

Paid and Unpaid Labor in Developing Countries

An inequalities in time use approach

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Conference “Unpaid Work and the Economy: Gender, Poverty, and the Millennium Development Goals”,

Levy Institute, Bard College ,October 1-3, 2005

Approaching time

- Broadly speaking, paid and unpaid labor can be assessed either by prices or quantity (time). Our study is about time.
- Time spent in these activities is not equally distributed between groups (e.g. men and women) and *within* groups (eg. among women).
- We focus on inequalities in time allocation

What kind of labor?

Paid labor – all labor that receives direct payment in cash

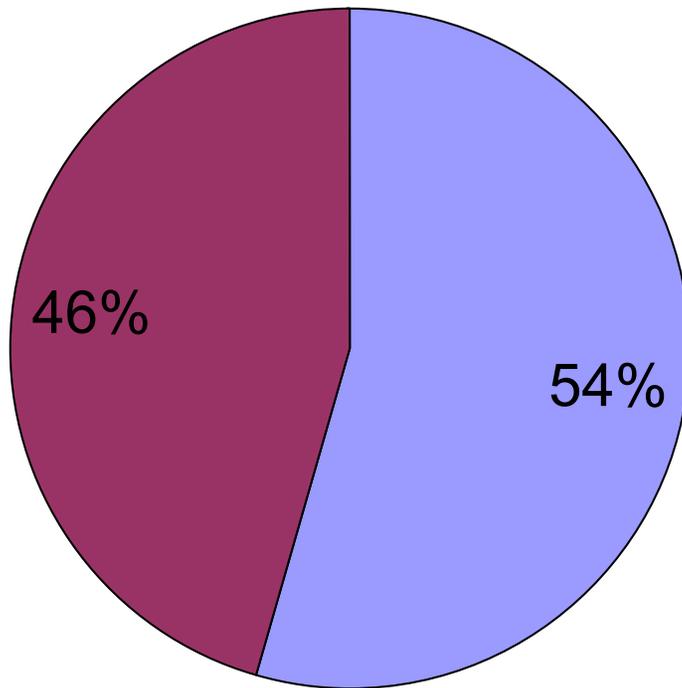
Unpaid labor – basically domestic labor. Other kinds of unpaid labor (eg. work in family business) were only partially considered

Population – urban adults (Accounting problems of time spent in child labor, family labor, and so on). In some comparisons, only adults that spent time both in paid and unpaid activities.

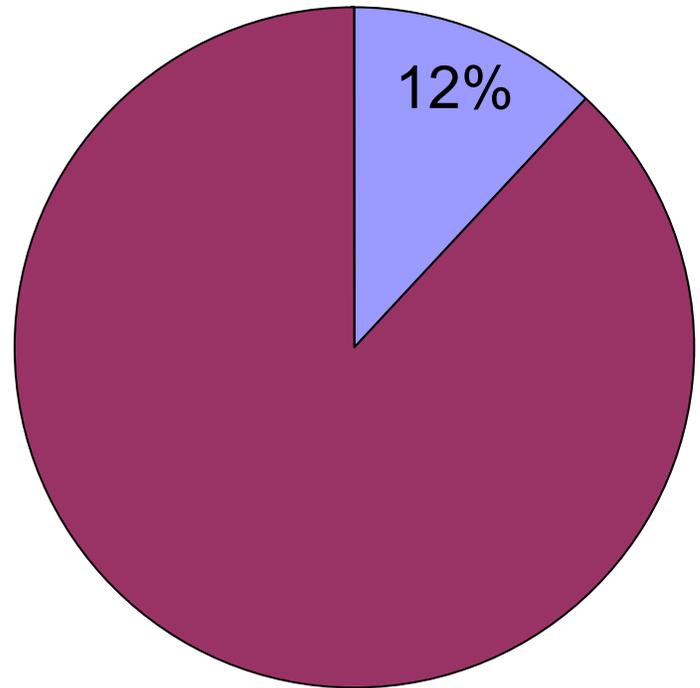
Time allocation is key

- Time is a limited resource, thus allocation is key
- All persons have the same amount of time available. They differ in allocation.

Urban females, Brazil 2003



Urban males, Brazil 2003

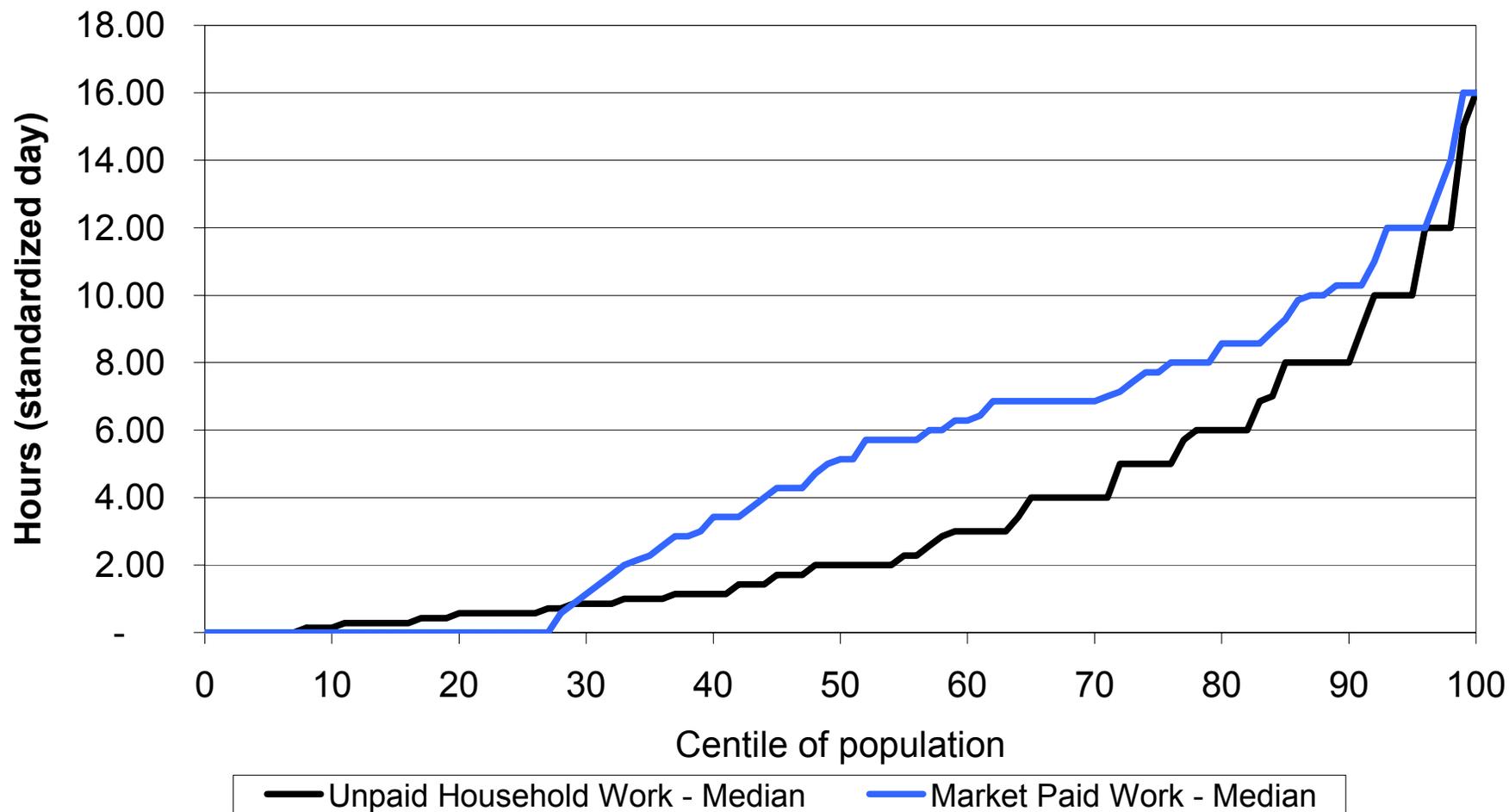


■ Unpaid Work ■ Paid Work

The level of inequality

How time spent in paid and unpaid labor is distributed?

Quantile Curves - hours worked in unpaid domestic labor and paid market labor - Urban adults, Bolivia 2001

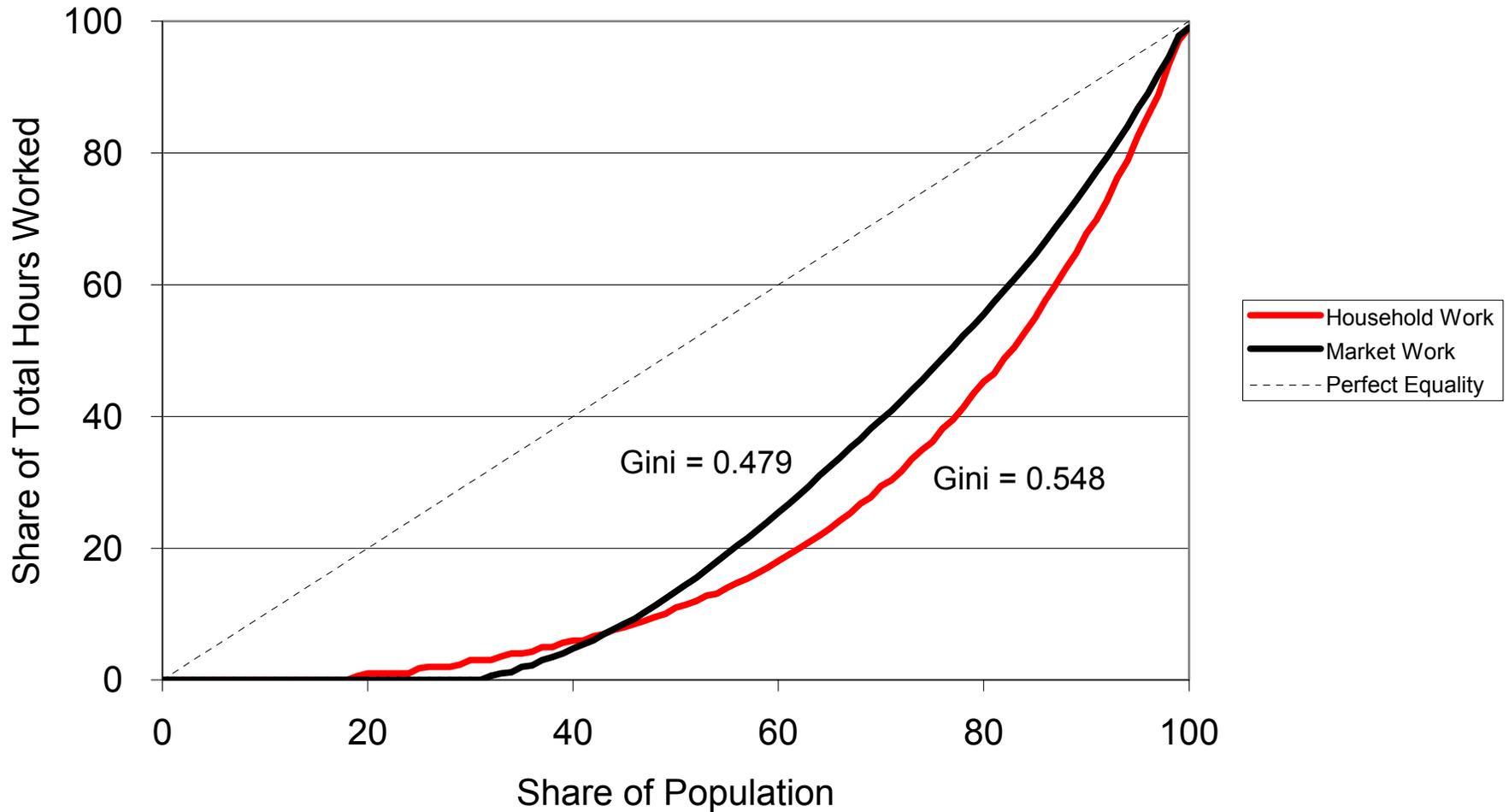


Distribution of work hours

The Pen Parade

- Pen parade of work hours – paid and unpaid labor – Bolivia 2001
 - Disparities in time allocated to paid (market) labor are higher than the ones in unpaid (household) labor
 - Patterns of disparity are different
 - almost everybody spends some time in household labor, but the amount of time varies much.
 - About 30% of the population spends no time in market work, but the ones who spend some time spend a more homogeneous amount of time.

Lorenz Curves for Unpaid Household and Paid Market Work, Urban Adults, Bolivia 2001



Distribution of work hours

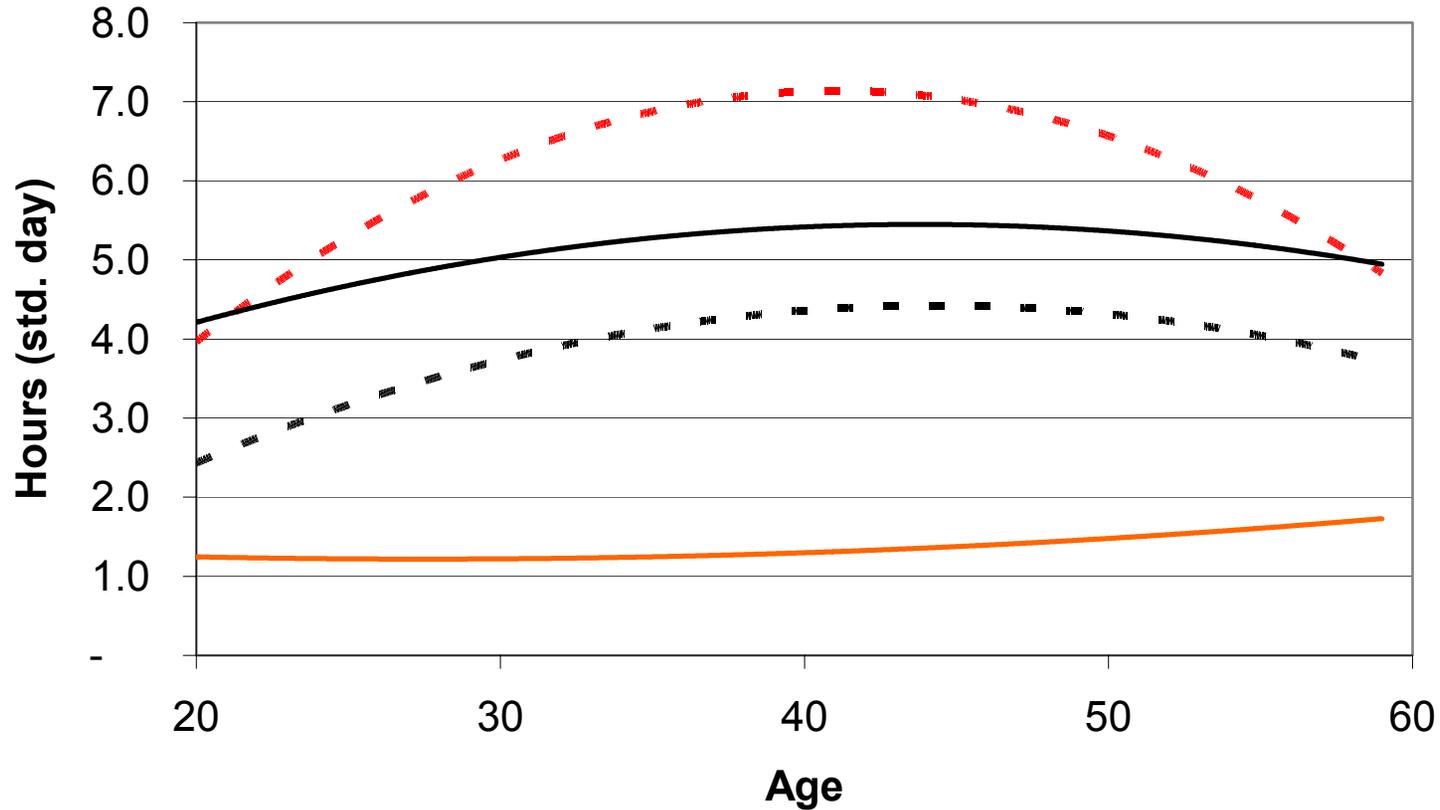
The Lorenz Curve

- Lorenz of distribution of work hours – paid and unpaid labor
 - Not possible to tell which distribution is more unequal (Lorenz curves cross);
 - However, a look at the curves suggests that inequality is higher in time spent in household work. The Ginis confirm.

Decomposing Inequalities

- Of the overall inequality, how much can be attributed to inequality between groups?
- How much is due to inequality within groups?
- Groups – Time allocated according to social roles: age and sex

Average Time Spent in Activity, by Age and Sex - Urban Adults, Bolivia 2001 (adj. 2nd. Degree Poly.)

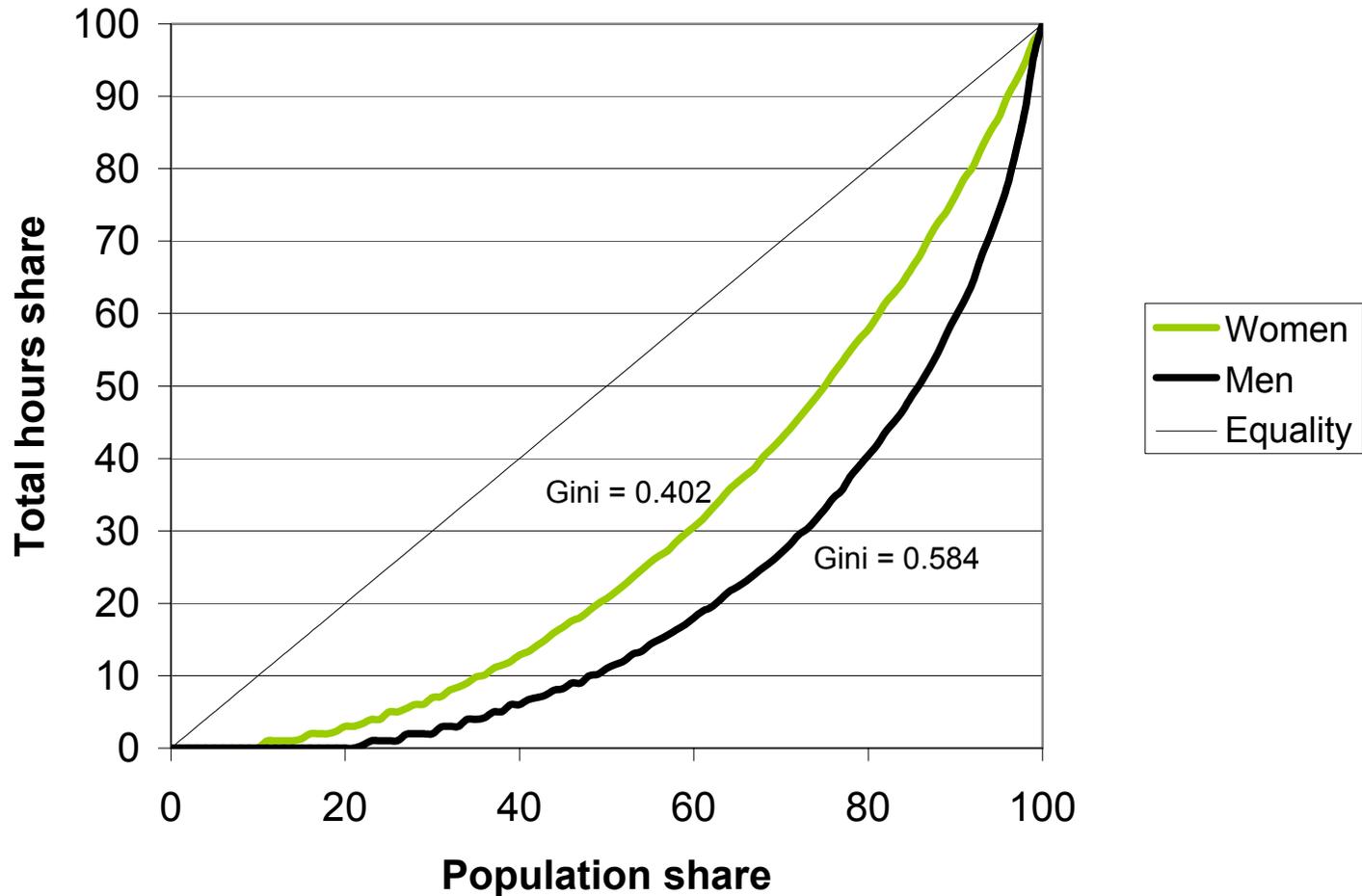


- - Poly. (Men - Market)
- - Poly. (Women - Market)
- Poly. (Women - Household)
- Poly. (Men - Household)

Decomposing Inequalities

- **Between Groups Inequality**
 - Inequality within groups is high
 - 35% of total is due only to inequalities between women and men
 - 2% of total is due to inequality between ages.
- Age has less relevance than sex to explain total inequality

Within group inequalities: time spend in household work Lorenz curves by sex, urban adults, Bolivia 2001



Decomposing Inequalities

- **Within Groups Inequality**
 - Inequality within men is very high. It is also high among women
 - Disparities, however, are higher among women
 - Therefore, interpreting averages require attention

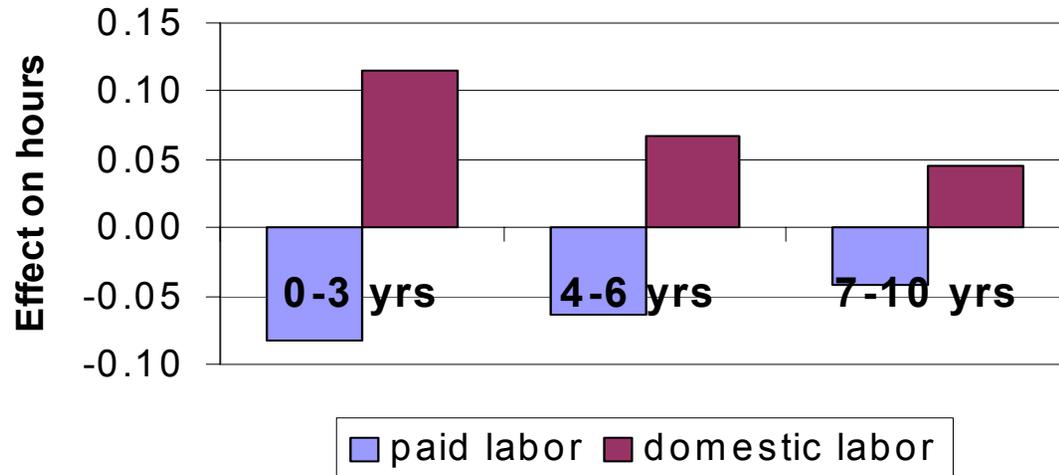
What is behind these inequalities?

- Relation between paid and unpaid labor
- Number of children
- Schooling

Substitution Effect (marginal), time in household labor, adult urban females in marital unions, Brazil 2003



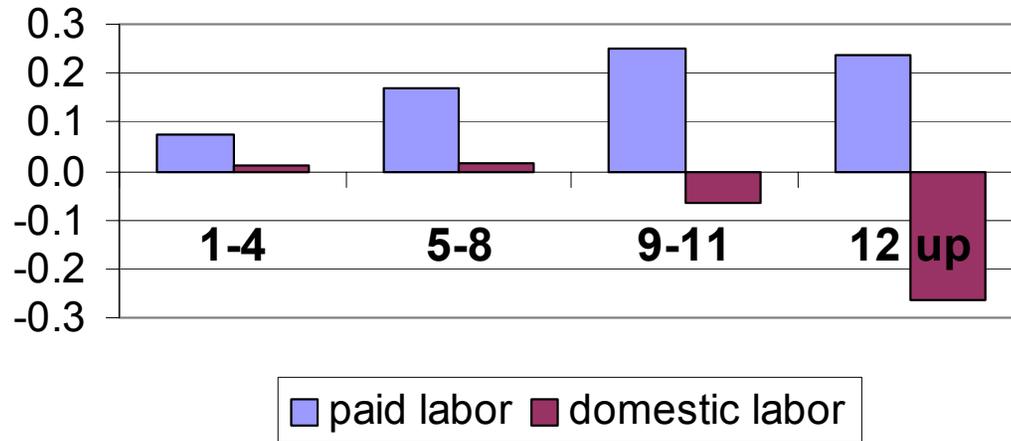
Marginal effect of each additional child on women's time allocation, by age of child



Marginal effect of each additional child on men's time allocation, by age of child



Education marginal effect women's time allocation - Brazil 2003



Education marginal effect men's time allocation - Brazil 2003

