Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Natálie Toulová
Advisor:	Doc. Julie Chytilová, PhD
Title of the thesis:	Male Attitude and Family Planning Services in Angola

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Contribution

In her thesis, Natálie Toulová studies the topic of family planning in Angola. While the topic of family planning has been extensively studied in previous literature, Natálie looks at it from a relatively new perspective. She is interested in the relationship between attitudes, knowledge and fertility preferences of husbands and contraceptive use of their wifes. Somewhat related questions have been already studied, but the thesis is the first to focus on Angola and uses more recent data and different variables of interest. This makes a reasonable contribution for a bachelor thesis.

Methods

The first part of the thesis provides a comprehensive overview of the existing literature on the topic. In the main part of the thesis, Natálie describes the results of an empirical analysis she conducted in order to study the relationship between men's preferences and attitudes and women's contraceptive use. She analyzed the data from the Demographic and Health Survey from Angola. To run the analysis, she uses standard and appropriate statistical and econometric methods. The description is at some places not precise or is somewhat unclear. For example, when describing the dataset, the author provides a number of "observables" instead what I believe should be the number of observations, i.e. the sample size.

Literature

The thesis provides a comprehensive overview of the existing literature on family planning, with a focus on the role of men in the decision making process. The literature review section is clearly structured and Natálie seems to have a good knowledge of the litrature, including the recent studies on the topic.

Manuscript form

In general, the manuscript looks well-organized. However, the flow of the text could be improved. At some places, the text is somewhat difficult to read and understand. It is not necessarily incorrect but it requires additional effort on the side of the reader to read and understand the text well.

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

To sum up, I believe the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, and suggest grade C.

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SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY		POINTS
Contribution	(max. 30 points)	20
Methods	(max. 30 points)	25
Literature	(max. 20 points)	20
Manuscript Form	(max. 20 points)	13
TOTAL POINTS	(max. 100 points)	78
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)		С

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Julie Chytilová

DATE OF EVALUATION: May 28, 2020

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

CONTRIBUTION: The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.

Strong Average Weak 30 15 0

METHODS: The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.

Strong Average Weak 30 15 0

LITERATURE REVIEW: The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.

Strong Average Weak 20 10 0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.

Strong Average Weak 20 10 0

Overall grading:

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	Α
81 - 90	В
71 - 80	С
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F