.67)
Ideal number of children	6.43	7.32	6.45	7.52
	(2.17)	(3.17)	(2.18)	(3.21)
Difference in ideal number of children	0.90		1.08	
	(3.35)		(3.49)	
Polygamy	0.38		0.40	
	(0.49)		(0.49)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)	0.83		0.85	
	(0.38)		(0.36)	
Female HH decision index	0.97		0.98	
	(1.15)		(1.16)	
Woman has some say in ...				
- own health care	0.25		0.25	
	(0.44)		(0.43)	
- large household purchases	0.20		0.19	
	(0.40)		(0.40)	
- visits to family or relatives	0.45		0.46	
	(0.50)		(0.50)	
- what to do with money husband earns	0.07		0.09	
	(0.26)		(0.28)	
Observations	573	573	222	222

Mean and standard errors (in parentheses) are reported for couples in the Demographic Health Surveys for Burkina Faso from 2010-2011. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns.

(b) Ethiopia, 2011-2012

	Women 40+ Mean (SD)	Men with wives 40+ Mean (SD)	Women 45+ Mean (SD)	Men with wives 45+ Mean (SD)
Age	43.54	49.63	46.56	52.24
	(2.92)	(5.36)	(1.44)	(4.36)
Age gap	6.08		5.68	
	(4.88)		(4.44)	
Years of education	1.15	2.66	0.98	2.32
	(2.96)	(3.92)	(2.89)	(3.66)
Education gap	1.47		1.31	
	(2.71)		(2.36)	
Total children	7.05	7.46	7.42	7.64
	(2.79)	(3.01)	(2.64)	(2.63)
Ideal number of children	5.35	6.53	5.71	6.28
	(3.30)	(3.09)	(3.27)	(2.93)
Difference in ideal number of children	1.19		0.57	
	(4.34)		(3.91)	
Polygamy	0.05		0.03	
	(0.22)		(0.17)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)	0.64		0.63	
	(0.48)		(0.49)	
Female HH decision index	3.04		3.02	
	(1.25)		(1.31)	
Woman has some say in ...				
- own health care	0.76		0.75	
	(0.43)		(0.43)	
- large household purchases	0.68		0.66	
	(0.47)		(0.47)	
- visits to family or relatives	0.81		0.84	
	(0.40)		(0.37)	
- what to do with money husband earns	0.79		0.77	
	(0.41)		(0.42)	
Observations	617	617	246	246

Mean and standard errors (in parentheses) are reported for couples in the Demographic Health Surveys for Ethiopia from 2011-2012. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns.
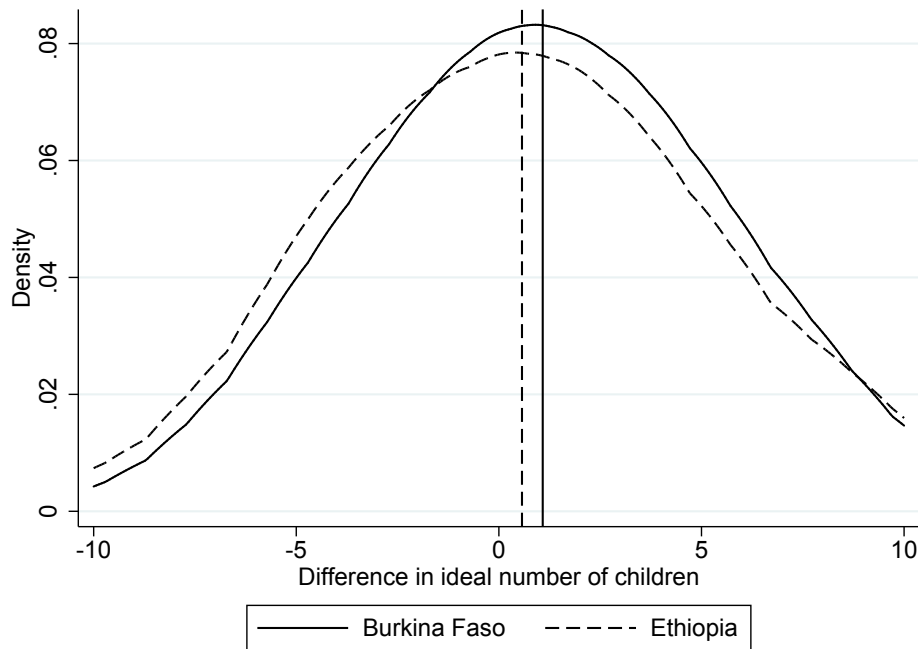
that of his wife. This is analogous to Figure 2 in the main text, except that here we restricted the sample to couples with desired children less than 15.

Figure 2: Distribution of difference in desired children between men and women for couples with women 45+, desired children less than 15

In Table 6, we consider a number of potential determinants of the difference in the desired number of children between husband and wife, such as the age gap between the spouses, the education gap, the age of the wife, the labor force participation status of the wife, whether the couple is polygamous, and various indicators of the wife's role for making household decisions. Some of these variables have a significant impact on the difference in desired fertility in some specifications, but none of them plays an important role in both Burkina Faso and Ethiopia and after controlling for other factors. Moreover, in none of the specifications that we considered does the R^2 exceed 0.07, suggesting that only a small fraction of the variation in fertility preferences within couples is accounted for.

Finally, we utilize the microdata to explore how female empowerment within a couple can explain the differences between actual and desired fertility. Tables 7

Table 6: Explaining differences in desired children between men and women for couples with women 40+

(a) Burkina Faso

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Age	0.0105	0.0116	0.0131	0.00884	0.0114
	(0.0561)	(0.0562)	(0.0560)	(0.0560)	(0.0559)
Age gap	0.0128	0.0101	0.0123	0.0123	0.0118
	(0.0300)	(0.0307)	(0.0301)	(0.0300)	(0.0301)
Education gap	-0.130**	-0.122**	-0.127**	-0.127**	-0.124**
	(0.0581)	(0.0601)	(0.0586)	(0.0594)	(0.0598)
Polygamy=1	1.546***	1.468***	1.505***	1.544***	1.502***
	(0.371)	(0.396)	(0.379)	(0.371)	(0.379)
Woman has say in own health care		0.396			
		(0.544)			
Woman has say in large household purchases		-0.350			
		(0.517)			
Woman has say in visits to family or relatives		-0.295			
		(0.365)			
Woman has say in what to do with money husband earns		-0.673			
		(0.691)			
Female HH decision index			-0.142		-0.144
			(0.136)		(0.136)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)				0.252	0.261
				(0.434)	(0.433)
Constant	-0.155	-0.0305	-0.113	-0.290	-0.253
	(2.476)	(2.513)	(2.489)	(2.506)	(2.517)
Observations	573	567	573	573	573
R^2	0.0622	0.0685	0.0646	0.0630	0.0654
Y-Mean	0.895	0.877	0.895	0.895	0.895

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the difference in ideal number of children between the man and woman within the couple. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p <.10$, ** $p <.05$, *** $p <.01$.

(b) Ethiopia

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Age	-0.119	-0.115	-0.125	-0.120	-0.125
	(0.0877)	(0.0832)	(0.0860)	(0.0875)	(0.0857)
Age gap	0.0655	0.0561	0.0504	0.0660	0.0508
	(0.0465)	(0.0461)	(0.0463)	(0.0464)	(0.0462)
Education gap	0.125	0.123	0.123	0.127	0.125
	(0.0934)	(0.0876)	(0.0904)	(0.0933)	(0.0901)
Polygamy=1	1.182	0.803	0.823	1.166	0.799
	(0.940)	(1.015)	(0.999)	(0.939)	(1.000)
Woman has say in own health care		-0.608			
		(0.659)			
Woman has say in large household purchases		-0.258			
		(0.599)			
Woman has say in visits to family or relatives		-1.184*			
		(0.699)			
Woman has say in what to do with money husband earns		0.156			
		(0.634)			
Female HH decision index			-0.449**		-0.454**
			(0.210)		(0.210)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)				0.189	0.243
				(0.471)	(0.466)
Constant	5.751	7.086*	7.459*	5.627	7.317*
	(3.992)	(3.940)	(4.119)	(3.973)	(4.094)
Observations	617	611	617	617	617
R^2	0.0247	0.0472	0.0408	0.0251	0.0415
Y-Mean	1.193	1.194	1.193	1.193	1.193

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the difference in ideal number of children between the man and woman within the couple. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p <.10$, ** $p <.05$, *** $p <.01$.

and 8 report results for couples with women at least 40 while Tables 9 and 10 report those for couples with women at least 45 years old. In our baseline specification, we regress the wife's actual fertility on the desired fertility of the woman and the man. We next add different variables that can capture female empowerment in the household such as high female education, a high age gap, a high education gap, a high female household decision index, and if the woman worked. We interact these variables with the desired fertility of man and woman to see how empowerment changes the bargaining power of the woman relative to the man.

From Tables 7 and 9, we observe that the desired fertility of the woman is more predictive of her actual fertility than that of her husband in Burkina Faso. We see an opposite pattern in Ethiopia. This difference is most likely driven by much higher rates of polygamy in Burkina Faso, so that men are able to achieve desired fertility through multiple wives.

Next, consider the role of female empowerment for fertility decisions. Consider Tables 9 and 10, which provide results for older women who have already completed their fertility. A high level of female education is associated with a larger impact of the wife's desired fertility on actual fertility in both countries. To the extent that more educated women are more empowered, this is consistent with the hypothesis that women's empowerment increases women's say over their own fertility. However, in the analogous regressions for women at least 40 years old in Table 7 we see that in couples where the wife has more education *both* the wife's and the husband's desired fertility is more closely associated with the outcome. A potential explanation is that when the woman has more education, the couple is better at controlling fertility. Education also plays a role when it is measured as the education gap between spouses: in Ethiopian couples with a large education gap (i.e. the husband has a lot more education than the wife), the husband's fertility preferences matter considerably more for the fertility outcome compared to couples with a small education gap. However, in Burkina Faso the education gap does not have large effects. The age gap, the female household decision index, and female labor supply do not have a strong association with fertility outcomes in either country.

Table 7: Relationship between actual and desired fertility at the micro level for couples with women 40+

(a) Burkina Faso

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children	(4) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.412***	0.324***	0.397***	0.373***
	(0.0424)	(0.0474)	(0.0502)	(0.0483)
Ideal children (man)	0.177***	0.128***	0.240***	0.180***
	(0.0291)	(0.0325)	(0.0377)	(0.0331)
High female education=1		-3.583***		
		(0.533)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.378***		
		(0.0750)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.118		
		(0.0856)		
High age gap=1			0.823	
			(0.625)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)			0.0262	
			(0.0839)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.140**	
			(0.0555)	
High education gap=1				-1.141
				(0.722)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)				0.247**
				(0.108)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (man)				-0.0651
				(0.0778)
Constant	2.498***	3.605***	2.153***	2.759***
	(0.309)	(0.392)	(0.383)	(0.387)
Observations	573	573	573	573
R^2	0.238	0.273	0.246	0.245
Y-Mean	6.527	6.527	6.527	6.527

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. High female education refers to women with above median education level for those age 40+. High age (education) gap refers to women whose age (education) difference with their husband is above the median husband-wife difference for women 40+. In Burkina Faso, median years of education is 0, median age gap is 8, and median education gap is 0. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p < .10$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$.

(b) Ethiopia

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children	(4) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.157***	0.0742**	0.120**	0.174***
	(0.0350)	(0.0368)	(0.0466)	(0.0450)
Ideal children (man)	0.260***	0.144***	0.283***	0.195***
	(0.0362)	(0.0386)	(0.0482)	(0.0455)
High female education=1		-4.453***		
		(0.601)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.208**		
		(0.0820)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.241***		
		(0.0812)		
High age gap=1			-0.249	
			(0.686)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)			0.0848	
			(0.0707)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.0432	
			(0.0749)	
High education gap=1				-1.019
				(0.649)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)				-0.0596
				(0.0704)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (man)				0.165**
				(0.0735)
Constant	3.925***	5.729***	4.017***	4.370***
	(0.322)	(0.369)	(0.388)	(0.422)
Observations	617	617	617	617
R^2	0.128	0.237	0.130	0.138
Y-Mean	6.514	6.514	6.514	6.514

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. High female education refers to women with above median education level for those age 40+. High age (education) gap refers to women whose age (education) difference with their husband is above the median husband-wife difference for women 40+. In Ethiopia, median years of education is 0, median age gap is 6, and median education gap is 0. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p < .10$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$.

Table 8: Relationship between actual and desired fertility at the micro level for couples with women 40+ (using alternative female empowerment variables)

(a) Burkina Faso

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.412***	0.390***	0.488***
	(0.0424)	(0.0510)	(0.125)
Ideal children (man)	0.177***	0.167***	0.247***
	(0.0291)	(0.0341)	(0.0665)
High female HH decision index=1		-0.691	
		(0.637)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.0519	
		(0.0888)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.0222	
		(0.0618)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1			1.434*
			(0.744)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (woman)			-0.0899
			(0.133)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.0877
			(0.0741)
Constant	2.498***	2.785***	1.326**
	(0.309)	(0.388)	(0.657)
Observations	573	573	573
R^2	0.238	0.241	0.243
Y-Mean	6.527	6.527	6.527

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. High female HH decision index refers to women with above median index for those age 40+. In Burkina Faso, median female HH decision index is 2. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.

(b) Ethiopia

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.157***	0.0910**	0.136***
	(0.0350)	(0.0441)	(0.0520)
Ideal children (man)	0.260***	0.128**	0.203***
	(0.0362)	(0.0529)	(0.0504)
High female HH decision index=1		-3.058***	
		(0.617)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.122*	
		(0.0671)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.195***	
		(0.0710)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1			-0.959
			(0.635)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (woman)			0.0346
			(0.0700)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (man)			0.0968
			(0.0715)
Constant	3.925***	5.819***	4.508***
	(0.322)	(0.456)	(0.465)
Observations	617	617	617
R^2	0.128	0.178	0.132
Y-Mean	6.514	6.514	6.514

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. High female HH decision index refers to women with above median index for those age 40+. In Ethiopia, median female HH decision index is 4. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.

Table 9: Relationship between actual and desired fertility at the micro level for couples with women 45+

(a) Burkina Faso

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children	(4) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.380***	0.317***	0.301***	0.346***
	(0.0701)	(0.0766)	(0.0711)	(0.0825)
Ideal children (man)	0.186***	0.121**	0.239***	0.209***
	(0.0494)	(0.0558)	(0.0572)	(0.0591)
High female education=1		-4.299***		
		(0.919)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.357**		
		(0.141)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.235		
		(0.178)		
High age gap=1			-0.959	
			(1.247)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)			0.240	
			(0.163)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.126	
			(0.0879)	
High education gap=1				-0.488
				(1.137)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)				0.194
				(0.147)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (man)				-0.0808
				(0.108)
Constant	2.867***	3.923***	3.132***	2.875***
	(0.528)	(0.603)	(0.605)	(0.648)
Observations	222	222	222	222
R^2	0.207	0.246	0.226	0.213
Y-Mean	6.802	6.802	6.802	6.802

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. High female education refers to women with above median education level for those age 45+. High age (education) gap refers to women whose age (education) difference with their husband is above the median husband-wife difference for women 45+. In Burkina Faso, median years of education is 0, median age gap is 6, and median education gap is 0. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p < .10$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$.

(b) Ethiopia

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children	(4) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.159***	0.0757	0.203***	0.159**
	(0.0580)	(0.0544)	(0.0720)	(0.0703)
Ideal children (man)	0.199***	0.123**	0.242***	0.0934
	(0.0609)	(0.0586)	(0.0749)	(0.0727)
High female education=1		-4.971***		
		(1.068)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.337**		
		(0.151)		
High female education=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.150		
		(0.173)		
High age gap=1			1.710	
			(1.151)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)			-0.133	
			(0.122)	
High age gap=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.116	
			(0.126)	
High education gap=1				-2.143*
				(1.100)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (woman)				-0.00929
				(0.119)
High education gap=1 × Ideal children (man)				0.310**
				(0.120)
Constant	4.778***	6.266***	4.195***	5.578***
	(0.523)	(0.519)	(0.573)	(0.624)
Observations	246	246	246	246
R^2	0.0912	0.216	0.102	0.118
Y-Mean	6.976	6.976	6.976	6.976

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. High female education refers to women with above median education level for those age 45+. High age (education) gap refers to women whose age (education) difference with their husband is above the median husband-wife difference for women 45+. In Ethiopia, median years of education is 0, median age gap is 6, and median education gap is 0. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * $p <.10$, ** $p <.05$, *** $p <.01$.

Table 10: Relationship between actual and desired fertility at the micro level for couples with women 45+ (using alternative female empowerment variables)

(a) Burkina Faso

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.380***	0.356***	0.538***
	(0.0701)	(0.0828)	(0.179)
Ideal children (man)	0.186***	0.161***	0.345***
	(0.0494)	(0.0541)	(0.109)
High female HH decision index=1		-0.945	
		(1.075)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.0352	
		(0.152)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.0595	
		(0.102)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1			2.783***
			(0.985)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (woman)			-0.201
			(0.194)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (man)			-0.198
			(0.122)
Constant	2.867***	3.304***	0.676
	(0.528)	(0.677)	(0.770)
Observations	222	222	222
R^2	0.207	0.211	0.225
Y-Mean	6.802	6.802	6.802

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. High female HH decision index refers to women with above median index for those age 45+. In Burkina Faso, median female HH decision index is 2. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.

(b) Ethiopia

	(1) Total children	(2) Total children	(3) Total children
Ideal children (woman)	0.159***	0.0930	0.105
	(0.0580)	(0.0695)	(0.0827)
Ideal children (man)	0.199***	0.0897	0.151
	(0.0609)	(0.0893)	(0.0958)
High female HH decision index=1		-2.929***	
		(1.013)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (woman)		0.151	
		(0.115)	
High female HH decision index=1 × Ideal children (man)		0.161	
		(0.120)	
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1			-0.949
			(1.081)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (woman)			0.0907
			(0.119)
Worked in past 12 months (woman)=1 × Ideal children (man)			0.0701
			(0.126)
Constant	4.778***	6.469***	5.387***
	(0.523)	(0.673)	(0.831)
Observations	246	246	246
R^2	0.0912	0.136	0.0955
Y-Mean	6.976	6.976	6.976

Each column is the output from a separate regression. Dependent variable in all regressions is the wife's total number of children. Couples with woman or man with desired children greater than or equal to 15 are dropped. Female HH Decision index is the sum of variables in which the woman has some say, either as the sole decision maker or joint with the husband: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family/relatives, what to do with money husband earns. High female HH decision index refers to women with above median index for those age 45+. In Ethiopia, median female HH decision index is 4. Standard errors reported in parentheses. * p <.10, ** p <.05, *** p <.01.