Work Schedules and Parents’ Time Allocation

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ABSTRACT

This study uses most recent Spanish time-use data of 2009-201 to study the effect that different work schedules have in the time spent on activities with the different family members. We estimate a double hurdle model that allows us to take into account the clustering of a large proportion of observations at zero and deal with both the incidence and the intensity of spending time in a particular time use or activity. Else, unlike the Tobit model, the double hurdle model allows for different factors affecting the incidence and the intensity decisions. Our results show that the split shift has a negative association with family time and parent child time, two activities that improve the relationship among family members and improve the wellbeing of children. We also find that parents engage in parent-child activities with children under 10 years old when their spouse is working the split shift or evening shift. These results are consistent with the idea that spouses decisions are taken simultaneously. The negative effect that working an evening or split shift has on parent-child time is smaller for women than for men. The opposite is observed with non-family leisure time.

1. INTRODUCTION

It has not been that long since women started participating in the labor market in a massive way. With the increasing participation of women in paid work new concerns arose, as for instance, how will individuals reconcile family time and work time. When women rarely participated in the labor market traditional roles made women the ones looking after the house and the children, while the husband was the one earning the money to support the family in the working place. With the entry of women in the labor force after the World War II and mainly since the 1970’s another form of organization within household is necessary as traditional roles are no longer adequate for the new circumstances (Jacob & Gerson, 2005).
In this paper we are going to study how spouses coordinate the time they spend with each other and with their children depending on their work schedules. Parent’s amount of paid work is likely to influence family life, but their work schedules can also critically interfere with family activities. Presser (2003) suggested that working non-standard hours is generally detrimental to family life. There is not a clear definition of what a non-standard work schedule is, but most studies consider working during weekends or weekdays after 5-6 p.m. as a non-standard work schedule. We define a standard work schedule as that in which the individual works at least three hours between 7:00 and 16:00 and less than 2 hours from 16:00 till 24:00.

Our main goal is to study the effect that different work schedules have on the amount of time that each parent spends in parent-child activities, in activities for the whole family where the partner and at least one of the children are involved, in activities for the couple, and in activities by herself (or himself) or with other people outside the household members.

Parents should be motivated in engaging in family activities as it plays a critical role in improving the family solidarity and relations (Bianchi et al., 2006; Dew, 2009). To get involve in family activities both parents and at least one child are needed. This means that there has to be synchronization in the schedules of, at least, three members of the family. While parents may have different work schedules, children schedule is quite fixed when they are at school age. In the first years of education (kindergarten and primary education) most school schedules finish at 4 p.m. or 5 p.m. After the school hours children might have out-of-school activities that normally finish between 5-6 p.m. This schedule matches quite well the standard work shift but it could be a problem when the parents have an evening or split shift. Most European schools have continuous school day that finishes between two thirty and three o’clock. These school schedules are each day more common in Spain and could make even more difficult for parents to spend time with their children when they are working even a standard shift. We would expect split shift and evening shift workers and their spouses to spend less time in family activities than do standard shift workers and their spouses

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1 In Spain the continuous school day schedule was only available in high school. In the last 5 years it has increased significantly in centers of infant and primary education in 9 out of 17 autonomous communities, according to data from the Department of Education of the different autonomous communities. (O. R. Sanmartin, 2014)
The motivation to engage in parent-child time when the other partner is not present should also be high for parents as it promotes close parent-child relations (Roeters, Van Der Lippe & Kluewer, 2010) and child development. This parent-child time improves kids’ physical and intellectual ability (Li et al., 2013). For engaging in parent-child activities only one of the parents is needed, therefore coordination among spouses work schedules is not necessary. But, once again, at least one of the parents needs to be available when the children are not in school or in extracurricular activities. We could expect that some parents will try to coordinate with each other in order not to leave children unattended, that is, that the children are with one of them. In this case they would decide that, at least one of them, should finish earlier the work day if possible. For this reason it would be interesting to study how the spouse work schedule affects the time the individual spends with their children, as we would expect that if the spouse is working an evening or split shift then the individual will be spending more time in activities with their children. We would also expect split and evening shift workers spend less time in parent-children activities than do standard shift workers.

The time that both spouses spend doing activities together and without the children (couple time) is also important. Psychologists point out the importance of engaging on activities with your spouse as this would improve the relationship among the spouses, which would also improve the family life (Li et al, 2014). These couple activities are normally done when kids are not present or when they are sleeping. If both parents work an evening shift then they could engage in couple activities in the morning, but it is unusual that neither of the spouses works in the morning. Therefore, we would expect that working an evening shift decreases the time spent in couple activities.

Regarding the last time-use considered, non-family time, it is also important for the whole family as it gives the individual time to focus on their hobbies and build social relations outside the household. Non-family leisure time improves the individual well-being, minimizing the stress and health risk (Mattingly and Sayer 2006). For engaging in oneself time, you do not need to coordinate your schedule with that of any other family member, so it is more frequent to engage in this type of activities when the other family members are at school or working. Therefore we expect that individuals working the evening shift and their spouses will spend more non-family time as they are free when their spouses are busy, assuming that the spouse is working in the morning.
Considering the importance of engaging in this four time uses, as we have explained before, is important to make easier the work-family balance mainly after the observed large increase in female labor force participation rates narrowing the male-female gap (graph 1). Making work schedules more compatible with school schedules might be a way of facilitating the conciliation of the labor and family life. In fact, one of the issues during the previous political campaign in Spain was the benefits that ending the working day before six o’clock could have on this conciliation. Provide evidence of the effects that working later than 6 p.m. have on spending time with the family could give the motives to undertake the adequate policy changes to improve the work-family balance. This policy changes might have a positive effect on the decision of having more children per women, as in the last 40 years there have been an important decrease in the fertility rate of western countries.

There have been many researchers that have tried to study the time allocation. There have even been some researchers that have studied the relation among different work schedules and the time spent with the different members of the household (Lesnard, 2008; Wight et al. 2008; Gracia and Kalmijn, 2015). We will review the literature on time allocation in section 2. Section 3 describes the data, section 4 the estimation method and section 5 shows the main results achieved. Main conclusions are presented in section 6.

2. PREVIOUS LITERATURE

In this paper we study how individuals allocate their time focusing on with whom they spend this time. One of the first people to study the allocation of time from an economic perspective was Gary Becker in 1965 on his now well-known paper “A Theory of the Allocation of Time”. Becker along with Jacob Mincer was one of the pioneers of the New Home Economics, an approach that studies family decisions considering the household, and not the individual, as the unit of analysis. According to this approach parents may prefer to have fewer children of higher quality by devoting higher resources to them. This will also include spending more time with each child.

One of the main assumptions of their approach is that the households try to maximize their utility with commodities. These commodities are produced using time and market goods. Each household has their own time and budget constraints. Households where both parents work could
have a larger budget but their leisure time will be more limited so they may prefer to consume more market goods (for example: having lunch at a restaurant) instead of time consuming commodities produced at home. When one of the spouses does not work, they could decide to increase the consumption of time consuming commodities (for example: eating homemade meals), and decrease the consumption of market goods as their budget is more limited. Depending on the time and budget constraints of each household they would decide how to arrange their consumption between market good and time consuming commodities.

Another concept discussed by the New Home Economics is the comparative advantage. A spouse may be more productive in certain types of housework than his/her partner. Therefore each spouse may specialized on those housework in which he/she is more productive. They may substitute time by market goods for the production of other commodities where they are not as productive. This idea considers that housework time may be gendered, as men and women areas of expertise may be different.

Gimenez-Nadal and Molina (2012) pointed out that one of the main questions that many researchers have tried to answer inside the approach of New Home Economics is how the members of a household decide to allocate their resources (time and money). There are different economic approaches that have tried to answer this question. One of these approaches is a model that sees the household as a place of conflict and cooperation, where intra-household bargaining models and collective models are found. The second approach is based on competitive marriage market models. These models’ main assumption is that prospective spouses, in the marriage market, can make binding agreements about allocation of time in marriage. All the previous models incorporate the issue that joint family decisions can be derived from sometimes divergent interests of males and females.

In this paper we focus our study on analyzing how the partners’ work schedules affect the amount of time they decide to spend with other members of the household that is, their time allocation. For spending time with your family there have to be coordination among the household members, so it is easier to do so when parents and children have leisure time at the same hours of the day. Working nonstandard hours is generally detrimental to family life (Presser, 2003). How non-standard work schedule is defined differ from one study to another. Presser (2003) defines it as working outside 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. time interval. Li et al (2014) define a non-standard work schedule as that which implies to work before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. They include in this category evening
shift, night shift, split shift, working in a rotating shift (i.e. alternating between day, evening or night shifts, but on a fixed schedule), irregular hours, and regular weekend work. Presser (2003) points out that nowadays many countries have service economies, what he calls the “24/7 economy”. This type of economies comes with the idea that there exists demand every day of the week at any hour, what raises the need of non-standard work-schedules. This labor market trend has raised concern about its potential impact on children’s well-being (Li et al, 2014).

To date only three studies, that we are aware of, have analyzed how parents’ work schedules are related to multiple daily activities. Lesnard (2008) used French data to find out that working nonstandard work schedules is negatively associated with the time that individuals spend with their children, their spouse, or with their whole family. He also found that parental care time was more responsive to the spouse’s work schedule among mothers than fathers. Wight et al. (2008) using data from the U.S. also found that nonstandard work schedules affected negatively to the time that individuals spend with their spouses, but they found positive association among nonstandard work schedules and time spend with children. Wight et al. (2008) only consider the work schedule of the individual under study and not the work schedule of the partner. Finally Gracia and Kalmijn (2015) used 2002-03 Time Use Spanish Survey to find out that the split shift had a strong negative effect on family time and on time spent with children. They also found that the evening shift had a negative effect on family and couple time, but not on time spent with children. They also found some differences among genders. They found that mothers spent much more time than men with children for all work schedule categories, and that women were more responsive to the spouse’s work schedule.

3. DATA, VARIABLES AND DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

We use the Spanish Time Use Survey (STUS) collected in 2009-2010. The Time Use surveys are considered the best statistical source for analyzing individuals’ daily activities (Gershuny, 2000). These surveys have a diary of activities where individuals report all the activities they have done for a reference period. In the case of Spain this reference period is of 24 hours. In this diary, individuals from a household who are 10 years old or older will report what they have done during 24 hours, dividing the day in 144 slots of 10 minutes each. The reported information starts at 6 am ends the next day at 6 am. In this diary individuals will report not only the activity that they are
doing but also with whom they are at that moment, that is, if they are alone, with their partner, with their parents, with a child younger than 10 years old, with other member of the family, or with other acquaintance. In this study we focus on this information, that is, with whom they are doing the activity, not on the activity that the individual is performing. Therefore the 24 hours are divided in time uses defined according to with whom the individual is.

3.1. Subsample

We restrict our final sample to heterosexual couples without other adults in the household, where the two spouses are between ages 25 and 59 and have at least one child younger than 18 years old. We are also going to drop from the sample the couples whose reference day was during the weekend, as most people engage in paid work activities during week days, and we want to have an homogeneous sample in order to study the effect of different work schedules on time allocation. Our final sample will consist on 1,201 couples.

We consider households without other adults apart from the parents. If there were other adults, for example grandparents, the arrangements of the family could differ as the grandparent might have a more active role in the family. They could cook dinner or do some of the housework and childcare. This may have an effect on the time spent with the family members by the spouses. We also restrict to heterosexuals couples because we are trying to do a gender study.

3.2. Variables

3.2.1. Dependent variable: Time-use

In particular, we are interested in studying how different work schedules affect with whom spouses spend their non-working hours. To come out our goal, we divide that time into 4 categories: family time (partner and children at the same time), parent-child time (minutes per day spent only with their children), partner time (minutes per day spent only with their partner) and non-family time (minutes per day spent without family members). We next define in detail these 4 time-uses

Family time

Family time is that spent with the partner and at least one of the children at the same time, what means that at least three different household members’ schedules have to be synchronizing for engaging in this type of time.
Parent-child time

This time use considers the time spent by individuals with their children under 10 years old. Even though in the sample we have considered the households were at least one child under 18 years old is present, we are only going to focus on the time spent with children under 10 years old, as we think that is in this group of age in the ones that the parents work schedules have a bigger effect. With older children the time spent with parents does not depend that much on the time that the parents have available but also on the time available of the children, and the decisions made by the children. If the child decide to go out with his/her friends instead of staying home and doing an activity with him/her parents, this have nothing to do with the work schedule of the parents.

Partner time

It is defined as the time that the individual spends with his/her spouse, by themselves without any of their children. It will be easier for couples to engage in this kind of activities while their kids are not at home or they are sleeping.

Non-family leisure time

This refers to the time that the individual spends without any member of the household, that is, the time spent by himself/herself or with friends. We would expect that if a spouse is not working while the other members of the household are engaged in work or at school, him/her non-family leisure time will increase. This is the only time use where no synchronization of family members schedules is needed.

3.2.2. Key explanatory variable: Work schedule

Our main control variable is the individuals’ work schedule. We are interested in analyzing the effect that each work schedule has on the minutes per day that an individual spends in each of the time use categories defined above. The work schedules are mutually exclusive. We also include the nonemployed variable to capture the effect of parents that were not engage in any paid work.

In graph 2 we can see the percentage of men and women engaged in paid work at each hour of the day. This graph has been elaborated from the STUS of 2009-2010 using the information reported for the 7th day of the weekly paid work schedule file. In the weekly paid work schedule
file all working individuals reported at each 15 minutes slots during a whole week if they were working or not. The seventh day of the weekly paid work schedule always coincides with the reference day in which individuals have to fill in the activity diary. In the graph, we can clearly observe two peaks, one in the morning from 8 o’clock till around half past one and the other one in the afternoon from three o’clock until six thirty. This shows the split shift where working hours are divided between the morning and the afternoon. As shown by Amuedo-Dorantes and de la Rica (2009), other European countries working days show only one peak where a reduction could be seen during the lunch break, but this reduction is shorter and less acute. Consequently we could say that the split shift is a peculiarity of the Spanish case. Moreover, most European countries finish their working days earlier than Spain, what makes easier to balance the family-work life.

To define the different work schedules we have follow Gracia and Kalmijn (2015), but with some modifications to get closer the non-standard work schedules definition of other papers in the literature. Gracia and Kalmijn (2015) consider that an individual had to finish the working day at least at 8 p.m. to not be included in the standard shift. Bearing in mind Li et al. (2013) and Amuedo and de la Rica (2009) studies we have redefined the work schedules and classify a person that works after 6 p.m. as working a non-standard schedule.

Furthermore, we have considered that nonemployed people can be divided in two different groups (unemployed and no working) as we think their characteristics are different and they organized their time differently. We have people that are unemployed in the reference day, and people who being employed did not perform any work activity in the reference day. Gracia and Kalmijn (2015) put those people together in the same category.

**Standard shift**

In this category we will include a typical work schedule from 8:00 till 17:00. The individual will be working while the kid is at school so this work schedule interferes to a lesser extent with the family duties. We will also consider that an individual is part of this category when he/she works 3 or more hours from 7:00 till 16:00 and less than 2 hours from 16:00 till 24:00. With this definition most people included in this category will be finishing their work before 6 p.m.

**Evening shift**
In this shift we will include people that do not work during the morning (before 14:00) and that work 3 hours or more between four in the afternoon and midnight. Therefore a person that starts at four should be working at least until 7 to be considered part of this work schedules. In Spain most kids stay in school until 4 or 5 in the afternoon so a parent that leaves work at 7 p.m. could be missing some valuable time with their kids.

Split shift
This category should include people that work during the morning and the afternoon, with a long lunch break. This break makes their working hours to expand during the day, and they will be still working when their kids have finished school. We are going to define this work schedule as individuals that work 2 or more hours from 7:00 till 14:00 and that work also 2 or more hours from 16:00 till midnight. With this definition all of them will be arriving home after 6 o’clock, when we would expect their children to be already at home.

Nonemployed
We have divided the non-employed people into two categories as in our opinion both categories may have very different characteristics.

1) Unemployed: people that report that they were unemployed when the survey was conducted. Therefore they report 0 hours of work on the reference day.

2) Not working: People that report that are employed but in the reference day reported zero hours of work. They could be on holidays, sick, or they could have a free day. It could also be people that work during the weekends or very few hours per week so they have not worked the reference day.²

3.2.3. Other control variables

² Remember that we have dropped from the sample people which reference day was during the weekend. However, we include people whose reference day is during the week but they work during the weekends.
We include as explanatory variables some variables that will capture variations among individuals opportunity cost, lifestyles, and demographic characteristics. Even though they are not our main aim, it is important to include them in order to not overestimate the effect of our principal independent variable, the work schedules.

- **Total work time:** total hours that the individual have worked the reference day. To capture the effect of this variable we have included three dummy variables: part-time, when the individual has worked less than 6 hours, but more than 0; overwork, when the individual has worked more than 10 hours. The last category, full-time will include the individuals that work between 6 and 10 hours.

- **Education:** we will include four different dummy variables to cover the highest level of education that the individuals have reached. Primary education will include people that do not know how to write or read, people that have not finished their primary education and people with primary education as their highest education level. The second category, low secondary education, will include people that have reached secondary education of first level (ESO or equivalent) as their highest level of education. The third category, high secondary education, will include people that have finished high school or vocational training of middle or high level (“grado medio” or “grado superior”). The last category would be college, which will include people with a university degree, a master or a doctorate.

- **Outsourcing domestic work:** would be a dummy variable that will take value one when there is domestic help in the family.

- **Number of children:** We will include four different variables in this category. We would include the total number of children in the household, a dummy variable that will take value 1 when there is a baby or toddler in the family below 2 years old, a continuous variable indicating the number of children younger than 9 years old in the family and, lastly, the total number of preteen and teenagers in the family, between 10 and 18 years old.

- **Married:** dummy variable that will take value 1 when the couple is married, and value 0 when the couple is not married. We are including this variable only to study the participation of the individuals in each time use. We mostly would like to study the relation between being married and the time spent with the partner without children.

- **Age:** continuous variable that stands for the age of each individual.
3.3. Descriptive analysis

In table 1 we show the summary statistics for our final sample of 1,201 couples.

Regarding our dependent variable, the time use, we observe that men report that they spend more minutes per day than women in family time and couple time. Men report to spend 6 minutes more per day, on average, than women on family time, and 8 minutes more than women, on average, on couple time. For these two time uses men and women have to be together, so the reported minutes per day should be the same for men and women. From these results we could conclude that men overestimate the time spent with the family or the partner compared to women. On the other hand, women report higher values for time spent with children and on non-family leisure time than men. Women spend 94 minutes more per day, on average, with children under 10 years old, and 24 minutes more per day, on average, with older children. Regarding non-family leisure time, women spent 16 minutes per day more than men on average in this time use.\(^3\)

Regarding the explanatory variable of work schedules we have a very different distribution for men and women. The most common work schedule for women is standard shifts, almost 33\% of the sample is included in this work schedule. Whereas only 12\% work split shift and 4.7\% work the evening shift. For men the most common work schedule is the split shift. Around 40\% of men in our sample are working this shift. There are 28\% of the men in our sample working a standard shift and only 4.5\% are in an evening shift. There is also a big difference in the nonemployed categories. Whereas the people that report not working is similar for both genres, around 13\%, women unemployment rate is much higher than men. Whereas only 14\% of men in the sample are unemployed, 38\% of women reported an unemployment status.

For the three dummy variables controlling for the total work time, for the individuals that are working 27\% of women and 4.7\% of men work less than 6 hours. Only 2.8\% of women and 19\% of

\(^3\) The means given for the time uses only consider the individuals that report more than 0 minutes per day on the studied time use. We do not consider the people that report spending 0 minutes per day on the time use. There are differences between men and women on the people that have report spending time in each time use. For example 51.37\% of women have report spending some time with children under 10 years old whereas only 31.39\% of men have reported values greater than zero for that time use. All the percentage of individuals reporting spending time in each time use can be found in table 1.
men work more than 10 hours. In our sample men have longer working days than women, on average. In society, normally women are the ones reducing their working days when having children. This could help to explain the results reported on our sample regarding the distribution among the three dummy variables controlling for total work time for men and women.

In our sample women are more educated than men as 29% have college or a higher level of education, while only 23% of men are in this circumstance. However the most reported level of education for both genres is high school, reported by 33% of women and 36% of men.

For the household control variables, 12% of our sample outsourced domestic labor. In almost 24% of the households there is a child under 2 years old present. The average number of children is 1.81, the average number of children younger than 10 years old is 0.87 and the average number of children older than 9 is 0.74. Finally, in our sample men are 2.3 years older than women, on average.

4. ESTIMATION METHOD

Time use survey data provides a diary of activities in which each individual writes down what activity has carried out throughout the reference period (24 hours in the Spanish case) and, especially important for our study, with whom they perform that activity.

There is in the literature a discussion about what estimation method should be used when analyzing the Time Use Surveys. This data has a characteristic that makes them special. This characteristic is the large number of zeros that the individuals report in their diaries of activities. Many individuals report that they are not doing a certain activity in the survey day however, that does not mean that those individuals do not perform that particular activity. They may carry out that activity other day of the week. In this case we call those zeros “false zeros”. The false zeros appeared when individuals report that they are spending zero minutes in a certain time use or activity in their diaries of activities, but, in reality, they do perform this activity or spend some minutes per day in that time use but not in the reference day. If we would expand the reference period, for example instead of analyzing only one day we consider a 48 hours period, these false zeros would tend to disappear. This was demonstrated by Foster and Kalenkosky (2012) with data from Australia where the survey is done for a 48 hours window length. Else, in our sample we are
considering cohabiting couples that live with their children, so it would be really difficult for an individual not to spend any time with his/her spouse, with his/her kids, or even get some time to himself/herself. Therefore, it is very likely that many of the reported zeros are not real zeros but false zeros.

We know that when we face a data were a lot of zeros are found, for instance, in a particular day a mother may not have spent time alone with her child younger than 10, we have a censored data set. Econometric models where the dependent variable is incompletely observed are known as censored model, in these models we have many individuals answering that they spend zero minutes in a certain activity, but we do not know the reason for them to spend zero minutes in that activity. The Tobit model was the original model developed to analyzed censored dependent variables. The Tobit model takes into account of the clustering of a large proportion of observations at zero and, at the same time, that we only have positive values for the non-zero observations. However, the Tobit model assumes that the reason for the censoring is representing a standard corner solution and also that the effect of any explanatory variable on the incidence and the intensity is the same. We need to concern with both, incidence and intensity of spending time with the children at the same time, but not with the same variables. There have been extensions to allow for different factors affecting the incidence and the intensity, as that by Cragg (1971) who estimates a two equation model, the Double Hurdle Model. The first equation would estimate the probability of the incidence (the individual decide to participate or not) and a second equation would estimate the conditional intensity (how much time do the individuals spent in each time use after having decided to participate) using the individuals that decide to participate and spend time with the children in the sample.

We have to understand that an individual could decide to participate, but then decide to spend zero minutes in the time use (activity). This implies that we do not divide the participants and the non-participants on the basis of the observed amount of time devoted by individuals to the activity. The decision of participating in the process is unobserved.

The double hurdle model can be specified as follows (Blundell and Meghir, 1987, Newman et al, 2003),

\[ y_{i1}^* = w_i \alpha + u_i \quad \text{participation decision} \]
\[ y_{i2}^* = x_i \beta + v_i \quad \text{quantity decision (minutes per day)} \]
\[ y_i = \begin{cases} x_i \beta + v_i & \text{if } y_{i1}^* > 0 \text{ and } y_{i2}^* > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \]

Where \( y_{i1}^* \) is a latent endogenous variables representing an individual or household participation decision, \( y_{i2}^* \) is a latent endogenous variable representing an individual or household quantity decision, \( y_i \) is the observed dependent variable (minutes per day spent in each time use), \( w_i \) is a set of individual characteristics explaining the participation decision, \( x_i \) stands for variables explaining the quantity decision and \( u_i \) and \( v_i \) are independent, homoscedastic, normally distributed error terms.

The double hurdle model is estimated using maximum likelihood techniques with the log likelihood given as follows,

\[
\log(L) = \sum \ln \left[ 1 - \Phi \left( w_i \alpha \right) \Phi \left( \frac{x_i \beta}{\sigma_i} \right) \right] + \sum \ln \left[ \Phi \left( w_i \alpha \right) \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \phi \left( \frac{y_i - x_i \beta}{\sigma_i} \right) \right]
\]

The standard Tobit model is a nested version of the Cragg model when \( w_i \alpha \) is equal to 1 (i.e. the log likelihood of the Tobit model equals that of the Cragg model when there is no participation equation). Thus the Cragg model is effectively a Tobit model that allows for estimates of the participation equation to be made separately from those of the quantity equation.

The double hurdle model has been widely used in the study of household expenditure, however, it has not been used for studying the allocation of individuals time. The application of the double hurdle model to the STUS in this paper thus represents a significant addition to the existing literature in the area.

The double hurdle model can be compared with Heckman’s sample selection models on the basis of the assumption of dominance. However there is a very important difference between these two methods. Heckman assumes that when we observe a zero observation, then, that individual is a non-participant, while with the double hurdle, an individual who reports to spend zero minutes in an activity does not have to be a non-participant. Zero minutes reported could be due to two different situations, either non-participation or participation but no minutes spent in the time use. The Cragg model can be thought as a flexible version of both the Tobit and Heckman model.
5. **EMPIRICAL RESULTS**

Using the Double Hurdle estimation methods we have arrived to the results shown on Table 2. This table shows 3 different sets of results. First we show the estimated effect of the different explanatory variables on the quantity of time spent in each time-use or activity, then the effect that control variables have on the decision of participating or not in each time-use and finally the unobserved elements affecting participants/non-participants decisions on the quantity of time spent in each time-use.

For the first step of the decision, participating or not, we have studied the effect of having children under 9 years old, of having different work schedules, the different levels of education and if the couple is married or not.

Individuals living in a household where children under 9 years old are present will be more likely to participate in family time and children time and less likely to participate on non-family leisure time.

Regarding the work schedules, individuals working an evening shift will be less likely to participate on family time. Women will be more likely to participate on children time, while fathers’ participation on this time use is not going to be influenced by the evening shift. Individuals working a split shift will be less likely to participate on partner time. Men will also be less likely to participate on children time and non-leisure family time, whereas mothers will be less likely to participate on family time.

Regarding education level, the participation in family time, children time and partner time are affected by the education, but not the non-family leisure time. The higher the level of education the higher the probability of participating in this time uses. We observe an increase in the chance to participate on family time once achieved the high secondary education. In the case of children time, women will be more likely to participate in this time use when having a college education, whereas fathers’ participation will increase in every level. When analyzing the activities made with your spouse, as the individual increases its education the chance to participate in the time use will also be increased.

Regarding the quantity decision, we focus on the effect of the work schedule of the individual and the spouse. We have also included some control variables for the individual and the spouse such
as, total work time, education and age. Finally, there have also been included some control variables of the household, such as, outsourcing domestic work and number of children.

Being unemployed or not working the reference day will increase the time spent in all the time uses. When an evening shift is reported, we observe a decrease on family time. In the case of women an increase on non-family leisure time is also observed. When analyzing the effect of the split shift, only women’s partner time is not affected by this work schedule, every other time use suffers a diminution on the minutes per day spent doing those activities.

Moving to the effect of the spouse’s work schedule, we find that when the spouse works an evening shift the individual spends less time with the family, as the presence of the spouse is needed to spent time in this time use. However the time spent by the individual on children time when the spouse is working an evening shift will show an increase, as the individual will try to compensate the time that the spouse cannot spend with the children of the household. In the case where the spouse is working a split shift, the individual will be also spending more time on children time, once again trying to compensate the time that the spouse cannot spent with them. Additionally, in the cases where the husband is the one working a split shift, women will be spending less family time and partner time, whereas if it is the wife who works a split shift men’s family time and partner time is not significantly affected. On the other hand, if the husband works a split shift our results suggest that women spend more non-family leisure time. Again, not a significant effect is observed on men’ non-family leisure time if it is the wife who works a split shift.

Regarding other control variables included, we find an increase on children time and non-family leisure time of women when they work part time. A decrease on family time, partner time and non-family leisure time of men is shown when they work more than 10 hours. This decrease is also shown on women’s family time. The different education levels of the individuals does not have an effect on quantity spent on the different time uses, but we should remember that we have seen an effect on the chance to participate depending on the education level of the individual. So we could conclude that the different levels of education will affect the decision of becoming a participant on each time use, but once you are participating then they do not affect the quantity spent on each time use. Finally we can say that as individuals become older they will spend fewer minutes per day on family time, and more minutes on non-family leisure time. Women will also spend more time on partner time when they are older.
For the control variables of the spouse, we observe how if the wife is working less than 6 hours then the men will spend more minutes per day on family time and fewer minutes on children time. When the husband is working more than 10 hours then the women will be spending less family time and more children time and non-family leisure time. In the case when wives do overwork hours, then the men will also be spending more time with the children. For the different education levels, the results only show an effect with respect to having a primary education in two cases. The first case is when the husband has a college education; in this case women will spend less children time. The second case is when wives have a high secondary education, in this case men will be spending less leisure time that when the wife have a primary education.

Finally we have the effects of the household control variables. When there is domestic service on the household men will be spending more time with their children and women will spend more time on non-family leisure activities. When a child under 2 years old is present on the household the family time will increase and the partner time will decrease. Additionally in the case of women children time will increase and non-family leisure time will decrease. When the total number of children increases then the partner time will decrease, and in the case of women the children time will increase and the non-family leisure time will decrease. The total number of children between 10 and 18 years old will decrease the non-family leisure time and in the case of mothers will also decrease the partner time. In the cases of children under 10 years old we have already study the effect that having children under 10 have on the chance to participate on each time use. Once they are participating in the time use the effect that having more children between 0 and 9 years old in the household has is difficult to interpret by itself.

6. CONCLUSION

Our study contributed to the literature by using the most recent Spanish time-use data of 2009-2010 to analyze the links between work schedule and parents’ participation in family, parent-child, couple, and non-family leisure activities. Gracia and Kalmijn (2015) did a similar study using data from the STUS 2002-2003. The survey has been improved since 2002. The STUS 2002-2003 does not allow separating the activities that the individuals do with their couple from those that do with their children above 9 years old. For this reason, they only consider those families with children under 10 years old, dropping the families where at least one child above the age of 9 was present.
In the newest version of the data we can divide the time that the individual spends with the partner from the time spent with the kids older than 9 years. This has allowed us to include all the families with at least one child under 18 years old in our sample, even including those families where a child was above 18 years of age. We believe this has improved the results found as they could be expanded to a larger part of the population as they are less restricted. The previous results were only for families where young children were present, whereas now we have found evidence for families with children of all ages.

However, we have not included in the study how the different work schedules influence the time spent with the older children. We believe that it is more complicated to determine a direct effect of the different work schedules on the time spent with teenagers. When we are considering teenagers, not only the parents’ restrictions will have an effect on parent-children time, but also the ones of the teenager. Teenagers are more likely to perform extracurricular activities and spend time with people outside the household, what may interfere in the time that they spend with the parents.

Another difference from Gracia and Kalmijn (2015) is the estimation method used. They used a seemingly unrelated regression model to study the link between work schedules and time uses. We, however, use a double hurdle model that allows us to take into account the clustering of a large proportion of observations at zero and deal with both the incidence and the intensity of spending time in a particular time use or activity. Else, unlike the Tobit model, the double hurdle model allows for different factors affecting the incidence and the intensity decisions.

Our study has four main findings. First, our results show that the split shift has a negative association with family time and parent child time, two activities that improve the relationship among family members and improve the wellbeing of children. Therefore, the split shift is not only a family-unfriendly work schedule but also strongly child-unfriendly.

Second, we find that the evening shift has a negative effect on family time. By contrast, we did not find evidence for parent-child time being negatively associated with the evening shift. These results are consistent with the results obtained by Gracia and Kalmijn (2015). We did not find evidence that supports that the evening shift has a negative effect on couple time. These results are not consistent with Gracia and Kalmijn (2015). They found that evening workers were substantially less active in couple activities.
Third, we find that parents engage in parent-child activities with children under 10 years old when their spouse is working the split shift or evening shift. These results are consistent with the idea that spouses decisions are taken simultaneously, as depending on the spouses’ work schedule the individual will decide his/her time spent with children.

Fourth, we find that the negative effect that working an evening or split shift has on parent-child time is smaller for women than for men. The opposite is observed with non-family leisure time.

With these results we could conclude that this study has important public policy implications. The split shift is making more difficult for dual-earner couples to have a work-life balance. This could be one of the reasons explaining the low female labor force participation rates in Spain in comparison with other European countries. Women could decide to accept a job if it meant having a standard work schedule if their spouses are already working a split shift. Couples would need someone to be with their children after school if women accepted a job with a split work schedule, as none of the spouses would be at home when the children arrived from school. This makes women to have less job opportunities. Moreover, when studying the private sector, in some cases, women will only apply for the less skilled jobs as, in higher positions, work schedules, normally, are worst for a work-life balance as working days are longer.

7. REFERENCES


8. FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1: Activity rate of women and men 2002-2016

[Graph showing activity rate for men and women from 2002T1 to 2016T2]

Own elaboration from Labor Force Survey (Spanish Institute of Statistics)

Figure 2: Percentage of men and women engaged in paid work by hour of the day

[Graph showing percentage of workers by hour of the day from 6:00 to 5:00]

Source: Own elaboration from STUS 2009-2010 data
Table 1: Summary Statistics: Means and SD for the whole sample and only for when both parents are working

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Data from STUS 2009-2010.

*In the first column of each sex, % > 0 min, we show the percentage of individuals that have reported more than 0 minutes per day on each time use. In the second column the mean is calculated over the subsample of individuals who reported more than zero minutes.

**The mean is calculated only considering the individuals who work the reference day.
Table 2: Double Hurdle model estimation results.

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## Participation decision

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## LNSIGMA (ρ)

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Observations 1,201

Standard errors in parentheses

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1