

GRANDPARENTS' EDUCATION AND RESIDENTIAL STATUS IMPACTS ON GRANDCHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES: A STUDY FROM INDIA

SRISHTI JAIN

ABSTRACT

The study investigates the impact of grandparents' education and residential status on educational outcomes for adolescents in the age group of 10-19 years across rural and urban areas using a nationally representative dataset (IHDS II). It analyses the impact of coresiding grandparents in India where multigenerational households are quite prevalent due to a patrilocal social and cultural setting. Using OLS and logit models, the paper evaluates the educational outcomes in terms of the probability of attending an educational institution, total education expenditure and the probability of the child working as a part time or full time worker. The results show that the grandparents' educational impacts follow a markovian process i.e. the direct effects of the grandparents are absent and are completely mediated through the parents' generation. However, their living arrangement shows significant effects with both coresiding and non-coresiding grandparents having positive impacts as compared to deceased grandparents especially in rural areas with stronger effects in coresiding households. On further analysis, the study finds that coresidence forms a favourable living arrangement when comparing alive grandparents across both regions. However, using an IV model, it can be observed that coresiding grandparents' effects might be limited to 10-14 year olds especially in the rural areas and they may in fact adversely impact older children probably due to their old age and health status.