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Women's Gains or Men's Losses Revisited: Understanding the Context of Changes in Relative Earnings over the Duration of Marriage

By

Tara Becker
Department of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics
University of Wisconsin – Madison

ABSTRACT

Relative earnings have played a central role in family research as a measure of economic independence, the division of labor, and gender equity. Recent research has begun to examine compositional differences between couples who enter different earnings relationships; however one limitation of these studies is that they examined only cross-sections of all marriages in a given year. Using data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, this study is the first to examine couples from the first year of marriage and compare how compositional differences between relative earnings relationships change over time. I find that in the first year of marriage, wives in couples in which the husband earns 60% or more of the couple's earnings in the first year of marriage are likely to be younger and have less education than wives in couples in which the wife earns at least 40% of the couple's earnings in the initial year of marriage. However over the duration of marriage, these compositional differences change as couples in which the wife has more education and high earnings relative to other women become more likely to enter husband primary-earner earnings relationships and couples in which the wife is less educated and has lower earnings relative to other women become more likely to enter egalitarian and wife primary-earner earnings relationships.

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important changes in family life over the past few decades has been the movement of married women, particularly those with young children into the labor force (Bianchi and Spain 1996). In the period since the 1960s many social, political, and economic changes occurred that have changed the ways in which married women negotiate their participation in paid work. Though in the 1950s a majority of married couples relied on a single male breadwinner, over the subsequent decades they have become increasingly likely to be dual-earner couples (Blau, Ferber, and Winkler 1998; Raley, Mattingly, and Bianchi 2006). The entrance of wives into the labor force increased their economic contributions to their families both by increasing the proportion of dual-earner couples and by increasing the income contributions of wives within dual-earner families. Between 1979 and 1996, among dual-earning couples, wives' median percent contribution to family income increased from 26% to 33% (Hayghe 1993; Mishel, Bernstein, and Schmitt 1999). The proportion of married couples in which each partner provided 40-60% of the couple's income more than doubled from 9% to 24% between 1970 and 2001 and the percent of couple's in which the wife was the sole or dominant earner (the wife earns at least 60% of the couple's earnings) tripled from 4% to 12% (Raley, Mattingly, and Bianchi 2006). Additionally, according to the U.S. Census Bureau (2007), the proportion of dual-earner couples in which the wife earned more than her husband increased from 16% in 1981 to 23% in 2000.

During the 1960s and 1970s the women's movement achieved a number of political victories that banned discrimination against women, thereby improving the quality of opportunities that were available to them in education and employment. Because the opportunity cost of leaving the labor force increases as an individual invests more heavily in human capital accumulation, the completion of higher levels of schooling increases the costs of interruptions in paid work, which in turn increases likelihood that women with higher educational attainment will remain in the labor force after marriage. However, increases in married women's labor force participation did not occur exclusively among those with higher levels of educational attainment (Bianchi and Spain 1996). During the same period, economic restructuring during the 1980s and early-1990s as well as declining unionization undermined the economic position of unskilled and semiskilled men, leading to higher levels of instability in employment among these men (Levy 1998; Juhn, Murphy, and Pierce 1993). To compensate for this decline in income, greater proportions of wives entered and remained in the labor force. In addition, over this period wages and income stagnated among men, such that nearly all of the increases in family income over this period were due to increases in wives' employment (Mishel, Bernstein, and Schmitt 1998; Mishel, Bernstein, and Allegreto 2007). Thus, over this period the economic gains made by women relative to men were a function of not only improvements in women's economic status, but also declines in men's status, leading to greater economic independence of women over time.

The increasing economic independence of women has led to a growing body of research regarding the effect of couples' relative earnings on a variety of aspects of family life, including who controls family decision-making (Blood and Wolf 1960), the division of household labor (see e.g., Bittman et al 2003; Hallerod 2005), control over and allocation of family income (Pahl 1989, 1995; Kenney 2006), and the likelihood of domestic abuse (Blumberg and Coleman 1989; Anderson 1997; Kaukinen 2004) or marital dissolution (see Rogers 2004 for an overview of this research). In many of these studies relative earnings have been measured at a single point in time and treated as a fixed characteristic of the couple's relationship; however, recent evidence suggests that relative earnings relationships, particularly those in which the wife is the primary-earner, are often unstable over the duration of marriage (Winkler, McBride, and Andrews 2005; Winslow-Bowe 2006; Becker 2008).

Because relative earnings are the result of both the husband's and the wife's earnings behavior, a change in either partner's employment status, work hours or pay level can lead to a change in their earnings relationship. However, the context in which this change occurs can have different implications for family life. A couple who enters a husband sole-earner earnings relationship because the wife was laid off

will experience this relationship differently than does a couple in which the wife leaves the labor force in order to care for a child. Similarly, a couple who enters a wife primary-earner earnings relationship because the wife is highly successful may experience this relationship differently than a couple who does so because the husband is laid off. Currently, there is little research that sheds light on the characteristics of couples who enter different types of earnings relationships. A small number of studies have recently begun to examine this (e.g., Raley, Mattingly, and Bianchi 2006). However, one limitation of these studies is that they performed their analysis on cross-sections of all marriages in a given year. None have examined relative earnings in the first year of marriage or examined how they change over the duration of marriage.

There are several reasons to expect that couples who begin their marriage with a given relative earnings relationship will differ from those who enter that earnings relationship at later marriage durations. The first is that economic stability is an important factor couples consider when making the decision to marry (Oppenheimer 1997; Gibson-Davis, Edin, McLanahan 2005). Couples who have not yet married have the option of delaying the marriage until their economic circumstances improve. Thus, we might expect couples who are in their initial year of marriage to be economically established and less likely to have reason to believe that they will experience a period of economic instability in the near future. A related reason that we might expect these couples to differ from those who adopt a similar earnings relationship at later marriage durations is that couples in their first year of marriage may be more ideologically disposed to view their current earnings relationship as "acceptable" or "desirable". Though dual-earner earnings relationships have replaced husband breadwinner earnings relationships as a social norm (Raley, Mattingly, and Bianchi 2006), provider status continues to be associated with the husband role (Tichenor 2005; Becker and Moen 1999). Couples who are involuntarily forced into a relative earnings relationship due to negative economic circumstances, such as one partner's job loss or a reduction in his/her work hours, may be less likely to view their current earnings relationship favorably, particularly if the current relationship violates their gender ideology. In contrast, couples who begin their marriage with a more egalitarian or a wife primary-earner earnings relationship may be ideologically disposed to accepting this less "traditional" earnings relationship, because they chose to enter their marriage with this earnings relationship. This suggests that the circumstances through which couples enters a relative earnings relationship may lead to compositional differences between couples who enter their marriages with a particular relative earnings relationship and those who experience a similar earnings relationship after the first year of marriage.

To my knowledge, no previous study has examined how the circumstances through which couples begin a relative earnings relationship can affect the relationship between relative earnings and the host of family outcomes with which relative earnings are associated. This study is the first to examine how couples who begin their marriages with a particular relative earnings relationship differ from those who first enter this earnings relationship at later marriage durations. By focusing on demographic and economic characteristics, I seek to understand the complicated roles that gains in women's economic status and economic instability play in changes in the way that couples structure their earnings relationships. I believe that a better understanding of the dynamic nature of spouses' economic roles during marriage can shed light on how women's economic status has improved over time and what the limitations of this improvement will be for the future[1].

DATA

The data are from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) , a longitudinal survey of a representative sample of U.S. individuals and the households in which they reside, conducted by the Survey Research Center of the Institute for Social Research, at the University of Michigan (Hill 1992). In 1968, approximately 4,800 U.S. households were interviewed. The survey was conducted annually between 1968 and 1997 and biannually thereafter. The PSID tracks all members of original 1968 sample

[1] Note: this introduction to be significantly revised in the final paper.

households, even if they no longer coreside, and also follows the children of original sample members born after the initial 1968 interview and their coresidents when they leave the original 1968 interview households. Partners of PSID sample members who are not original 1968 sample members or their descendents are followed only during the periods in which they reside with the sample member.

The original focus of the survey was the dynamics of poverty; therefore, the 1968 sample contained both a nationally representative sample of 2,930 households and an additional sample of 1,872 low-income households. The PSID's method of following children of the original sample members as they form their own households allows the sample to remain representative of the nation's non-immigrant population over time (Hill 1992), though the sample underrepresents new immigrants who entered the United States after 1968. Beginning with the 1997 wave, the PSID was forced to drop two-thirds of the Census low-income sample due to budget constraints; therefore more than 2,300 households became non-response in 1997 and members of these households were no longer followed in subsequent waves.

The data are restricted to all new marriages that began after the initial 1968 interview and before the 1993 interview. The focus of the PSID interview is the household "head"; the most detailed information is collected about him/her. Because it is not possible to identify the marital status of couples in which neither partner is the household head, 25 couples were dropped because they moved into another PSID household in which neither was considered the household head. In addition, 59 couples were dropped from the analysis because it was not possible to determine when their marriage began and 1 couple was dropped because it was not possible to determine the wife's age in the first year of marriage. This left a total analytic sample of 5,896 marriages.

ANALYTIC PLAN

The likelihood of entering each relative earnings relationship is evaluated using logistic regression analysis. First, I examine how those who begin their marriage in a given relative earnings relationship differ from those who do not. In these analyses the dependent variable is an indicator variable coded as 1 if the couple experienced that earnings relationship in the first year of marriage and 0 otherwise. I then restrict my analyses to those who ever enter that earnings relationship and compare those who begin their marriage in that earnings relationship to those who enter that earnings relationship at a later year of marriage. In these analyses the dependent variable is a binary indicator variable coded as 1 if the couple first experienced that earnings relationship after the first year of marriage and 0 if they began their marriage in that earnings relationship. In this preliminary paper, for each analysis I investigate how the composition of couples who enter each relative earnings relationship differs with respect to the age, race, education, and earnings of each partner[2]. A description of how each variable was created and coded follows below. Due to high levels of age and educational homogamy within marriage, it is not possible to include both the husband's and the wife's age and education in a single model. Previous research has focused on wives' characteristics (see e.g., Winslow-Bowe 2006; Raley, Mattingly, and Bianchi 2006); however it is not clear that husband's characteristics would not also have an effect. For this reason, in preliminary analyses (not presented) I examined whether the husband's or the wife's characteristics were a better predictor in each model. The partner whose information were a better predictor were included in the models presented in this paper.

Variable Definitions

Relative Earnings. In this paper, relative earnings are defined as the wife's percent of the couple's earnings. They are calculated by dividing the wife's earnings by the sum of the husband's and the wife's earnings. This value is then categorized into five groups: husband sole-earner, dual-earner husband dominant-earner (wife earns less than 40% of the couple's earnings), egalitarian-earners (each partner

[2] In the final draft of this paper, I will also examine the effects of factors such as the presence of children in the household, employment status during the previous calendar year, work hours, and age and educational homogamy.

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earns 40-60% of the couple's earnings), wife dominant-earner (wife earns 60% or more of the couple's earnings, and neither partner has earnings. Due to the small number of couples who spend a calendar-year period in which neither partner has earnings, these couples are not included in the analyses presented in this paper.

Marriage Cohort Group. Marriage cohort was defined as the PSID wave in which the marriage was first reported with one exception. Income and earnings information were reported for the previous calendar year, thus in order to ensure that the income information refers to the first year in which the couple was married, I considered marriages that occurred in the same calendar year as the PSID interview to have begun at the subsequent PSID interview year. Because an average of only 235 marriages occurred in each year, marriage cohorts were grouped together into four categories: 1969-1975, 1976-1981, 1982-1987, and 1988-1993.

Age at Marriage. Both partner's age at the first year of marriage was coded into five categories: under age 20, ages 20-24, ages 25-29, ages 30-34, and ages 35 and over.

Education at Marriage. Both partners' educational attainment was coded as their highest completed education at the time that the couple began their marriage. Education was coded into four categories: less than high school, high school, some college or post-secondary training, and college degree or more.

Couple Race. Each partner's race was coded into one of three categories: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and other, and then a couple race variable was constructed. This variable was also coded into three groups: both partners non-Hispanic white, both partners non-Hispanic black, and other. The "other" category includes couples in which both partners are Hispanic, Asian, or another race, as well as those in which the husband and wife have different ethnic or racial backgrounds.

Earnings Quartile. Each partner's earnings were constructed from their total labor income, which includes income from wages and salaries, tips, commissions, and bonuses from all jobs. Within each marriage cohort group I determined the 25th and 75th earnings percentile for the husband's and the wife's earnings separately. I then categorized each partner's earnings into one of three groups: bottom quartile, interquartile range, and top quartile. In each analysis, this variable refers to the couple's earnings quartile when they enter a given earnings relationship.

RESULTS

Table 1 shows how the composition of married couples changed over the period of observation. Over time, both husbands and wives have become increasingly older and well-educated. Between the 1969-1975 and 1988-1993 cohorts, the proportion of couples in which the husband has a high school degree or less declined from 61% to 50%, while the proportion that has a college degree increased from 14% to 25%. Among wives, the proportion of couples in which the wife has a high school degree or less declined from 69% to 51%, while the proportion in which she has a college degree increased from 11% to 21%. During this same period, the proportion of couples who married before the husband was age 25 declined from 59% to 24%, while the proportion in which he was age 30 or older increased from 20% to 47%. Similarly, the proportion of couples in which the wife was under age 25 declined from 73% to 37%, while the proportion who were ages 30 or older increased from 14% to 34%.

We can also see evidence of wives' economic gains over time. Though 21% of couples in the 1969-1975 marriage cohorts began their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, by the 1988-1993 marriage cohort, less than 10% of couples did so. The decline in husband sole-breadwinner couples occurred not only in the first year of marriage, but also over the duration of marriage. Between the earliest and latest cohorts, the proportion of couples that ever entered a husband sole-earner earnings relationship declined by more than half from 65% to 31%. This is due in part to the decline in the number of couples that began their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, but during this period proportion who entered this type of earnings relationship *after* the first year of marriage also declined by half from 44% to 22%.

Over the same time, earnings contributions of working wives increased. The proportion of couples who began their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship (each partner earns 40-60% of the couple's earnings) increased from 19% to 33% and the proportion who began their relationship when the wife was the dominant-earner (wife earns at least 60% of the couple's earnings) increased from 8% to 12%. The proportions of couples that ever entered these earnings relationships increased as well, though these increases were less dramatic than those from the initial year of marriage. Between the 1969-1975 and 1988-1993 cohorts, the proportion of couples who ever had an egalitarian earnings relationship increased from 50% to 57%, while the proportion who ever entered a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship increased slightly from 26% to 28% In contrast to husband sole-earners, these increases were driven by increases in the proportion of couples who entered their marriage in these earnings relationships. The proportion of couples that first entered an egalitarian earnings relationship *after* the initial year of marriage declined from 31% to 24%, while the proportion who first entered a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship remained relatively steady at 17-19% over the period.

Husband Sole-Earner Earnings Relationships

Which couples are more likely to begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship and how has this changed over time? Table 2 shows the results of the logistic regression model predicting whether the couple had this type of earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. The results show that husband sole-earner couples were more likely to be those in which the wife's earnings capacity is low. In these couples, wives had less education and were more likely to be under age 20 at the time of the marriage. This is true across every time period. Generally, couples who married when the wife was at least age 20 were 23-57% less likely to begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship as couples in which she was under age 20. This effect was stronger in the 1982-1987 marriage cohorts. As the wife's education at the time of marriage increases, the likelihood that the couple will begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship declines. This relationship is stable across marriage cohorts. When the wife has a high school degree the couple is 54-71% less likely as couples in which she does not have a high school degree to begin their marriage in this type of earnings relationship. Couples in which the wife has a college degree are 78-92% less likely as those in which she does not have a high school degree to begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship.

Interestingly, except among the 1969-1975 marriage cohort group, there is no evidence that the husband's earnings capacity determines whether or not the wife will be in the labor force. In the 1969-1975 cohorts, husbands whose earnings fell in the top quartile 37% less likely than those in which the husband's earnings were in the interquartile range to enter a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, though in later cohorts there is no evidence for this relationship.[3] In contrast to the findings of previous research examining the compositional differences between relative earnings groups, the results suggest that black couples are *more* likely to have a husband sole-earner earnings relationship in the first year of marriage than white couples. During the time period, black couples are 21-119% more likely to begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship than white couples, though this effect is only statistically significant in the 1976-1981 cohort group.

When we compare couples who begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship to those who entered this type of earnings relationship later in their marriage, we can see the reason for this discrepancy. Table 3 shows the results of the logistic regression comparing those who enter a husband sole-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage with those who begin their marriage with this type of earnings relationship. Though they are more likely to begin their marriage in this

[3] I also investigated the effect of total family income quartile on the likelihood of entering each relative earnings relationship. Only among husband sole-earner couples was the total family income quartile a better predictor than the husband and wife's earnings quartiles. Among these couples, husband sole-earner couples were more likely to fall in the bottom income quartile at every time point and were also less likely to fall in the highest income quartile.

type of earnings relationship, black couples are less likely to enter a husband sole-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. There is a similar reversal in the effects of education and earnings. Couples in which the wife had a high school degree are more than 1.9 times more likely than those in which the wife had less than a high school degree to enter a husband sole-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage, while couples in which the wife had a college degree were more than 3.8 times more likely to enter this earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. In addition, husbands in these couples whose earnings fall in the top quartile are 38-153% more likely to enter after the first year of marriage, though this effect is only significant in only the earliest and latest marriage cohort groups. Thus it appears that over the duration of marriage, the selection of couples with lower-earning husbands and less educated wives into husband sole-earner earnings relationships is mitigated as higher-earning and better-educated couples become more likely to enter this type of earnings relationship. However, this is does not necessarily hold with respect to the wife's age. Couples in which the wife is aged 35 or over are even less likely to enter a husband sole-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage, though this effect is statistically significant only in the 1969-1976 marriage cohort group.

Dual-Earner Husband Dominant-Earner Earnings Relationships

Table 4 shows the logistic regression results predicting which couples begin their marriage in a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship. Like couples who begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, these couples are more likely to be those in which the wife is younger at the time of marriage, though this effect weakens over time. In the 1969-1975 marriage cohorts, couples who marry when the wife is in her 20s are about 43% as likely to enter a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship as couples in which she is under age 20. By the 1988-1993 cohorts, these couples are about 70% as likely to do so. Initially, couples in which the wife is ages 35 and over are about a third as likely to begin their marriage in a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship, but by the final cohort group, these couples are 79% as likely to do so. Though black couples are somewhat more likely to enter a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship in the 1969-1975 marriage cohorts, in later marriage cohorts, these couples are less likely than white couples to begin their marriage in this type of earnings relationship.

Though no clear relationship exists between the wife's education and the likelihood that a couple will begin their marriage in a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship, in the earliest and latest marriage cohorts, couples in which the wife has a college degree are about 52% less likely to enter a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship than those in which she has less than a high school degree. In contrast, both the husband's and the wife's earnings quartile are strongly significant predictors of beginning a marriage in a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship. These couples are more likely to be those in which the husband is a high earner and the wife has low earnings. In particular, these couples are less likely to be those in which the husband's earnings fall in the bottom earnings quartile and more likely to be those in which his earnings fall in the top earnings quartile. This is true across all marriage cohort groups, where on average, husbands whose earnings fall in the bottom quartile are about 25% as likely to enter this type of earnings relationship, while husbands whose earnings fall in the top quartile are more than 6 times more likely to do so. Perhaps unsurprisingly, couples with high-earning wives are less likely to be represented among husband dominant-earner couples. Couples in which the wife's earnings are in the top quartile are 90% *less* likely to have this type of earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. In the 1969-1975 marriage cohort, wives whose earnings fell in the bottom quartile were also 98% less likely to have a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. Over time, this effect reversed, such that by the 1988-1993 marriage cohorts, wives whose earnings were in the bottom quartile were 1.5 times more likely to have a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship. This finding is likely an artifact of the declining proportion of husband sole-earner couples over the period. In the 1969-1976 marriage cohort group, nearly one-quarter of couples began their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, thus most of those couples in which the wife's earnings fell in the bottom quartile

were those in which she had no earnings. Over time, as the proportion of husband sole-earner couples declined, a greater proportion of wives in the bottom earnings quartile had earnings.

When we compare those who begin their marriage in a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship with those who enter this type of earnings relationship we see evidence of an erosion of wives earnings relative to their partners' earnings over time among the highest earnings wives. Table 5 shows the results of the logistic model comparing those who enter a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage with those who begin their marriage in this type of earnings relationship. Those who enter a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year are less selective of the highest-earning husbands and lowest earning wives. Among couples who ever enter a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship, couples in which the husband's earnings fall in the top quartile are about 50-70% less likely to enter after the first year of marriage, while those in which his earnings fall in the bottom quartile are1.4 to 2.3 times more likely to first enter a dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage. Wives whose earnings fall in the top earnings quartile are 1.7 to 3.0 times more likely than those who earnings fell in the interquartile range to have first entered a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage. Similarly, the likelihood that the couple first entered a husband dominant-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage increases with the wife's education and this relationship has increased over time. Couples in which the wife has a college degree are 1.5 to 3.0 times more likely to enter after the first year of marriage.

Egalitarian-Earner Earnings Relationships

Table 6 shows the results of the logistic regression of the likelihood a couple will have an egalitarian earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. These results suggest that wives in couples who begin their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship are more likely to be more established in their careers and have higher earnings. Unlike couples in which the husband is the primary-earner, in the first three cohort groups wives in couples that begin their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship are older than other couples; however in the final cohort, these couples are younger than other couples. In the 1969-75 through 1982-1987 marriage cohorts, egalitarian couples are times more likely to be over age 20. In the 1988-1993 marriage cohort, couples in which the wife was age 20 or over were half as likely as those in which she was under age 20 to have an egalitarian earnings relationship. There is little evidence of differences by race or education.

The results by earnings suggest that egalitarian earner couples are more likely to be those in which the wife is in the top earnings quartile and the husband is not, reflecting the earnings advantage of men in labor market. These effects were stable over the 1969-1975 through 1982-1987 marriage cohorts, before weakening in the 1988-1993 cohorts. In the 1969-1975 through 1982-1987 marriage cohorts, couples in which the wife's earnings were in the top earnings quartile were at least 8 times more likely than those in which her earnings fell in the interquartile range to have an egalitarian earnings relationship. The couples were 4.2 times more likely to have an egalitarian earnings relationship in the 1988-1993 marriage cohorts. Throughout the period, couples in which the wife's earnings were in the bottom quartile were about 97% *less* likely to begin their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship. In addition, when the husband's earnings fall in the top quartile, couples in the 1969-1975 through 1982-1987 marriage cohorts were about 85% less likely and couples in the 1988-1993 cohorts were 70% less likely to have an egalitarian earnings relationship in the first year of marriage.

When we compare those who began their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship with those who adopted this earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage there is evidence that those who enter this earnings relationship at a later point in the marriage are more likely to be those in which the husband was a low earner, but this relationship weakens over time. Table 7 shows the results of the logistic regression models comparing those who entered an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year of marriage with those who began their marriage in this earnings relationship. Among those who ever had an

egalitarian earnings relationship, those who first experienced this type of earnings relationship after the first year of marriage were on average younger than those who began their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship. This was true for all but the most recent marriage cohort group in which there was no difference by age. In the 1969-1975 marriage cohorts, black couples were 2.2 times more likely than white couples to adopt an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year of marriage, but there is no effect of race in later marriage cohorts.

The biggest difference between those who began their marriage in an egalitarian earnings relationship and those who adopted this type of earnings relationship at a later point in their marriage can be found in both partners' earnings. The earnings of husbands in couples who entered an egalitarian earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage were more likely to fall in the bottom quartile and less likely to fall in the top quartile. In the 1969-1975 marriage cohorts these couples were 6.6 times more likely to adopt an egalitarian earnings relationship later in the marriage, but by the 1988-1993 cohort, they were only 1.3 times more likely to do so[4]. Initially, those who entered an egalitarian earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage were more selective of couples in which the wife had high earnings relative to other wives, but the husband had low earnings relative to other husbands. In the 1969-1975 cohorts, couples in which the wife's earnings fell in the top quartile were 3.7 times more likely to adopt an egalitarian earnings relationship later in the marriage. At the same time, couples in which the wife's earnings were in the bottom quartile were more than 99% less likely to first enter an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. Over time, couples in which the wife's earnings fell in the top quartile became less likely to first enter an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year, while those in which her earnings fell in the bottom quartile became more likely to do so, so that over the duration of marriage egalitarian couples became less selective of those in which the wife was a high earner. By the 1988-1993 cohorts, couples in which the wife's earnings fell in the top quartile were 44% less likely to first enter an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year, while those in which the wife's earnings were in the bottom quartile were one-third more likely to do so.

Wife Dominant-Earner Earnings Relationships

Table 8 shows the results of the logistic regression analysis of the likelihood that a couple will adopt a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. Couples who begin their marriage in a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship were more likely to be those in which the wife was age 35 or older. In the 1969-1975 and 1976-1981 cohorts, couples in which the wife had a college degree were more than 3 times more likely to have a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship in the first year of marriage. The best predictors of beginning the marriage in a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship were the husband's and the wife's earnings quartile. Across all four marriage cohort groups, couples in which the husband's earnings were in the bottom quartile and the wife's earnings were in the top quartile were far more likely to enter a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship at the beginning of their marriage, while those in which the husband's earnings were in the top quartile and the wife's earnings were in the bottom quartile were far less likely to enter this type of earnings relationship. This suggests that these couples are strongly selective of those "reverse traditional" couples in which the wife's earnings capacity is high relative to other women, while the husband's is low relative to other men.

How do these couples compare to those who enter a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. Table 9 shows the results of the logistic regression comparing these two groups of couples. During most of the period, those who enter a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage are older and have less education than those who begin their marriage in this type of earnings relationship. Among those who ever enter a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship in

[4] One caveat to these results is that the different lengths of the follow-up periods may influence the changes over time that were observed in the second set of logistic regression analyses that compared those who entered each relative earnings relationship after the first year of marriage to those who began their marriage in that earnings relationship.

the 1969-1975 through 1982-1987 marriage cohorts, couples in which the husband is age 20 or older are almost universally more likely to have first entered this type of earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage. However, in the 1988-1993 cohorts, these couples are less likely to have first entered this type of earnings relationship later in the marriage. When combined with the fact that those who begin their marriage in a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship are older than other couples, this suggests that over the duration of marriage, wife dominant-earner couples will become increasingly older than other couples. In contrast, in the 1969-1975 and 1976-1981 marriage cohorts, couples in which the wife had a college degree were only 18-28% as likely to have first adopted a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage.

The results also provide some evidence that in the early cohorts those who enter a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the initial year of marriage are even more selective of couples in which the wife is a high earner relative to other women, but are more mixed with respect to the husband's earnings. In the 1969-1975 and 1976-1981 marriage cohorts, couples in which the wife's earnings fall in the bottom quartile are more than 80% less likely to have first experienced a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage than those in which her earnings fall in the interquartile range. In the 1976-1981 and 1982-1987 cohorts, couples in which the wife's earnings were in the top quartile were about 2.3 times more likely to have first entered a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. In contrast, both couples in which the husband's earnings fall in the bottom quartile and couples in which his earnings fall in the top quartile were more likely to have first entered a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage. Thus, over the duration of marriage, a greater proportion of wife dominant-earner couples are those in which both partners are high-earners.

CONCLUSIONS

Over the past few decades, women have increased their educational and occupational attainment and narrowed the gender gap in earnings. Previous research has shown that these changes have resulted in increases in wives' economic contributions to their families. The results in this paper show that these increases are evident from the first year of marriage. Across marriage cohorts, fewer couples begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship and more begin in egalitarian and wife dominant-earner earnings relationships. By the final marriage cohorts followed in this study, nearly 45% of couples begin their marriage when the wife is earning at least 40% of the couple's earnings.

This movement toward greater economic contributions among wives is likely due to the increasing number of economic opportunities available to women during this period. Couples who begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship are more likely to be those in which the wife is younger and has less education. Similarly, wives in dual-earner couples in which the husband is the dominant-earner are also more likely to be young and low-earning. There was remarkably little change in the composition of these couples over time. This suggests that much of the movement away from husband primary-earner earnings relationships over this period was due to the economic gains women made over the period. Egalitarian-earner and wife dominant-earner couples were more likely to be those in which the wife was older and thus more likely to have established herself in her career. These women were more likely to be high earners relative to other women. As more women achieved higher levels of education and occupational attainment, more couples were able to adopt these types of earnings relationships. It is not until the final marriage cohorts that we begin to see greater diversity in the composition of couples who begin their marriage in this type of earnings relationship.

In some ways, those who first entered each earnings relationship reinforced the selectivity of those who began their marriage in that earnings relationship. In the earlier cohorts, wives in couples who entered an egalitarian earnings relationship after the first year of marriage were even more likely to have earnings in the top quartile than those who began their marriage with this earnings relationship, while husbands were even more likely to have earnings in the bottom quartile. Similarly, among couples who later adopted a wife dominant-earner earnings relationship, wives were more likely to be among the highest earnings wives and

to have married at an older age. However, in most cases those who entered a given earnings relationship after the first year of marriage were compositionally distinct from those who entered the marriage in that earnings relationship. For example, though black couples were more likely to begin their marriage in a husband sole-earner earnings relationship, these couples were less likely to adopt this type of earnings relationship when their relative earnings changed.

Many of these compositional shifts point not to improvements in wives' status over time, but instead to either a gradual erosion of wives' earnings over time relative to their husbands or a reduction in their husband's earnings. Wives in couples who entered a husband sole-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage were better-educated than those who began their marriage in this earnings relationship. Husbands in couples who later entered dual-earner husband dominant-earner earnings relationships were more likely to have earnings in the bottom quartile, while wives in these couples were likely to be better educated and have earnings in the top quartile. Despite their high earnings relative to other women, they continued to earn less than 50% of what their husbands earned. In the 1980s and early-1990s cohorts, the earnings of wives in couples who entered an egalitarian-earner earnings relationship after the first year of marriage were less likely to fall in the top quartile and more likely to fall in the bottom quartile. In addition, these wives were more likely to have been younger when the couple married and their husbands' earnings were more likely to fall in the bottom quartile when they entered an egalitarian earnings relationship. In wife dominant-earner couples, wives who entered this earning relationship after the first year of marriage were likely to be less educated. However, not all of the changes suggested a decline in wives status. Within later wife dominant-earner couples husbands earnings were also more likely to fall in the top earnings quartile, suggesting that some high-earning wives were able to keep pace with their husbands earnings.

Overall these results are suggestive of both increases and declines in wives' economic status within marriage. The circumstances of those changes may shed some light on the context through which couples adjust their relative earnings relationships. In future drafts of this paper, I will expand this analysis to examine how changes in employment, work hours, and parenthood are related to the type of earnings relationship that the couple adopts.

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Table 1: Weighted Descriptive Statistics by Marriage Cohort

	Marriage Cohort			
	1969-75	**1976-81**	**1982-87**	**1988-93**
Education				
Husband				
< High School	22.4%	18.6%	15.7%	16.5%
High School	38.9%	41.3%	37.7%	33.2%
Some College	24.5%	23.8%	25.5%	24.7%
College Degree	13.8%	15.9%	20.7%	24.6%
Missing	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	1.1%
Wife				
< High School	22.2%	17.6%	14.8%	13.6%
High School	46.4%	47.2%	42.4%	37.4%
Some College	19.2%	21.2%	24.5%	27.7%
College Degree	10.7%	13.5%	18.0%	20.6%
Missing	1.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%
Age				
Husband				
Under 20	9.4%	5.7%	2.9%	1.9%
20-24	49.8%	39.0%	29.6%	22.2%
25-29	20.5%	27.3%	31.0%	29.0%
30-34	6.6%	11.9%	15.4%	20.0%
35 and over	13.6%	16.1%	21.1%	27.0%
Missing	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Wife				
Under 20	25.7%	18.0%	10.2%	7.2%
20-24	47.8%	39.5%	36.0%	29.5%
25-29	12.2%	21.3%	26.8%	28.9%
30-34	4.7%	9.3%	11.1%	14.0%
35 and over	9.6%	11.8%	15.8%	20.4%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Race				
Both White	81.4%	81.6%	80.4%	78.0%
Both Black	9.6%	9.7%	8.8%	8.7%
Other	9.0%	8.6%	10.7%	13.3%
Missing	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Relative Earnings				
First Year of Marriage				
Husband Sole	20.6%	14.5%	10.3%	9.5%
Wife: 0-40%	52.0%	54.0%	51.3%	45.0%
Wife: 40-60%	19.3%	24.5%	28.3%	33.0%
Wife: 60-100%	7.7%	6.7%	9.3%	11.7%
Both $0	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%	0.8%
Ever Experience				
Husband Sole	64.7%	53.0%	41.3%	31.4%
Wife: 0-40%	85.3%	83.8%	80.2%	74.1%
Wife: 40-60%	50.4%	53.1%	55.9%	57.4%
Wife: 60-100%	25.6%	24.9%	28.4%	28.4%

Table 2. Likelihood of entering Husband Sole-Earner earnings relationship in initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981				1982-1987					1988-1993			
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value
Age (omitted under age 20)																	
Husband																	
20-24																	
25-29																	
30-34																	
35 and over																	
Wife																	
20-24	0.62	-0.47	0.18	0.009	0.70	-0.36	0.23	0.123	0.30	-1.20	0.29	0.000	ab	0.70	-0.36	0.39	0.351
25-29	0.65	-0.43	0.31	0.158	0.65	-0.44	0.31	0.159	0.20	-1.59	0.39	0.000	ab	0.43	-0.83	0.44	0.059
30-34	0.77	-0.26	0.40	0.513	0.62	-0.48	0.39	0.215	0.69	-0.36	0.38	0.334		1.02	0.02	0.43	0.972
35 and over	1.03	0.03	0.27	0.915	0.73	-0.32	0.37	0.390	0.36	-1.03	0.38	0.007	a	0.45	-0.80	0.44	0.069
Education (omitted < high school)																	
Husband																	
High School																	
Some College																	
College Degree																	
Wife																	
High School	0.31	-1.18	0.18	0.000	0.29	-1.22	0.21	0.000	0.46	-0.77	0.25	0.002		0.31	-1.19	0.28	0.000
Some College	0.21	-1.55	0.25	0.000	0.21	-1.56	0.30	0.000	0.23	-1.49	0.35	0.000		0.17	-1.76	0.38	0.000
College Degree	0.16	-1.80	0.37	0.000	0.22	-1.52	0.39	0.000	0.08	-2.55	0.60	0.000		0.17	-1.75	0.43	0.000
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																	
Husband																	
Bottom	0.98	-0.02	0.17	0.894	1.02	0.02	0.21	0.939	1.26	0.23	0.24	0.326		1.46	0.38	0.29	0.183
Top	0.63	-0.47	0.22	0.035	1.11	0.10	0.27	0.699	0.94	-0.07	0.33	0.838		1.29	0.25	0.35	0.465
Wife																	
Bottom																	
Top																	
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																	
Both Black	1.38	0.32	0.20	0.112	2.19	0.78	0.21	0.000	1.21	0.19	0.24	0.433		1.77	0.57	0.33	0.079
Other	0.92	-0.08	0.26	0.754	1.19	0.18	0.28	0.532	1.13	0.12	0.36	0.733		1.51	0.41	0.34	0.224

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 3. Likelihood of entering Husband Sole-Earner earnings relationship in later year of marriage rather than initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981				1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																		
Husband																		
20-24																		
25-29																		
30-34																		
35 and over																		
Wife																		
20-24	1.48	0.39	0.20	0.046	1.41	0.35	0.26	0.184	3.39	1.22	0.35	0.000	ab	1.14	0.13	0.43	0.766	
25-29	1.29	0.25	0.34	0.458	0.98	-0.02	0.35	0.960	3.63	1.29	0.45	0.004	b	0.99	-0.01	0.50	0.991	
30-34	0.80	-0.23	0.44	0.600	1.00	0.00	0.44	0.996	1.02	0.02	0.44	0.960		0.44	-0.82	0.50	0.103	
35 and over	0.47	-0.75	0.35	0.034	0.60	-0.51	0.38	0.177	1.31	0.27	0.45	0.556		0.48	-0.74	0.53	0.164	
Education (omitted < high school)																		
Husband																		
High School																		
Some College																		
College Degree																		
Wife																		
High School	3.00	1.10	0.20	0.000	3.28	1.19	0.24	0.000	1.95	0.67	0.30	0.025		2.94	1.08	0.35	0.002	
Some College	4.28	1.45	0.27	0.000	3.73	1.32	0.33	0.000	4.37	1.47	0.40	0.000		5.44	1.69	0.42	0.000	
College Degree	4.23	1.44	0.43	0.001	3.85	1.35	0.43	0.002	10.09	2.31	0.64	0.000		4.22	1.44	0.50	0.004	
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																		
Husband																		
Bottom	0.84	-0.17	0.20	0.410	0.92	-0.09	0.25	0.729	0.93	-0.07	0.28	0.796		1.28	0.25	0.34	0.462	
Top	1.95	0.67	0.23	0.004	1.49	0.40	0.28	0.156	1.38	0.32	0.35	0.362		2.53	0.93	0.41	0.023	
Wife																		
Bottom																		
Top																		
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																		
Both Black	0.46	-0.78	0.25	0.002	0.26	-1.35	0.29	0.000	0.43	-0.84	0.30	0.004		0.67	-0.41	0.41	0.317	
Other	1.18	0.16	0.29	0.571	0.80	-0.22	0.31	0.484	0.93	-0.08	0.40	0.847		0.59	-0.54	0.40	0.182	abc

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 4. Likelihood of entering Husband Dominant-Earner earnings relationship in initial year of marriage

	1969-1975					1976-1981					1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																				
Husband																				
20-24																				
25-29																				
30-34																				
35 and over																				
Wife																				
20-24	0.43	-0.84	0.22	0.000		0.53	-0.64	0.22	0.004		0.73	-0.32	0.26	0.209		0.73	-0.31	0.33	0.354	
25-29	0.42	-0.87	0.30	0.004		0.40	-0.93	0.27	0.001		0.73	-0.31	0.27	0.251		0.69	-0.37	0.34	0.279	
30-34	0.37	-1.00	0.38	0.009		0.36	-1.04	0.33	0.002		0.42	-0.88	0.34	0.010		0.45	-0.81	0.38	0.036	
35 and over	0.32	-1.13	0.31	0.000		0.29	-1.24	0.30	0.000		0.51	-0.68	0.31	0.028		0.79	-0.24	0.36	0.506	b
Education (omitted < high school)																				
Husband																				
High School																				
Some College																				
College Degree																				
Wife																				
High School	0.75	-0.29	0.23	0.207		1.08	0.07	0.22	0.734		1.17	0.15	0.22	0.493		0.92	-0.08	0.26	0.756	
Some College	1.33	0.29	0.27	0.288		1.37	0.31	0.26	0.237		1.06	0.06	0.27	0.817		0.85	-0.17	0.28	0.550	
College Degree	0.46	-0.77	0.32	0.014		1.08	0.07	0.30	0.809	a	0.79	-0.24	0.29	0.414		0.48	-0.73	0.32	0.025	
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																				
Husband																				
Bottom	0.23	-1.46	0.22	0.000		0.29	-1.23	0.19	0.000		0.24	-1.42	0.17	0.000		0.22	-1.53	0.19	0.000	
Top	11.63	2.45	0.21	0.000		6.00	1.79	0.23	0.000	a	11.85	2.47	0.30	0.000		8.32	2.12	0.30	0.000	
Wife																				
Bottom	0.02	-3.84	0.28	0.000		0.22	-1.52	0.22	0.000	a	0.88	-0.13	0.21	0.540	ab	1.45	0.37	0.22	0.086	ab
Top	0.04	-3.19	0.20	0.000		0.09	-2.43	0.20	0.000	a	0.06	-2.83	0.26	0.000		0.06	-2.85	0.26	0.000	
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																				
Both Black	1.24	0.22	0.21	0.306		0.61	-0.50	0.22	0.026	a	0.91	-0.10	0.21	0.645		0.59	-0.53	0.24	0.030	a
Other	0.56	-0.58	0.25	0.020		0.68	-0.38	0.26	0.138		1.38	0.32	0.24	0.177		0.71	-0.34	0.26	0.194	

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 5. Likelihood of entering Husband Dominant-Earner earnings relationship in later year of marriage rather than initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981					1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																			
Husband																			
20-24	0.74	-0.30	0.24	0.210	1.62	0.48	0.36	0.177		0.79	-0.23	0.44	0.593		0.59	-0.53	0.57	0.352	
25-29	0.54	-0.62	0.28	0.026	2.21	0.79	0.38	0.035	a	1.24	0.22	0.44	0.624		0.44	-0.83	0.58	0.152	b
30-34	0.58	-0.55	0.36	0.127	1.76	0.56	0.42	0.182	a	0.80	-0.22	0.47	0.638		0.74	-0.30	0.58	0.613	
35 and over	0.63	-0.46	0.32	0.143	1.92	0.65	0.41	0.115	a	0.82	-0.20	0.46	0.666		0.37	-1.00	0.58	0.086	b
Wife																			
20-24																			
25-29																			
30-34																			
35 and over																			
Education (omitted < high school)																			
Husband																			
High School																			
Some College																			
College Degree																			
Wife																			
High School	0.57	-0.56	0.18	0.002	0.79	-0.24	0.22	0.288		1.01	0.01	0.24	0.978		1.06	0.06	0.29	0.842	
Some College	0.45	-0.79	0.21	0.000	0.76	-0.27	0.26	0.296		1.29	0.25	0.26	0.336	a	1.69	0.52	0.30	0.084	ab
College Degree	1.49	0.40	0.28	0.155	1.43	0.36	0.30	0.231		1.98	0.68	0.30	0.021		3.01	1.10	0.33	0.001	
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																			
Husband																			
Bottom	1.39	0.33	0.19	0.080	2.27	0.82	0.22	0.000		1.83	0.60	0.22	0.006		1.89	0.63	0.28	0.022	
Top	0.49	-0.71	0.20	0.000	0.29	-1.24	0.24	0.000		0.38	-0.97	0.24	0.000		0.42	-0.86	0.25	0.001	
Wife																			
Bottom	0.00	-15.84	0.16	0.000	0.02	-3.96	0.64	0.000	a	0.49	-0.71	0.22	0.001	ab	0.41	-0.88	0.24	0.000	ab
Top	1.92	0.65	0.21	0.002	2.34	0.85	0.25	0.001		1.72	0.54	0.28	0.054		2.97	1.09	0.31	0.000	
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																			
Both Black	0.89	-0.12	0.20	0.549	1.37	0.32	0.23	0.162		0.84	-0.17	0.24	0.468		1.43	0.36	0.31	0.246	
Other	0.87	-0.13	0.25	0.587	1.66	0.51	0.27	0.063		0.68	-0.39	0.26	0.138		1.17	0.16	0.25	0.534	

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 6. Likelihood of entering Egalitarian-Earner earnings relationship in initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981				1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																		
Husband																		
20-24																		
25-29																		
30-34																		
35 and over																		
Wife																		
20-24	1.45	0.37	0.24	0.115	1.75	0.56	0.27	0.040	3.08	1.12	0.47	0.017		0.49	-0.71	0.45	0.114	abc
25-29	1.14	0.13	0.34	0.692	2.02	0.70	0.32	0.029	2.47	0.90	0.48	0.060		0.35	-1.04	0.45	0.020	abc
30-34	1.62	0.48	0.46	0.292	1.44	0.37	0.45	0.410	2.25	0.81	0.54	0.131		0.36	-1.03	0.48	0.032	abc
35 and over	0.61	-0.50	0.43	0.242	1.95	0.67	0.39	0.086	2.67	0.98	0.51	0.054	a	0.20	-1.59	0.47	0.001	bc
Education (omitted < high school)																		
Husband																		
High School																		
Some College																		
College Degree																		
Wife																		
High School	1.34	0.29	0.26	0.264	1.10	0.09	0.27	0.723	0.98	-0.02	0.28	0.951		1.11	0.10	0.33	0.751	
Some College	0.82	-0.20	0.32	0.538	0.93	-0.08	0.31	0.802	1.01	0.01	0.30	0.981		1.25	0.22	0.34	0.511	
College Degree	1.09	0.09	0.38	0.824	0.55	-0.61	0.37	0.098	1.04	0.04	0.33	0.897		1.83	0.60	0.36	0.095	b
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																		
Husband																		
Bottom	0.75	-0.29	0.26	0.261	1.41	0.35	0.25	0.162	0.99	-0.01	0.25	0.959		0.62	-0.48	0.24	0.043	b
Top	0.15	-1.91	0.24	0.000	0.12	-2.13	0.27	0.000	0.16	-1.86	0.22	0.000		0.30	-1.20	0.20	0.000	abc
Wife																		
Bottom	0.01	-4.46	1.00	0.000	0.03	-3.43	0.58	0.000	0.02	-4.09	0.73	0.000		0.03	-3.57	0.46	0.000	
Top	8.48	2.14	0.20	0.000	11.80	2.47	0.25	0.000	7.96	2.07	0.23	0.000		4.19	1.43	0.20	0.000	abc
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																		
Both Black	0.74	-0.30	0.25	0.239	1.32	0.28	0.34	0.414	1.36	0.31	0.24	0.205		1.44	0.36	0.27	0.185	
Other	1.42	0.35	0.29	0.227	1.46	0.38	0.31	0.231	0.89	-0.12	0.27	0.663		1.41	0.34	0.26	0.183	

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 7. Likelihood of entering Egalitarian-Earner earnings relationship in later year of marriage rather than initial year of marriage

	1969-1975					1976-1981					1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																				
Husband																				
20-24																				
25-29																				
30-34																				
35 and over																				
Wife																				
20-24	0.55	-0.59	0.26	0.022		0.49	-0.72	0.31	0.019		0.27	-1.31	0.48	0.006		0.93	-0.07	0.45	0.875	
25-29	0.53	-0.64	0.33	0.053		0.43	-0.86	0.33	0.010		0.30	-1.20	0.49	0.015		1.27	0.24	0.46	0.602	c
30-34	0.52	-0.65	0.48	0.178		0.57	-0.55	0.42	0.189		0.29	-1.23	0.53	0.020		0.95	-0.05	0.49	0.920	
35 and over	0.95	-0.05	0.40	0.898		0.17	-1.76	0.45	0.000	a	0.28	-1.29	0.52	0.013		1.73	0.55	0.48	0.256	bc
Education (omitted < high school)																				
Husband																				
High School																				
Some College																				
College Degree																				
Wife																				
High School	0.55	-0.61	0.29	0.038		0.87	-0.14	0.30	0.647		1.04	0.04	0.33	0.914		0.94	-0.06	0.36	0.871	
Some College	0.93	-0.07	0.33	0.833		1.01	0.01	0.34	0.974		1.13	0.12	0.35	0.728		1.15	0.14	0.37	0.705	
College Degree	0.68	-0.39	0.38	0.303		1.73	0.55	0.37	0.139		1.09	0.09	0.37	0.807		0.76	-0.28	0.40	0.491	
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																				
Husband																				
Bottom	6.60	1.89	0.28	0.000		3.40	1.22	0.25	0.000		1.98	0.68	0.23	0.003	a	1.27	0.24	0.25	0.329	ab
Top	0.65	-0.44	0.31	0.166		0.58	-0.54	0.36	0.133		0.59	-0.53	0.31	0.090		0.68	-0.39	0.34	0.255	
Wife																				
Bottom	0.00	-14.53	1.07	0.000		0.00	-15.42	0.66	0.000		0.87	-0.14	0.86	0.866	ab	1.33	0.29	0.60	0.631	ab
Top	3.71	1.31	0.27	0.000		1.44	0.36	0.26	0.156		0.84	-0.17	0.23	0.459		0.56	-0.57	0.27	0.034	
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																				
Both Black	2.20	0.79	0.27	0.004		0.96	-0.04	0.28	0.877	a	0.64	-0.45	0.24	0.061	a	0.89	-0.12	0.29	0.687	a
Other	0.64	-0.44	0.35	0.205		0.97	-0.03	0.34	0.933		0.89	-0.11	0.30	0.708	a	0.97	-0.03	0.30	0.923	a

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 8. Likelihood of entering Wife Dominant-Earner earnings relationship in initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981					1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																			
Husband																			
20-24																			
25-29																			
30-34																			
35 and over																			
Wife																			
20-24	2.04	0.71	0.46	0.125	1.19	0.17	0.47	0.713		0.61	-0.49	0.53	0.358		1.90	0.64	0.73	0.381	
25-29	1.43	0.36	0.64	0.572	1.93	0.66	0.57	0.252		1.02	0.02	0.61	0.969		3.69	1.31	0.74	0.076	
30-34	0.26	-1.35	0.90	0.131	1.34	0.29	0.87	0.739		1.91	0.65	0.68	0.343		5.71	1.74	0.75	0.020	
35 and over	21.94	3.09	0.58	0.000	3.19	1.16	0.70	0.096		0.64	-0.44	0.64	0.491		5.08	1.63	0.73	0.025	c
Education (omitted < high school)																			
Husband																			
High School	1.33	0.28	0.55	0.607	0.71	-0.34	0.51	0.509		0.25	-1.39	0.43	0.001		0.86	-0.15	0.40	0.710	c
Some College	1.64	0.49	0.57	0.387	1.64	0.49	0.54	0.361		0.86	-0.15	0.42	0.716		2.09	0.73	0.43	0.090	
College Degree	3.35	1.21	0.57	0.033	3.93	1.37	0.61	0.025		1.03	0.03	0.48	0.944		0.59	-0.53	0.48	0.275	b
Wife																			
High School																			
Some College																			
College Degree																			
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																			
Husband																			
Bottom	249.67	5.52	0.81	0.000	256.56	5.55	0.66	0.000		-	19.82	0.47	0.000	ab	256.15	5.55	0.80	0.000	c
Top	0.03	-3.50	1.06	0.001	0.00	-15.29	0.50	0.000	a	0.07	-2.59	1.05	0.014	b	0.06	-2.89	0.77	0.000	b
Wife																			
Bottom	0.10	-2.34	0.89	0.009	0.03	-3.52	0.69	0.000		0.06	-2.74	0.47	0.000		0.09	-2.46	0.46	0.000	
Top	80.36	4.39	0.86	0.000	15.59	2.75	0.67	0.000		-	17.78	0.51	0.000	b	77.34	4.35	0.76	0.000	c
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																			
Both Black	1.48	0.39	0.44	0.365	1.48	0.40	0.43	0.354		1.07	0.07	0.43	0.867		0.99	-0.01	0.34	0.986	
Other	1.06	0.06	0.46	0.899	1.48	0.39	0.72	0.584		0.96	-0.04	0.55	0.943	b	0.59	-0.52	0.46	0.259	

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05

Table 9. Likelihood of entering Wife Dominant-Earner earnings relationship in later year of marriage rather than initial year of marriage

	1969-1975				1976-1981					1982-1987					1988-1993				
	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value		exp(β)	β	Std Err	p-value	
Age (omitted under age 20)																			
Husband																			
20-24	1.27	0.24	0.56	0.662	3.72	1.31	0.56	0.662		0.93	-0.07	0.56	0.662		0.45	-0.80	1.14	0.483	
25-29	2.21	0.79	0.60	0.188	1.96	0.67	0.60	0.188		1.11	0.11	0.60	0.188		0.61	-0.49	1.14	0.664	
30-34	6.12	1.81	0.95	0.057	1.46	0.38	0.95	0.057		2.85	1.05	0.95	0.057		0.25	-1.41	1.15	0.221	a
35 and over	0.72	-0.32	0.62	0.601	4.68	1.54	0.62	0.601	a	1.76	0.57	0.62	0.601		0.43	-0.86	1.12	0.447	
Wife																			
20-24																			
25-29																			
30-34																			
35 and over																			
Education (omitted < high school)																			
Husband																			
High School																			
Some College																			
College Degree																			
Wife																			
High School	0.81	-0.22	0.40	0.590	0.94	-0.06	0.43	0.883		1.31	0.27	0.43	0.531		0.54	-0.62	0.48	0.197	
Some College	0.64	-0.44	0.44	0.315	1.25	0.22	0.53	0.674		0.67	-0.39	0.46	0.392		0.79	-0.24	0.51	0.640	
College Degree	0.18	-1.72	0.47	0.000	0.28	-1.29	0.50	0.011		0.47	-0.75	0.46	0.108		0.66	-0.41	0.54	0.450	
Earnings Quartile (omitted interquartile range)																			
Husband																			
Bottom	2.47	0.90	0.58	0.118	1.26	0.23	0.65	0.724		1.70	0.53	0.45	0.234		1.99	0.69	0.41	0.093	
Top	2.90	1.06	1.26	0.398	-	14.72	1.19	0.000	a	0.58	-0.55	1.33	0.682	b	2.79	1.03	1.06	0.333	b
Wife																			
Bottom	0.14	-1.98	1.10	0.072	0.19	-1.68	1.06	0.113		0.60	-0.51	0.63	0.419		0.81	-0.20	0.55	0.707	
Top	0.93	-0.07	0.31	0.830	2.35	0.86	0.37	0.023		2.25	0.81	0.36	0.024		1.04	0.04	0.33	0.915	
Race (omitted both non-Hispanic white)																			
Both Black	0.55	-0.59	0.38	0.115	0.86	-0.15	0.42	0.716		0.81	-0.21	0.37	0.568		0.63	-0.46	0.37	0.213	
Other	0.93	-0.07	0.45	0.871	0.81	-0.22	0.57	0.705		1.44	0.37	0.44	0.405		1.86	0.62	0.43	0.152	

a=diff from 1969-75 significant at p<0.05 b=diff from 1976-81 significant at p<0.05 c=diff from 1982-87 significant at p<0.05