

# Time is Money - The Influence of Parenthood Timing on Wages

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## Abstract

The timing of the decision to have a child crucially determines the career path and thereby the wages of parents. In economic research the timing of parenthood is empirically examined focusing on the age at birth. Introducing a different, more career-specific approach, this study analyzes the wage effects of the timing of childbirth. OLS wage regressions using micro data from the German Socio-Economic Panel show a positive effect of delaying childbirth within the career for the high-educated.

*Keywords:* Fertility, wage differentials, career path

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