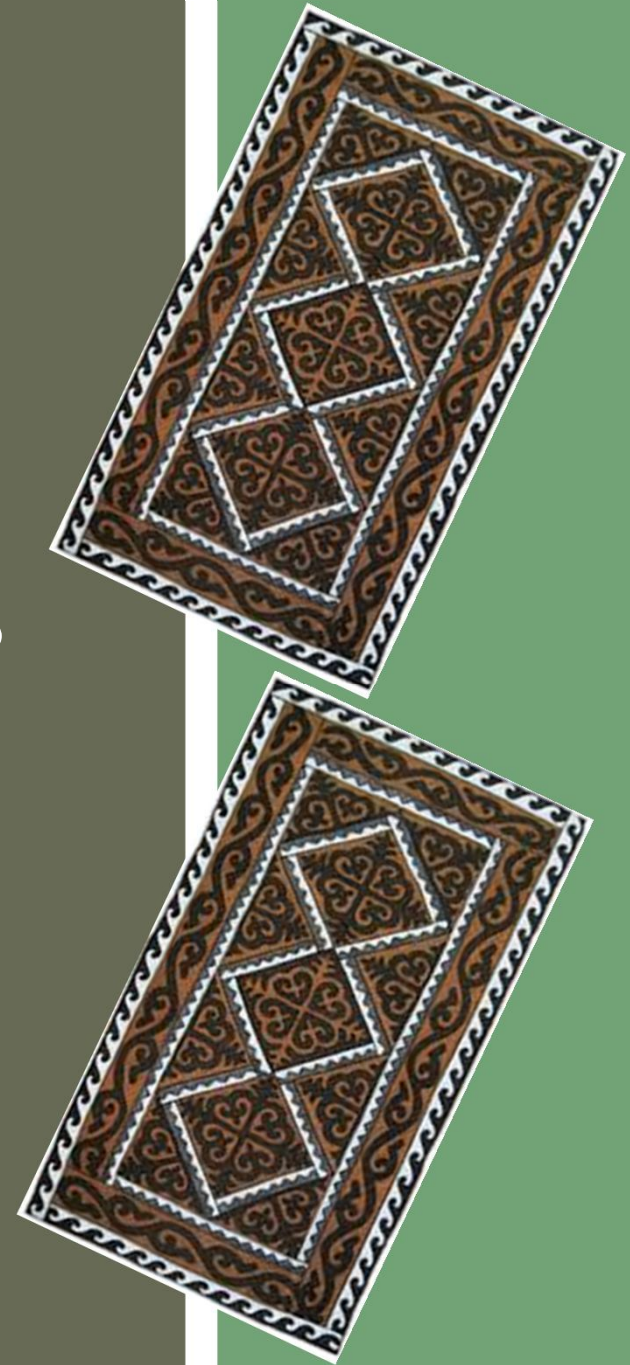


ACHIEVED FERTILITY AND FERTILITY INTENTIONS AMONG CENTRAL ASIAN ETHNICITIES: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS

Lesia Nedoluzhko
Stockholm University
lesia.nedoluzhko@sociology.su.se



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Ethnic and country level differences in fertility and fertility intentions
- Is there an effect of minority/majority group status?
- Whether the effect of a group status is independent of other factors (particularly of ethno-cultural differences) ?

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Research on ethnic or racial differences in fertility

(1) **“Characteristics hypothesis”** (Lee and Lee 1952, 1959; Marcum and Bean 1976)

(2) **Constraints and insecurities associated with minority status** (Goldscheider and Uhlenberg 1969; Sly 1970; Ritchey 1975)

a) Acculturation

b) Resistance to acculturation

(3) **Societal discomfort/conflict** (e.g., Anson and Meir 1996; Fargues 2000)

GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS

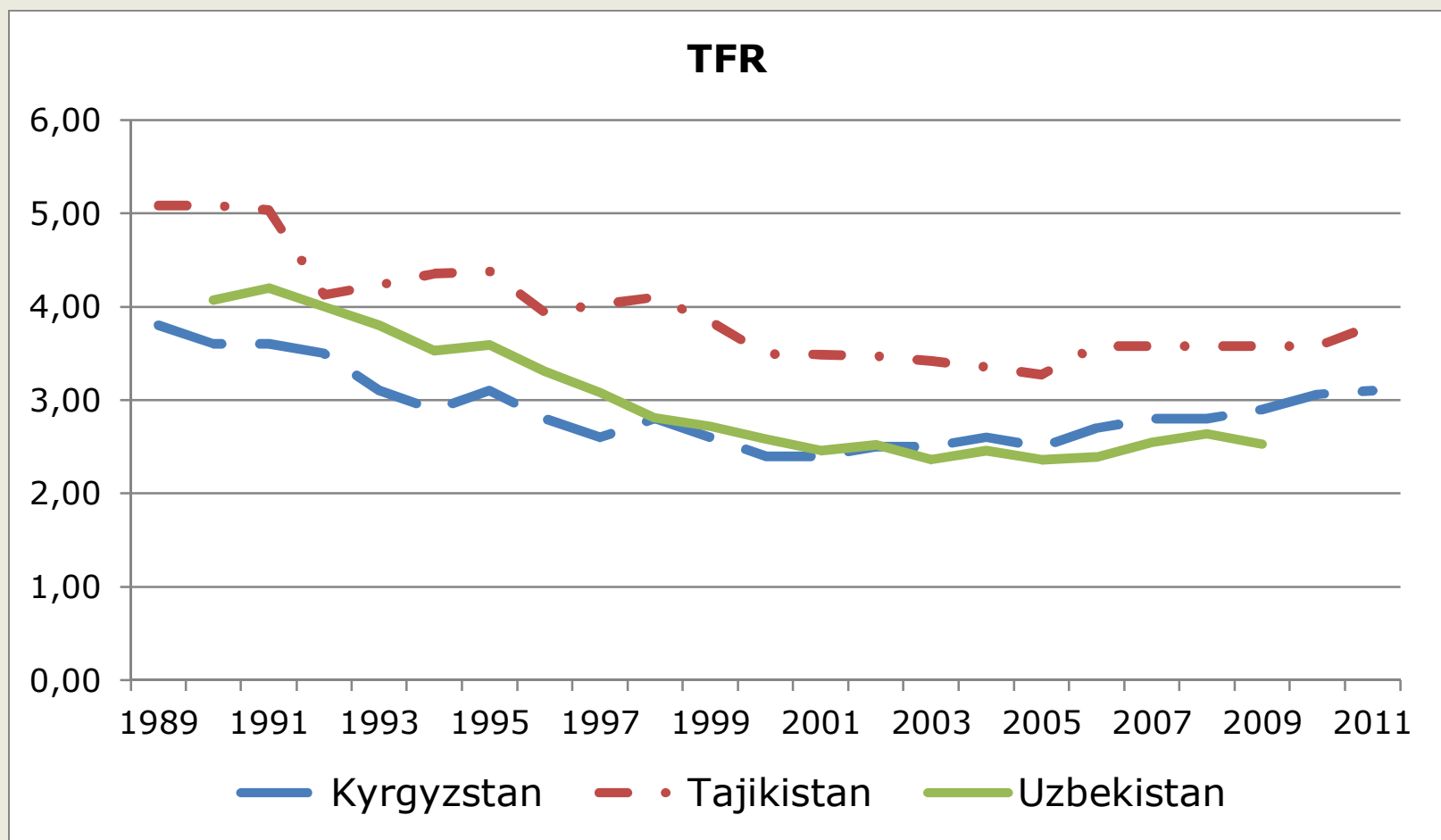
Commonwealth of Independent States - Central Asian States



SETTINGS

- Predominantly Muslim
- Ethnically diverse population
- Soviet past
- Wide spread poverty
- Resurgence of ethnic nationalism
- Share territory of the Fergana valley – “ethnic conflict zone”

SETTINGS



CONCEPTUALIZATION

- Cross-country comparison of co-ethnics in countries where they are the eponymous population group with those in countries where they are minorities
- Neighboring countries
- Three dimensions: ethnicity, minority/majority status, and the country effect

Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyz

Uzbek

Russian

Tajikistan

Tajik

Uzbek

Russian

Uzbekistan

Uzbek

Tajik

Russian

[A similar operationalization of minority status was used in a study on religious minorities in India and Bangladesh (Sahu et al. 2011)].

DATA

- Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) from 2005/06
- The sample is restricted to the largest ethnic groups
- Women aged 15-49
- N=28,225 observations

DATA

Selected characteristics of women ever in union, MICS 2005/06

Country	Ethnicity	Median age at 1 st union	Median age at 1 st birth	Mean number of CEB (SD)
Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyz	20.2	21.4	2.8 (1.8)
	Uzbek	20.1	21.4	2.7 (1.6)
	Russian	20.0	21.5	1.7 (1.0)
Uzbekistan	Uzbek	19.9	21.1	2.8 (1.7)
	Tajik	19.5	20.8	2.8 (1.7)
	Russian	20.9	22.1	1.6 (1.0)
Tajikistan	Tajik	19.4	20.8	3.6 (2.3)
	Uzbek	19.5	20.7	3.3 (2.1)
	Russian	21.9	23.2	1.6 (1.2)

METHODS

- **Poisson regression** to model the number of children ever born
[We employ only data on ever married or ever cohabiting women, who had no birth prior to first union]

- **Logistic regression for binary outcomes** to model fertility intentions

The dependent variable is constructed from the question: “Would you like to have (a/another) child, or would you prefer not to have any (more) children?”

(1) „have (a/another) child“

(2) „no more/none“

(3) „cannot get pregnant“

(4) „undecided/don't know“

[Women who reported infecundity, pregnant women, and nulliparous women are excluded]

RESULTS: ACHIEVED FERTILITY

Children ever born, Poisson regression, women ever in union with no birth prior to first marriage/cohabitation, incidence rate ratios

Time since first union			
0-4 years (ref.)	1		
5-9 years	2.36***		
10-14 years	3.27***		
15-19 years	3.97***		
20-25 years	4.57***		
25 +	5.34***		
Ethnicity		Country	
	Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan	Tajikistan
Kyrgyz	1.03**	-	-
Uzbeks	0.99	1 (ref.)	1.15***
Tajiks	-	0.98	1.24***
Russians	0.65***	0.66***	0.73***
Union status			
not in a union (ref.)	1		
in a union	1.40***		

RESULTS: ACHIEVED FERTILITY

Children ever born (cont.)

Area	
rural (ref.)	1
urban	0.91***
capital	0.88***
Education	
secondary or less (ref.)	1
at least some higher education	0.92***
Wealth ranking	
poor (ref.)	1
middle	0.95***
rich	0.91***

Note: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$
Controlled for age at first union

RESULTS: ACHIEVED FERTILITY

Children ever born, Uzbek and Tajik women in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, incidence rate ratios

Ethnicity	
Uzbeks	1
Tajiks	1.03*
Country	
Uzbekistan	1
Tajikistan	1.21***
Status	
majority	1
minority	0.95***

Note: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$

Controlled for union duration, age at first union, current union status, area of residence, education, and household wealth ranking.

RESULTS: FERTILITY INTENTIONS

Logistic regression results for wanting another child, odds ratios

Ethnicity		Country	
	Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan	Tajikistan
Kyrgyz	2.77***	-	-
Uzbeks	1.54***	1 (ref.)	1.38***
Tajiks	-	0.79	1.22**
Russians	0.74*	0.48***	1.03
Parity			
one child (ref.)	1		
two children	0.15***		
three or more children	0.02***		
Sex composition of children			
has no son (ref.)	1		
has at least one son	0.39***		
Union status			
not in a union (ref.)	1		
in a union	3.93***		

RESULTS: FERTILITY INTENTIONS

Wanting another child
(cont.)

Area	
rural (ref.)	1
urban	0.94
capital	0.79**
Education	
secondary or less (ref.)	1
at least some higher education	1.32***
Wealth ranking	
poor (ref.)	1
middle	1.08
rich	1.08

Note: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$
Controlled for time since previous birth and age at first birth

RESULTS: FERTILITY INTENTIONS

Logistic regression results for wanting another child, Uzbek and Tajik women in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, odds ratios

Ethnicity

Uzbeks	1
Tajiks	0.82*

Country

Uzbekistan	1
Tajikistan	1.53***

Status

majority	1
minority	0.93

Note: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$

Controlled for time since last birth (linear and squared), age at first birth, parity, sex composition of living children, union status, area of residence, education, and wealth ranking.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

■ The results suggest:

- (1) independent modest negative effect of minority-group status on fertility and fertility intentions
- (2) a strong effect of country of residence
- (3) remarkable similarity in the number of children ever born among Asians within each country
- (4) Ethnic divides in numbers of children ever born are particularly strong between Russians and ethnicities of Asian origin.

Achieved fertility: differences between countries in the advancement of family planning programs and availability of contraceptive services?

Fertility intentions: differences between countries in economic benefits of having children?

THANK YOU!
DZIĘKUJĘ!

