

# Mother's Social Capital and Child Health in Indonesia

Sujarwoto and Gindo Tampubolon

University of Brawijaya, Malang and University of Manchester, UK

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- ▶ To examine the relationship between mother's social capital and her child health

- ▶ Mother's social capital is measured by mother's participation in five community programs
- ▶ Child health: child height and weight for age 0-5 years

- ▶ Instrumental variable estimation :
- ▶ To mitigate reverse causality between mother's social capital and her child health
- ▶ To mitigate bias arises on the relation between mother's social capital and her child health

- ▶ Indonesian Family Life Survey 2007
- ▶ N Mothers = 3450, N Children = 4612 and N Communities = 309.

- ▶ Mother's social capital is positively and significantly associated with her child health. These results being true with least squares estimators (0.023,  $p < 0.05$  for height for eight and 0.051,  $p < 0.05$  for weight for age) and instrumental variable estimators (0.179,  $p < 0.001$  for height for eight and 0.147,  $p < 0.001$  for weight for age)
- ▶ All instruments are highly correlated with mother's social capital; tests of their strength and relevance also reveal their usefulness to mitigate bias estimate of the relationship between mother's social capital and child health.
- ▶ Community social capital is associated with child health but only for weight for age.

# Conclusions

- ▶ Mother's social capital benefits for child health in Indonesia
- ▶ Community social capital also improves for child health but only for child weight.
- ▶ The significant of instrumental variables suggests channel for improving mother's social capital in Indonesia.
- ▶ The significant of mother's social capital on child health suggests channel for reducing child poverty in Indonesia.

## For more information read:

- ▶ Sujarwoto and Gindo Tampubolon, Mother's social capital and child health in Indonesia, *Social Science and Medicine*, 91 (2013) 1-9