

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Fortunate Families? The Effects of Wealth on Marriage and Fertility](#)

Article Link: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w31039>

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Tweet: In Sweden men who won the lottery saw an increase in marriage formation and lower divorce risk. Female winners saw a near doubling of short-term divorce rates. @eriklindqvist1 @robertostling @Asia_terskaya

Summary: We find that lottery wealth increases the short- and medium-run probabilities of marriage. The overall wealth effect on marriage formation is driven by male winners. While the overall average treatment effect on marriage dissolution is not statistically distinguishable from zero, there is a consistent pattern of divergence between the estimated effects for husbands and wives. Specifically, when the winning player is a married woman, our estimates suggest that a 1M-SEK windfall almost doubles the baseline short-run divorce rate. This estimated effect appears to fade away in the long-run. We speculate that the positive wealth shock accelerates the exit from marriages whose dissolution was already underway.

Primary Topic: Family/Marriage

Topics: Academic paper, Data, Factoid, Family/Marriage, Workforce

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