

# Impacts of capital intensity on family formation and gender equality in Vietnam

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**Abstract:** We examine whether changes in capital intensity from Vietnamese firms during 1999-2019 influence family formation and gender inequality, using panel data of communes. We use the recorded trajectories of cyclones to create a damage index as an instrumental variable. We find that higher capital intensity is associated with a higher share of single people and a lower share of families with multiple generations living together. Also, women prepared for high capital intensity industries by increasing their educational attainment. However, the results also indicate the sex ratio at birth is more skewed in communes with high capital intensity.

**Keywords:** Capital intensity, Gender inequality, Family formation, Cyclones, Vietnam

**JEL classification:** J16, O15, J12, I24, R23

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