

# Misperceived Social Norms about Women Working Outside the Home and Its Effect on Women in Saudi Arabia\*

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\*Code and data are available at: <https://github.com/ScarletWu/Misperceived-Social-Norms-Women-Working-Outside-the-Home-in-Saudi-Arabia>. Replication on Social Science Reproduction platform available at: <https://www.socialsciencereproduction.org/reproductions/1461/>

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## 1 Introduction

You can and should cross-reference sections and sub-sections.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows.

## 2 Data

### 2.1 Source

### 2.2 Methodology

## 3 Results

The authors calculated “wedges” which represent the difference between what participants guessed and the actual percentage of agreement among their session peers regarding women working outside the home (WWOH). The negative wedge indicates that the participant underestimated the support for WWOH. Conversely, a positive wedge suggests that the participant overestimated the support for WWOH. We replicate the histograms to check the distribution of the wedges between participants’ beliefs about the support for WWOH among their session participants and the actual levels of support. Figure 1 specifically maps the distribution of these “wedges” – the differences between each participant’s guess and the actual percentage of session participants who agreed with the pro-WWOH statement. It was found that more than half of participants underestimated the support for WWOH. There is a clear gap between perceived and actual social norms regarding women’s work outside the home. The left skew of the histogram would indicate that a majority of participants underestimated the true level of support for WWOH.

### 3.1 Table 1 (Originally table 1)

### 3.2 Figure 2 (Originally figure 4)

By using the regression analysis, we examine the treatment effect on the participants’ likelihood to sign up for a job matching service for their wives. The treatment variable is significant across all model specifications, with coefficients ranging from 0.0853 to 0.0899. The constant

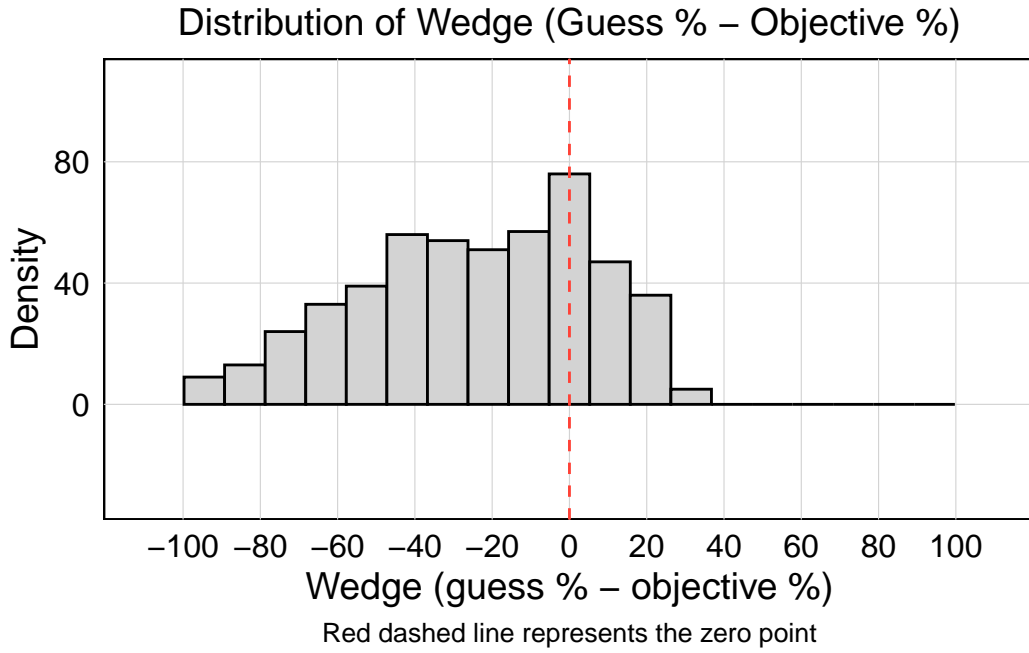


Figure 1: Histogram of Perceptual Gaps in Beliefs About Women Working Outside the Home

Table 1: Summary Statistics (Main Experiment)

|   | All              | Control          | Treatment        |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Observations  | 500              | 247              | 253              |
| Age   | 24.78<br>(4.21)  | 24.64<br>(3.99)  | 24.91<br>(4.41)  |
| Number of Children  | 1.71<br>(1.72)   | 1.64<br>(1.7)    | 1.77<br>(1.74)   |
| College Degree (%)  | 56.2             | 55.06            | 57.31            |
| Employed (%)  | 86.6             | 87.45            | 85.77            |
| Wife Employed (%)   | 65.2             | 65.59            | 64.82            |
| Wife Working Outside the Home (% retrospective follow-up) | 8.4              | 7.89             | 8.9              |
| Other Participants Known (%)                              | 51.19<br>(38.24) | 49.68<br>(38.6)  | 52.66<br>(37.92) |
| Other Participants with Mutual Friends (%)                | 38.64<br>(34.94) | 37.62<br>(34.62) | 39.63<br>(35.29) |

term varies considerably across different model specifications, suggesting differing baseline propensities for signing up absent the treatment. The p-values for the treatment effect, under various robustness checks such as robust standard errors, wild bootstrap, and permutation test, all indicate significance, ranging from 0.008 to 0.038. These results reinforcing the treatment's positive impact on sign-up rates Table 1.

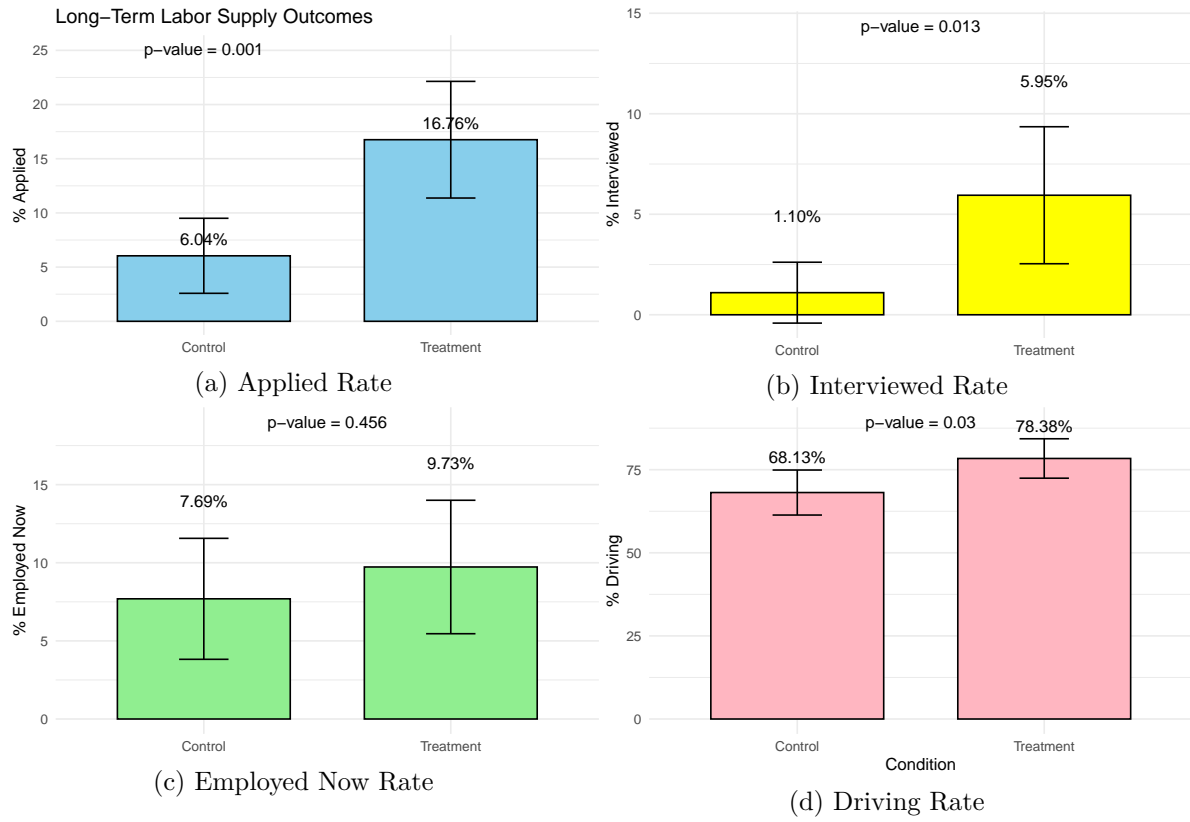


Figure 2: Histogram of Perceptual Gaps in Beliefs About Women Working Outside the Home

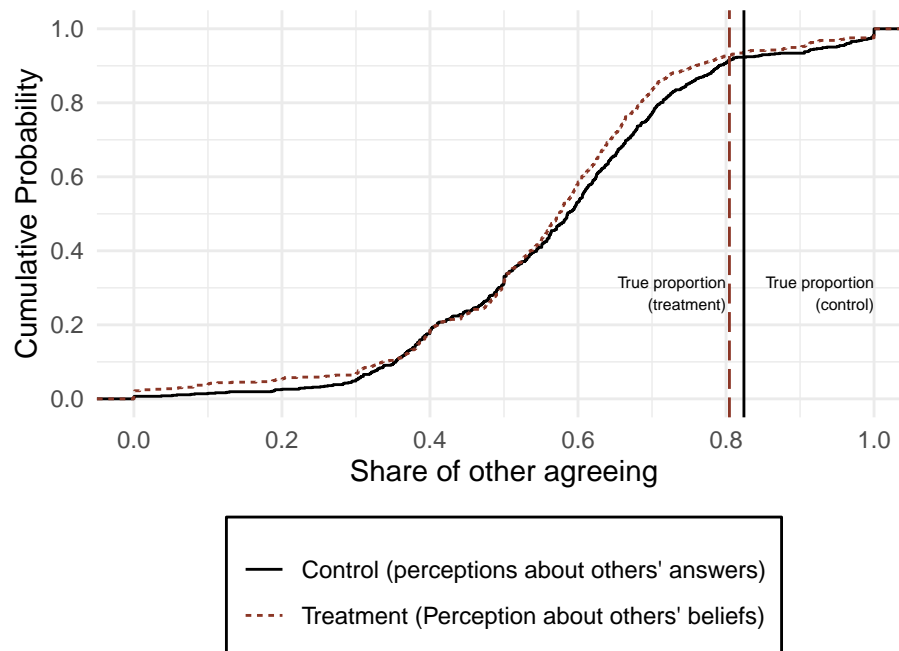


Figure 3: Misperceptions about Others' Beliefs (National Survey)

### 3.3 Figure 3 (Originally figure 6)

## 4 Discussion

### 4.1 First discussion point

### 4.2 Second discussion point

### 4.3 Third discussion point

### 4.4 Bias

### 4.5 Weaknesses and next steps

## **Appendix**

### **A Additional data details**

## B References