Megatrends, fertile frontiers (and observations)

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MEGA TRENDS

- Working with industry: commercial data
- Transdisciplinary biosocial genetic research
- Big data and technology
- What I learned in the last 48 hours
WORKING WITH INDUSTRY

deCODE genetics

23andMe

eDarling

KAISER PERMANENTE®
Melden Sie sich KOSTENLOS an
& finden Sie den Partner, der wirklich zu Ihnen passt.

Ich bin
- eine Frau
- ein Mann

Ich suche
- eine Frau
- einen Mann

E-Mail-Adresse

Mit Registrierung gelten unsere AGB und Datenschutzbestimmungen

JETZT KOSTENLOS ANMELDEN

Personliche Daten werden höchst vertraulich behandelt.
Racial Preferences in Online Dating across European Countries

Gina Potârcă and Melinda Mills

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Abstract
Knowledge about how race governs partner selection has been primarily based on studies in the United States, yet it is unclear whether these results can be generalized to other immigration patterns. Using a large-scale sample of online daters, we engage in the first cross-national analysis of race-related partner preferences between contextual factors and ethnic selectivity. We provide unique identification theories. We show that individuals uniformly and that there is a hierarchy of preferences both among natives and differences are also found. Europeans living in countries with a larger increased preference for minority groups. The ethnically heterogeneous strongest preference for minorities, with the more homogeneous Anti-immigrant attitudes are related to stronger in-group preferences. Non-Arabic minority daters belonging to large-size communities in Europe.

Relationship Preferences Among Gay and Lesbian Online Daters: Individual and Contextual Influences

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Melinda Mills University of Oxford/ Nuffield College*

Wiebke Neberich Affinitas GmbH**

There is currently little knowledge about what gay men and lesbians seek in a romantic relationship. The past decades have witnessed a continued rise in the visibility and legal rights of same-sex
HARVESTING NEW TYPES OF DATA
DRAMATIC FERTILITY POSTPONEMENT

First births 4 years later

OECD (2009) and VID Human Fertility Database (2010)
Figure 3.1
Total fertility rate and mean age of childbearing, Canada, 1926 to 2011

Note: The mean age of childbearing’s calculation is based on age-specific rates (and not actual number of births).
Why do people postpone parenthood? Reasons and social policy incentives

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Fertility in Advanced Societies: A Review of Research
La fécondité dans les sociétés avancées: un examen des recherches

Nicoletta Balbo · Francesco C. Billari · Melinda Mills

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Abstract This paper provides a review of fertility research in advanced societies, societies in which birth control is the default option. The central aim is to provide a comprehensive review that summarizes how contemporary research has explained
Diminishing returns from repeating same approach to study same topics

Is there really no biological or genetic basis of fertility and demographic behaviour?
SOCIAL AND GENETIC FACTORS EACH EXPLAIN SMALL AMOUNT
SOCIAL AND GENETIC FACTORS EACH EXPLAIN SMALL AMOUNT
FERTILITY HERITABILITY ESTIMATES BY BIRTH COHORT AND COUNTRY

Heritability estimate

Finland: 1950-1957
UK: 1919-1929
UK: 1930-1939
UK: 1940-1949
UK: 1950-1959
UK: 1960-1968
Australia: 1905-1965
Denmark: 1931-1952
Denmark: 1880-1890
Denmark: 1953-1959
Denmark: 1953-1964
Sweden: 1915-1929

Heritability estimate

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5

AFB female
NEB male
NEB female

0.002
Bridging Two Parallel Approaches

Genetic Risk
- Location of genetic variants (GWAS)
- Higher accuracy: polygenic, GCTA

Socio-environment
- Social (structure, status, network, capital)
- Lifestyle (obesity, smoking, stress)

Gene x Environment

Fertility
- Age at first birth
- Number of children
- Infertility
Sociogenome is a research project located at the University of Oxford and Nuffield College, funded by the European Research Council and led by Prof. Melinda Mills.
Melinda Mills – Fertile Frontiers

What I learned in the last 48 hours
ONE POLICY DOES NOT FIT ALL

70 year old accountant

70 Year old firefighter?
STRONGER BELIEF EMBryo human BEING, HIGHER NUMBER OF EMBRYOS TRANSFERRED

POLICIES ARE POLITICAL
ADVISORY WARNING!!!!!

- Data is the social scientists telescope (Tim Holt) & our Haldron Super Collider
- Linked data offers possibilities, but also dangers (training, complexity)
- New data efforts should not be at expense of strong longitudinal surveys
THERE ARE INCREASED INVESTMENTS IN DATA LINKAGE

FINE PRINT: BUT THERE IS A DATA CARTEL AND NO ONE HAS ACCESS TO IT
Will RDCs and Canadian data go international?
Melinda Mills – Fertile Frontiers

Thank you!

www.sociogenome.com