

INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY & INTER-GENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF POVERTY

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The Wellbeing of Future Generations is in part determined by our treatment of this generation of children

- UNICEF commissioned LSE Systematic Review of evidence on intergenerational transmission of poverty and well-being
 - ✓ Identify proven (evidence-based) intergenerational transmission (IGT) mechanisms of poverty and well-being in both developed and less developed countries
 - ✓ Demonstrated evidence of the roles of health, education and income

Health Mechanisms with demonstrated evidence of Inter-generational transmission

- Genetics
- Parental quality
- Income
- Maternal nutrition
- Mother's education
- Maternal health knowledge
- Maternal stress



Evidence and studies for health

Mortality			Birth Weight		
Parenting variable	Mechanism	Country	Parenting variable	Mechanism	Country
Maternal BMI	Genetics and physiology	Cross-country	Maternal BMI	Genetics and physiology	Cross-country
Anemia status			Anemia status		
Maternal participation in literacy programs	Health knowledge	Ghana	Mother's Birth weight	Assortative mating	US
Income	Health knowledge	Mexico	Mother's Birth weight	Parental behaviour (smoking) Teratogenesis Income (SES)	US
	Nutritional Level of sanitation		Maternal stress	Maternal stress	US
			Income	Maternal nutrition Household labor supply Family structure Residential mobility Health care Insurance	Uruguay

Education mechanisms with demonstrated evidence of inter-generational transmission

- Genetics
- Nurture
- Parental quality
- Income (Credit constraints)
- Maternal health knowledge
- Family structure



Evidence and studies for education

Child Education (Attainment)		
Parenting variable	Mechanism	Country
Education	Selection (Genetics) Causation Cost (in terms of effort) of education for the child	Norway
	Income Role model effect Parental preferences for education Parental time allocation and efficiency in the home learning environment	Sweden
	Ability transmission Credit constraints and SES Direct Education-to-education transmission	Mexico
	Maternal "biological" human capital	Guatemala
	Maternal "intellectual" human capital	
	Nurture	Rwanda
Income	Family Income	U.S.A. and Canada
	Family Income	U.S.A
	Family Income	U.S.A
	Parental quality Parental time (quantity) Better educational inputs Child assessment of opportunities and outcomes Paternal stress	U.S.A

Type of Mechanism:
 Evidence-proven
 Suggested
 Refuted

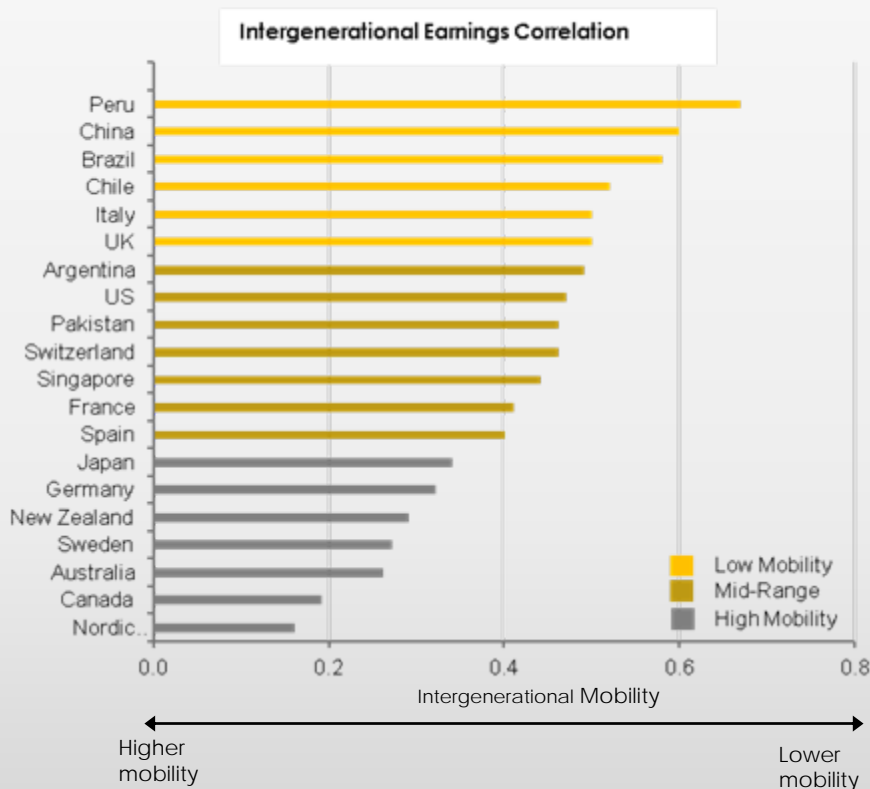
Evidence and studies for education (cont.)

Child Education (Achievement)		
Parenting variable	Mechanism	Country
Education	Parental income Assortative mating Fertility	Sweden
Income	Family Income	US & Canada
	Parental income	UK
	Parenting quality	
	Parental interest in a child's education	
	Social Class	
	Parental education	
Social Welfare	Connection to social services	US
Parental Behaviour	Mother's education	US
Health	Exposure to stress in utero	US
Family Structure	Family Planning Early Child Health interventions (vaccinations, etc.)	Bangladesh

Type of Mechanism:
 Evidence-proven
 Suggested
 Refuted

Inter-generational Income Mobility

Comparable estimates of the intergenerational correlations between father and son earnings



Source: Corak (2012)

What do the cross-country comparisons tell us?

1. Countries differ significantly in the extent to which parental economic status is related to the labour market success of their children in adulthood
2. Many developing countries have low or medium levels of intergenerational inequality
3. Intergenerational mobility patterns change over the lifetime of an individual and over time.
4. Generational cycles are common at both sides of the income distribution
5. Income mobility has limitations as an indicator of social welfare.
6. Equality of opportunity

Several mechanisms operate together

Income (mobility) mechanisms with demonstrated evidence of inter-generational transmission

- Cognitive and non-cognitive development
- Human capital
- Childhood nutrition and health
- Income and access to opportunity
(but clear causal mechanisms are more difficult to isolate)



Final remarks

1. There are social and economic drivers of the well-being of future generations through proven mechanisms that operate on today's children.
2. Future Generations are in part determined by our treatment of this generation of children.
3. So, any new framework or institution for intergenerational solidarity will have to build on established frameworks and institutions related to children's rights and well being (e.g., CRC).