

Asset Ownership and Egalitarian Decision Making among Couples: Some Evidence from Ghana

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Given the importance of decision making in empowering women, forms of decision making and their relative importance for women's empowerment deserve attention. This paper explores the determinants of couples' egalitarian decision making, i.e., decision making that is characterized by mutual consultation. Using the 2010 Ghana Household Asset Survey, we examine the relationship between asset ownership and egalitarian decision making among couples. We focus on two decisions: the decision to engage in an income-earning activity and the decision on how to spend one's income. The findings support the view that a fairly equal distribution of wealth between partners promotes egalitarian decision making.