

# Seminar 4: Gender and Health

## GENDER

### *Question 1*

Qian (2008) tests if there are economic incentives for parents to prefer girls/boys.

- How does she test this?
- What empirical strategies are used?
- Are the strategies credible?
- Do her results necessarily imply that parents' have more girls when girls are more profitable?
- What is the additional piece of evidence that she uses to argue that last point?

### *Question 2*

Jensen and Oster (2009) analyze whether cable TV affects women's status.

- Why should economists care about cable TV?
- Why would TV have an effect on women's status?
- How do they analyze the question (focus in particular on how they try to deal with omitted variables)? What do they find and do you think the results are internally valid?
- Can they distinguish between different mechanisms and are the results externally valid?

## HEALTH

### *Question 3*

How do we measure the quality of health in a population? Discuss various ways in which improved health may increase economic productivity. How would you test the causal effect of health on the some economic outcome?

### *Question 4*

The "Worms" paper by Kremer and Miguel (2004 *Econometrica*) (discussed in Glennester at al) was highly influential. What was their main findings and how did

they arrive at these conclusions. Take a brief search on the internet for “worm wars” “kremer miguel” and you will see that their analysis has been contested. What was wrong and did it matter for their conclusions?

*Question 5*

What is the “know - do” gap in health care supply. What can explain this gap and can incentives - performance pay - help closing it?