

Unraveling the Mysteries of gender issues in the production of scientific knowledge in Developing Countries. The Case of Chile.

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The exposure of gender differences in professional achievement within scientific communities in developed countries in the last decades has prompted the study and identification of different social constraints faced by women that have prevented them from prevailing across economic sectors. The science production sector has not been the exemption in this regard. Therefore, an egalitarian gender policy agenda for the sciences has been actively promoted in those countries. Yet, to date, the knowledge about the pervasiveness of such differences within academic communities across the developing world remains limited. This paper addresses this shortcoming in the literature by informing about gender differences in academic productivity of the scientific population in developing, middle income Chile. The paper analyses academic contributions published in ISI-indexed journals authored by scholars located in Chile during the 2000 decade. The paper strives to identify such authors both at personal and gender level and produces productivity indices that focus in publication counts, citations and impact factor figures. In doing so, the paper presents a synopsis of scientific productivity differences between genders across different scientific domains for a middle income country. Therefore, it enables comparisons between developed and developing countries of some professional attainment indicators for genders in the scientific world. Preliminary findings reveal that gender differences for those communities in developing countries appear to be similar to those observed in the developed world.