

Consequences of educational expansion in Germany on educational attainment in the next generation.

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Inequality of Educational Opportunity versus Reproduction of Educational Categories

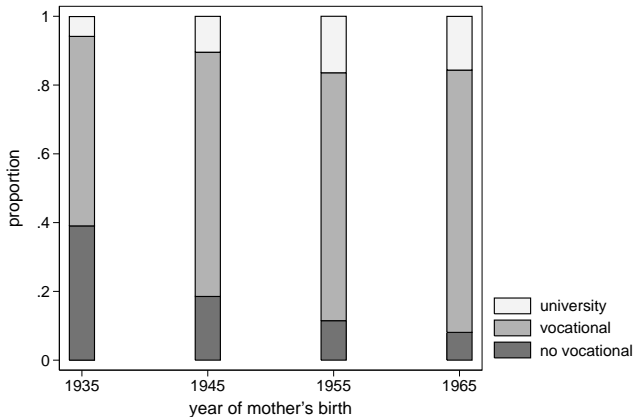
- ▶ Inequality of Educational Opportunity takes the offspring and “looks back” at the parents, while reproduction takes the parents and “looks forward” towards the offspring.
- ▶ Inequality of Educational Opportunity → How close is a country to the meritocratic model?
- ▶ Reproduction of Educational categories → What are the long term processes that shape the structure of society?
- ▶ In our project we look at reproduction of educational categories.

Possible effects of educational expansion in the mother's generation

- ▶ People who were born more recently are more likely to attain higher levels of education

Possible effects of educational expansion in the mother's generation

Education of women

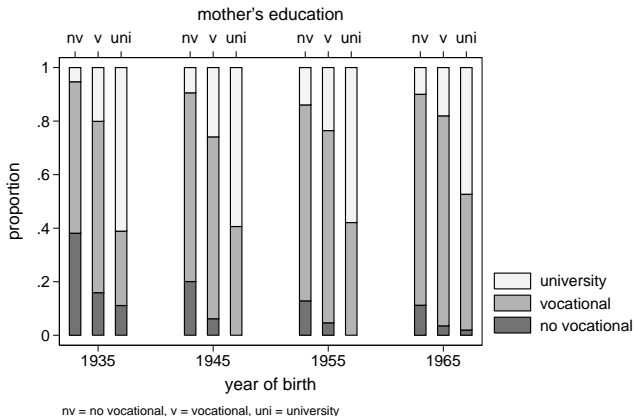


Possible effects of educational expansion in the mother's generation

- ▶ People who were born more recently are more likely to attain higher levels of education
- ▶ People who have higher educated parents are themselves more likely to attain higher levels of education

Possible effects of educational expansion in the mother's generation

Education of offspring conditional on education of mother



Possible effects of educational expansion in the mother's generation

- ▶ People who were born more recently are more likely to attain higher levels of education
- ▶ People who have higher educated parents are themselves more likely to attain higher levels of education
- ▶ Does educational expansion lead to further educational expansion in the next cohort?
- ▶ This relates to discussions regarding:
 - ▶ The policy in many developing countries to try to improve the education of young women.
 - ▶ The popular debate that the “wrong women” are getting children.

Challenges

- ▶ Estimation requires a sample of mothers who have children who finished their education.
 - ▶ This is not a common design.
 - ▶ The most recent cohort that can be studied was born approx. 60 years ago.
- ▶ Alternative is to reconstruct such a dataset using simulation:
 - ▶ It is possible to use a wider range of datasources.
 - ▶ Extrapolation to more recent cohorts is natural within this framework.
 - ▶ Exploration of effects in terms of counterfactual scenarios is also natural within this framework

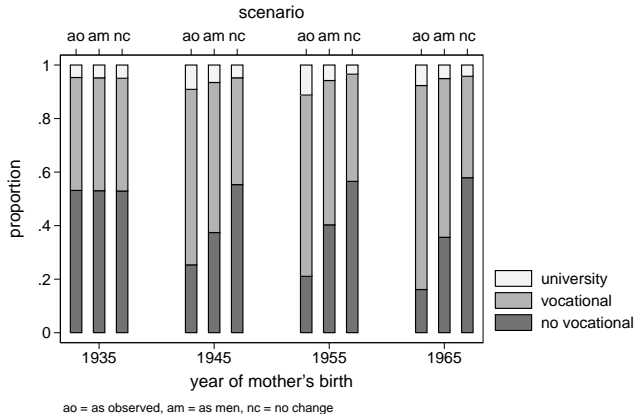
Scenarios

- ▶ In order to get an idea of what Educational expansion did we will look at the following scenario's
 - ▶ Educational expansion in the mother's generation took place as observed.
 - ▶ Educational expansion in the mother's generation equals the (lesser) expansion of the males.
 - ▶ No educational expansion took place in the mother's generation.
- ▶ The outcome is the educational attainment of the offspring

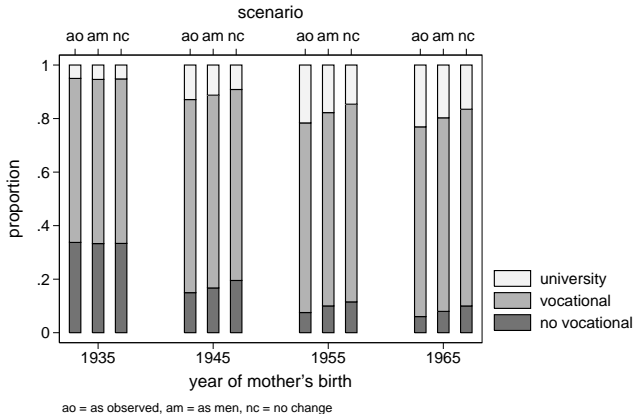
The simulation

1. Create 3000 'women' for each cohort born between 1929 and 1961
2. Assign them an education, a partner status, and a partner's education such that:
 - ▶ the marginal distribution of the women's education corresponds to the scenario, and
 - ▶ the odds ratios describing the association between women's education and their partner's education remain as observed.
3. Given the mother's education, assign kids.
4. Given the mother's and father's education, whether or not there was a father, and the number of siblings, assign an education to the kids.

Scenarios



The distribution of education of offspring in each scenario



Conclusion

- ▶ Educational expansion was mainly an effect of ‘real’ changes in the educational system.
- ▶ There has hardly been a feedback loop from educational expansion on expansion in the next generation.