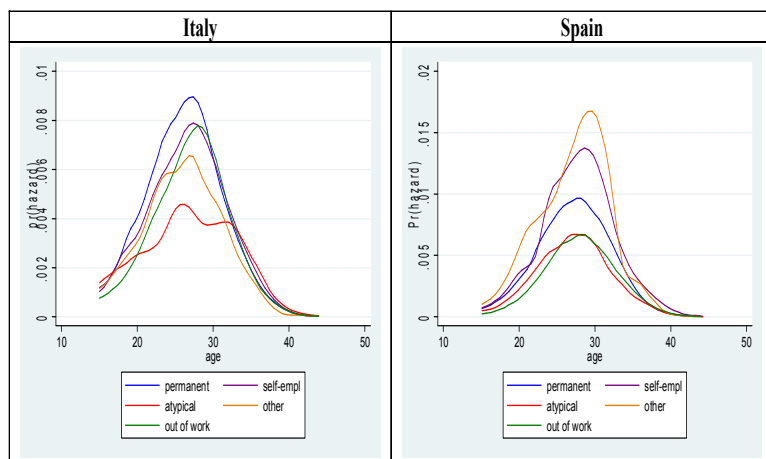


The demographic consequences of LM flexibilization in Italy and Spain

Paolo Barbieri & Rossella Bozzon

We study the relation between labour market career and the transition to first childbirth and family conditions at 30 years old among Italian and Spaniard women born after 1950.

At the core of this work is the idea that, given the characteristics of the sub-protective Southern European welfare systems and the insider-outsider scenario boomed by the 80s-90s partial and targeted labour market deregulations, being a young and instable worker in the secondary labour market forces to delay the transition to adulthood – namely via the postponement of first childbirth.



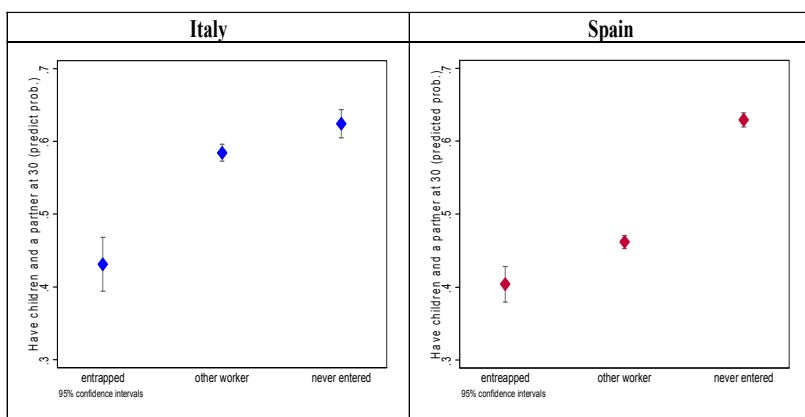
Results show that women with atypical labour market position are much slower in entering their first motherhood.

In Italy the spread of flexible employment manifests clear negative effects on the timing of the transition to first childbirth for the cohorts of women born from the Seventies onwards. In Spain, the negative effect of flexible employment varies according to women's educational endowment: the consequences are more consistent for women with high levels of education.

Predicted probabilities based on time discrete model on the age of transition to first childbirth. Ilfi (2005) & FVE(2006)

Moreover, in both countries, we find a general negative effect of long term atypical work experiences (entrapment) on family situation (having a partner and children) at 30 years old. Repeated episodes of flexible employment at career start turn into a trap that significantly reduce the chances of having a family with children at 30.

Given the combination of future social and demographic problems that European countries (and in particular the South-European ones) will face, we believe our results to be particularly relevant.



Predicted probabilities based on simultaneous probit models on the family situation at 30 (have children/have partner). Ilfi (2005) & FVE(2006)

The empirical analysis are based on ILFI (Longitudinal Survey of Italian Families) and on “Fecundidad y Valores en la España del Siglo XXI” (2006).



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