

# How does Single Parent Family Affect Children's Human Capital Investment

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# Motivation

- Single parent family might fail to provide children with stable environment for learning
  - ▶ The economic condition for single parent family is usually more fragile than traditional nuclear family
  - ▶ Besides, single parent might not give enough mental support to children
- We aim to estimate the negative impact on children's education attainment

# Dataset

## Taiwan Education Panel Survey and Beyond, SRDA

- A panel data tracking down two different groups of children across almost 20 years
  - ▶ group 1: born in 1984-1985
  - ▶ group 2: born in 1988-1989
- Survey on the children, their parent and teachers, even after they enter labor market
- So we have comprehensive information about the children's behavior, relationship and academic performance

# Sample

- Treatment variable ( $D_i$ ): single parent family
- Outcome variable ( $Y_i$ ): university degree, public university and working years
- In order to find possible confounders, we consider the covariates from these survey data for each group:
  - ▶ student
  - ▶ classroom teacher
  - ▶ Chinese, English, Math teacher
  - ▶ parents
- We pick an abundance of covariates to conduct PDS

# Empirical Specification

## Post-Double Selection

- With PDS, we can identify the confounders in roughly 110 selected covariates and identify the causal relationship

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_i + \sum_{j \in A \cup B} \pi_j W_i^j + \epsilon_i$$

where  $A, B$  are the Lasso-selected covariates at step 1 & 2 in PDS.

- In later analysis, we try to compare if there is any difference of effect between groups