Household Bargaining and Excess Fertility An Experimental Study in Zambia

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Overview

Outline

- Context — a short play
- Conceptual framework
- Experiment design
- Result

Let’s Enjoy Our Play

SAN ANTONIO
BASKETBALL

Husband Compromises

Husband not Compromises

Husband Compromises

two months later～

another two months later～

The End

Conceptual framework

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Conceptual Framework

- Bargaining Efficiently
- Moral Hazard

Bargaining Efficiently

- redistribute surplus
- Case 1: contraception is Pareto-efficient.
- Case 2: no use of contraception is Pareto-efficient.

Moral Hazard

- suspect, aggrieved
- Its result do not require commitment

When Moral Hazard happens?

individual condition

couple condition

Experimental Design

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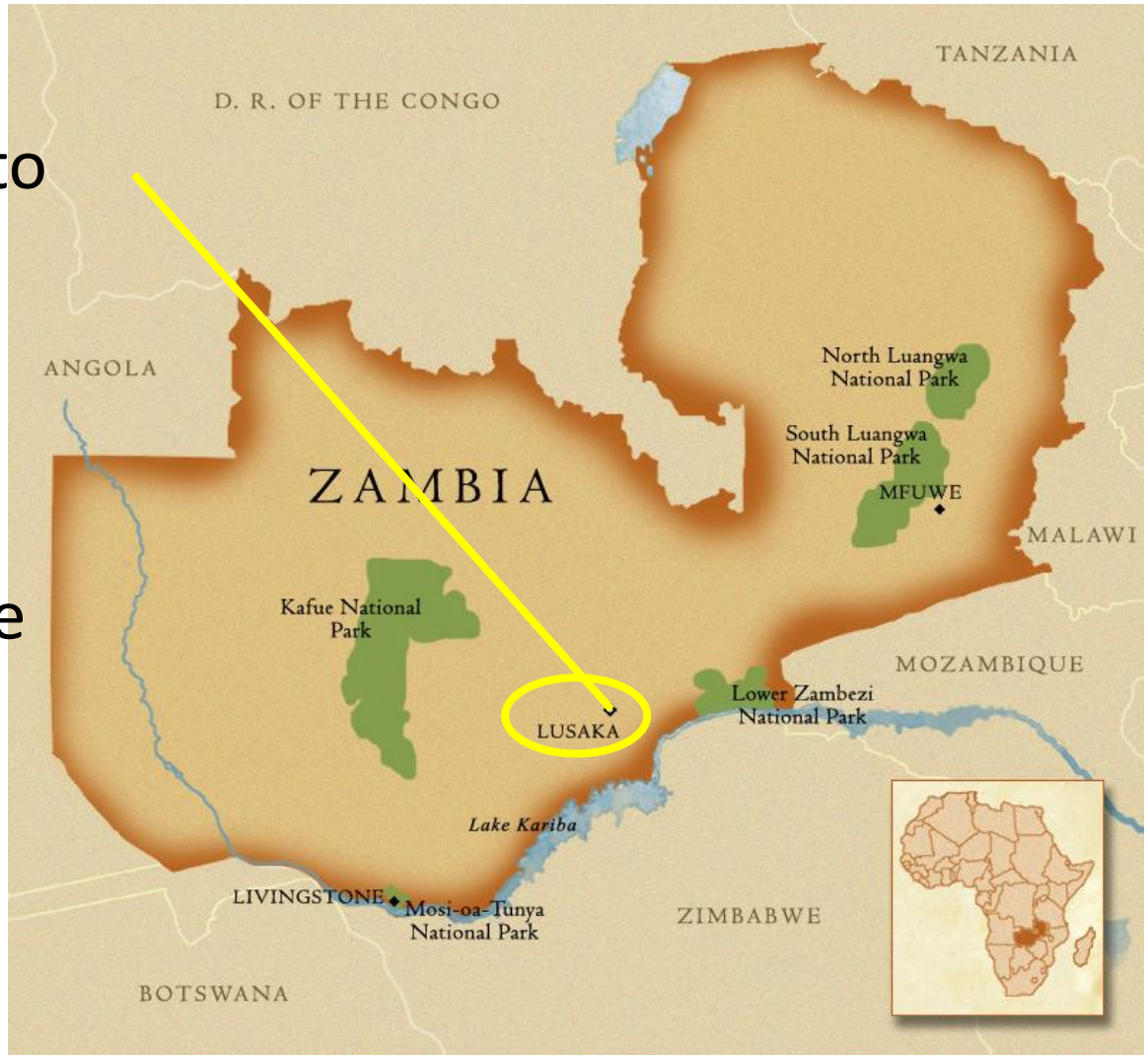
Recruitment

- During July 2006 to April 2007.
- In Chipata Clinic.

(serves low-income "compound" neighborhoods)



Sampling

1. lived with their husband.
2. had given birth 2004.1-2006.12
3. were not pregnant.
4. had neither been sterilized nor had a hysterectomy.
5. were not known hormonal contraceptives are contraindicated.
6. agreed to participate in a survey and information session with their husband.
7. was imposed on all subjects.

Sampling

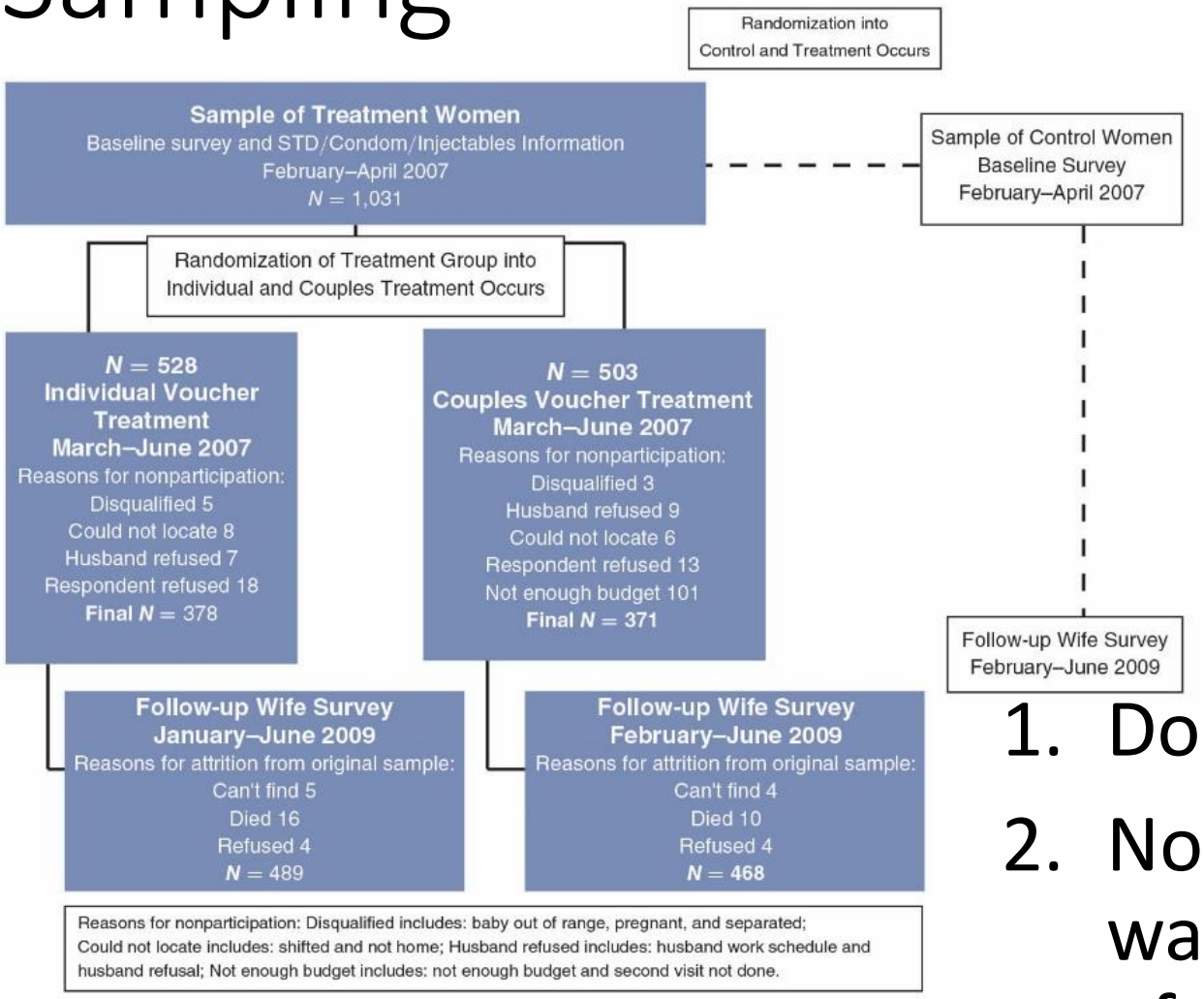


FIGURE 1. EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

1. Double-blind
2. Nonparticipation was independent of treatment assignment.

Baseline Survey

- Wives only.
- One-hour survey to collect fertility information.
- Delivered health information and distributed condoms.
- Gave information about the benefits of family planning.

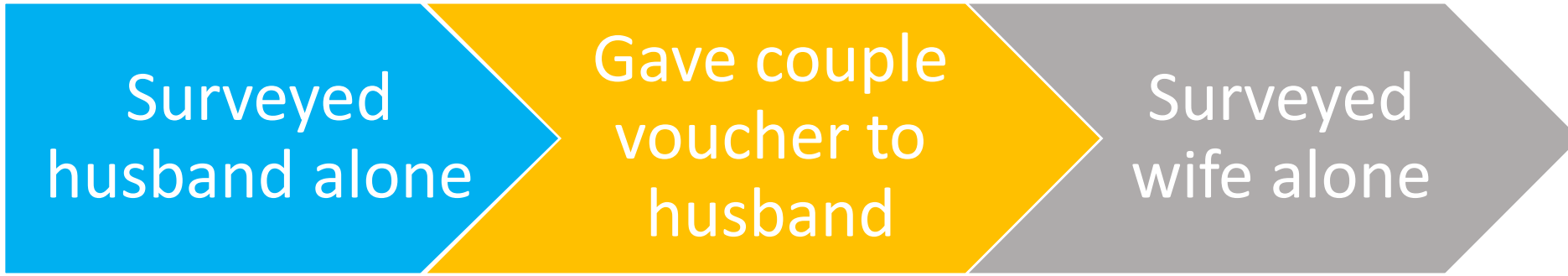
Experiment

Whether she had visited a clinic / had seen or heard about the voucher.

Gathered information on fertility preferences and income.

Experiment

1. Couple condition



2. Individual condition

Result

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Regression Model

- $Y_i = a + bI_{MH} + wvX_i + e$
- Y_i: binary outcome variable of interest
- I_{MH}: an indicator for assignment to the Couple condition
- X_i: a vector of controls from the baseline survey

Isolating Subsample

- potential “responders”:
  - not want to get pregnant
  - Believes that her husband desires more additional children than she does

Categories

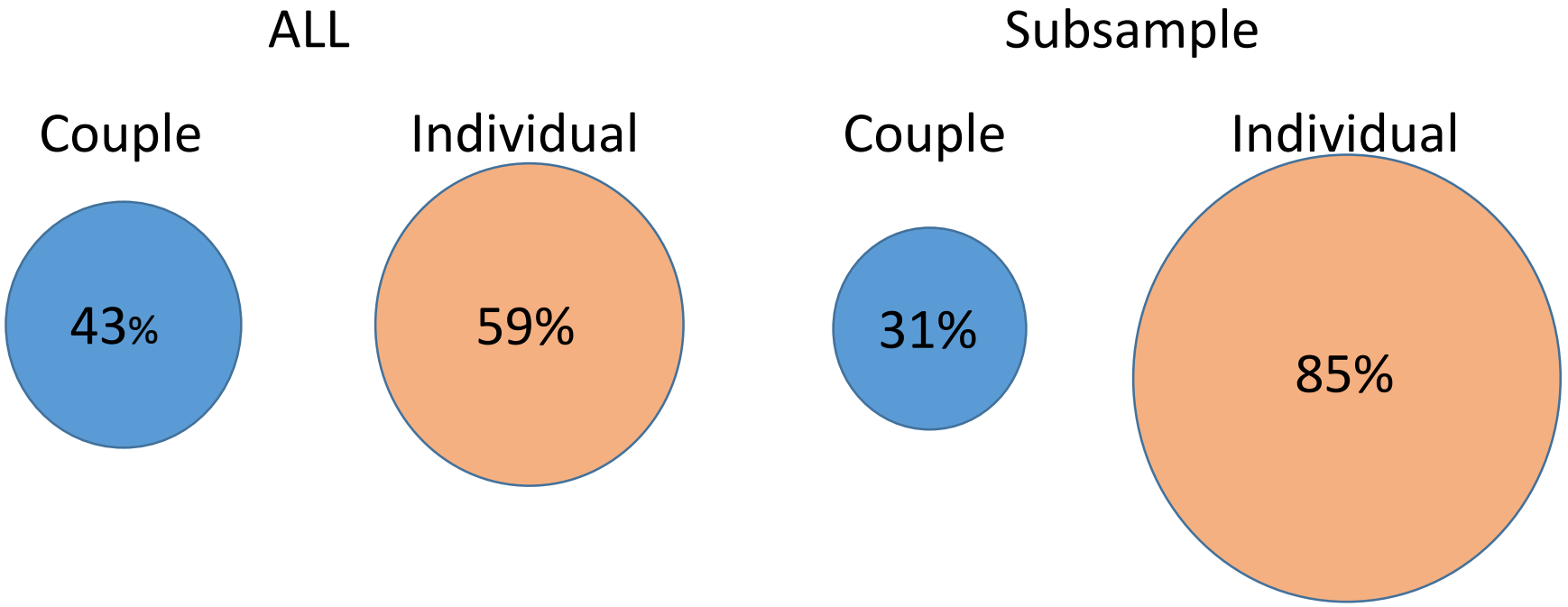
- voucher & contraceptive use
- fertility
- well-being

Voucher & Contraceptive Use

- Voucher redemption:
  - Couple: 19% ↓
  - Potential responder (in “Couple”): 25% ↓
  - Hiding contraceptive use in ”Individual”: explicit reference
  - Potential responder (in “Individual”): 61% treatment effect

Voucher & Contraceptive Use

- Injectable take-up : $\frac{injective\ reception}{voucher\ redemption}$



Fertility

- Birth delivering:
  - 29% (in 2 years following the experiment)
  - 6.8% (in 9-13 months after receiving the voucher)
  - 65% birth in this interval were unwanted
- “Individual”: postponed birth in 3-5 months

Well-being

- 2 years after the experiment
- Aggrievement: increase
- Predicted non-responders:
  - Rate of condom use
  - Men feel less suspicious -> less concerned about extra-marital affairs

Well-being

- Happier and healthier (in “Couple”)
- Potential responders:
  - “Good” or “Excellent”
    - “Individual” < “Group”
  - “Happy and Content” or “Very Happy and Content”
    - “Individual” < “Group”

Thanks for your listening