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1. Background & Motivation

Motivation

- Contrary to the expectations of the Second Demographic Transition Theory (SDT), research suggests a negative relationship between education and the likelihood of non-marital childbearing in Europe.
- There is a lack of studies that examine the influence of education *and* values on family-formation behaviours.
- Hungary has experienced a societal transition from socialism to democracy in 1990.
- During socialism, political capital and the communist ideology played the most important role in social stratification; after the transition, education became a primary indicator.
- Before 1990, changes in values were reinforced by the regime; Western norms and lifestyle were idealised and imitated assuming that they are linked to modern life and economic prosperity.

Background

- In 2001, 6.3% of the 20+ population was cohabiting. This proportion is the highest among Eastern European Countries.
- In 1999, 27.96% of births were out of wedlock; in 2010, this proportion was 40.82%. Again, this percentage is the highest among post-socialist countries in Eastern Europe.

2. Research Questions

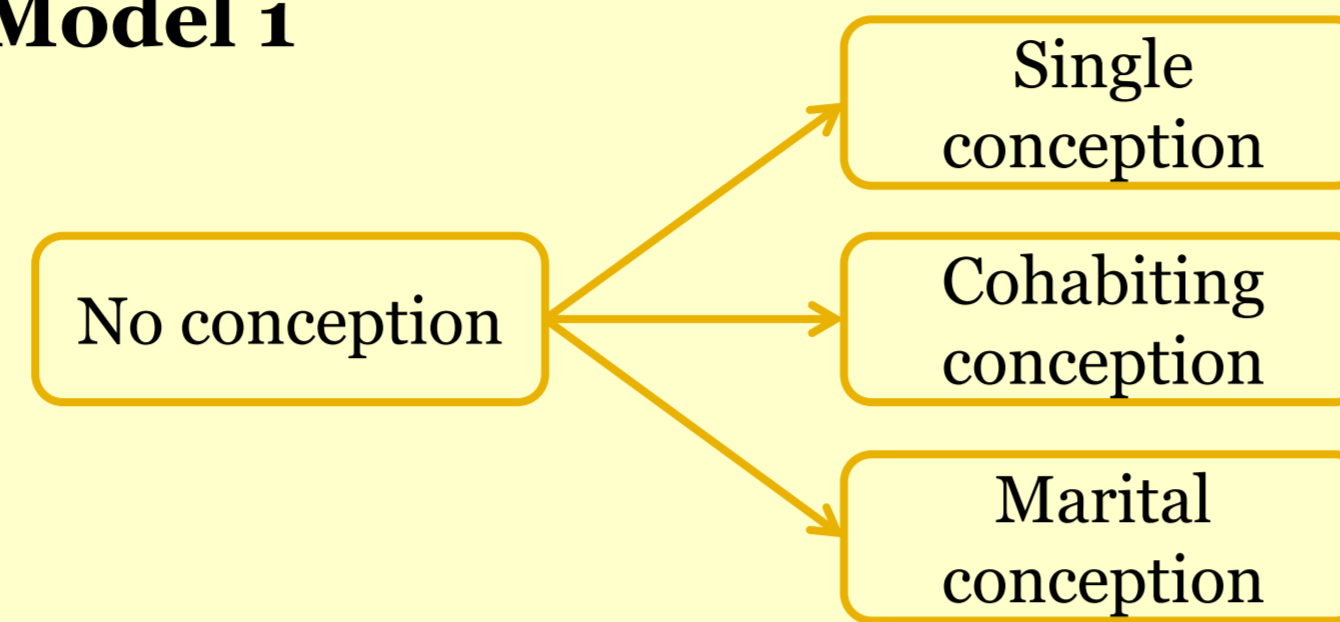
1. How do education and family values influence the risk of a first conception within different union types (single, cohabitation, marriage) in Hungary? (Model 1)
2. How did these influences change after the political transition in 1990? (Model 1)
3. How do education and family values influence the probability of marriage before the birth of the first child for a woman, who experience a single or cohabiting conception? (Model 2)

3. Measurement of Values

- Index consisting of five items (Cronbach's $\alpha = .60$)
 - "Marriage is an outdated institution."
 - "It is alright for an unmarried couple to live together even if they have no interest in marriage."
 - "Marriage is a lifetime relationship and should never be ended."
 - "It is alright for a couple with unhappy marriage to get a divorce, even if they have children."
 - "A woman can have a child as a single parent even if she doesn't want to have a stable relationship with a man."
- Collapsed into three categories based on percentiles:
 - traditional, medium-liberal and liberal values

4. Data, Models & Methods

Model 1



- Discrete time competing risks hazards model; women observed from age 15
- N = 761,980 person-months

Data

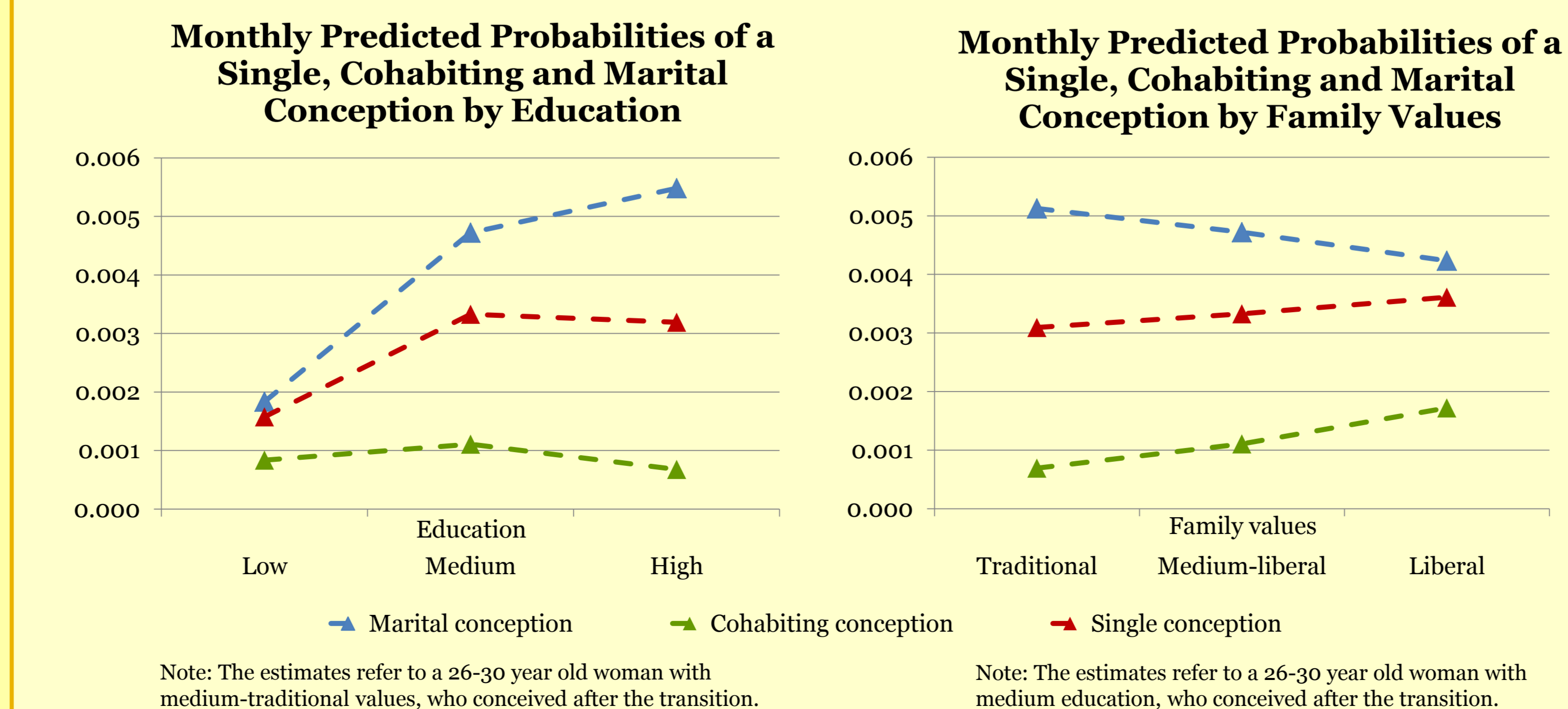
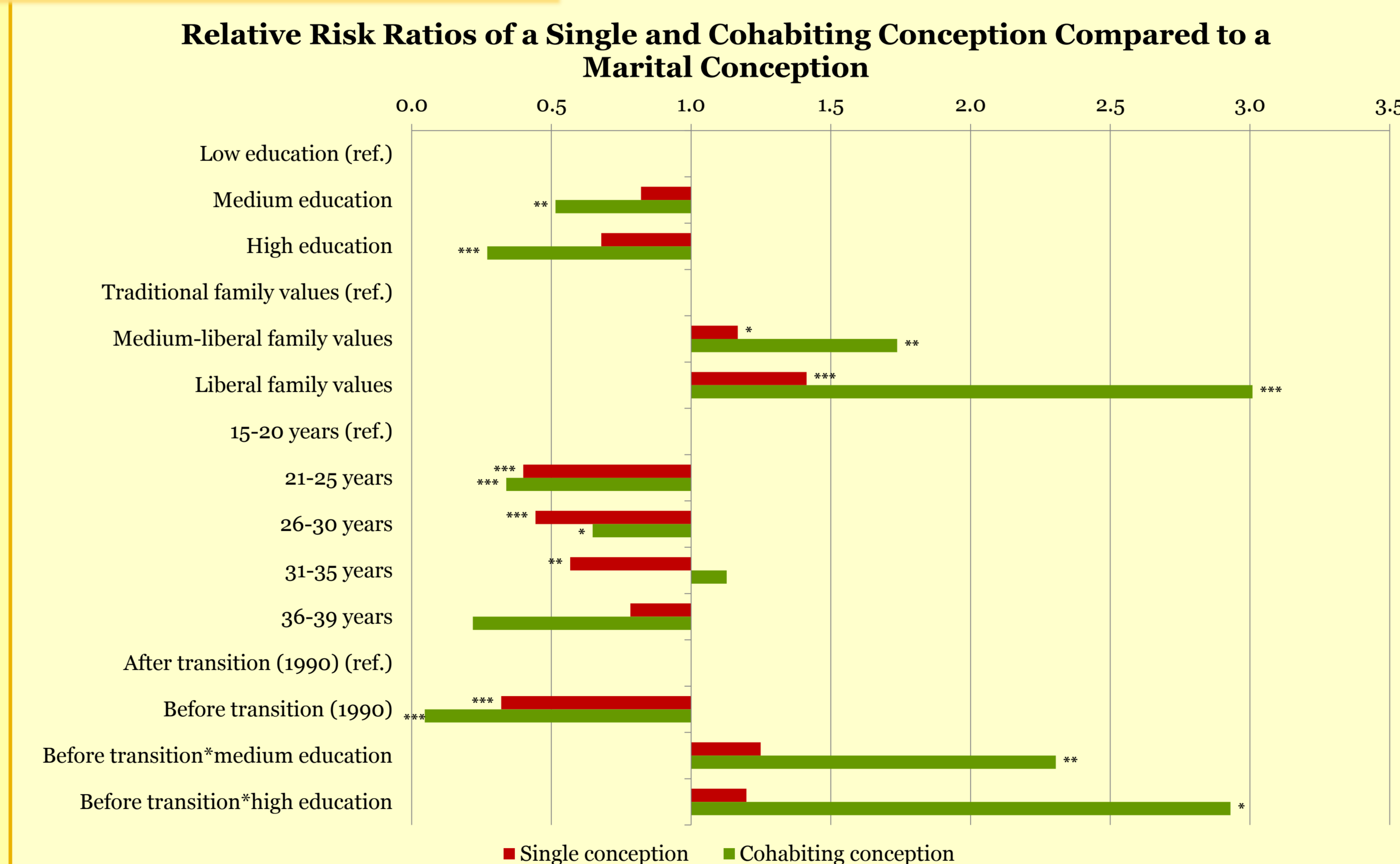
- Hungarian Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) from 2004
- Retrospective monthly birth and union histories

Model 2

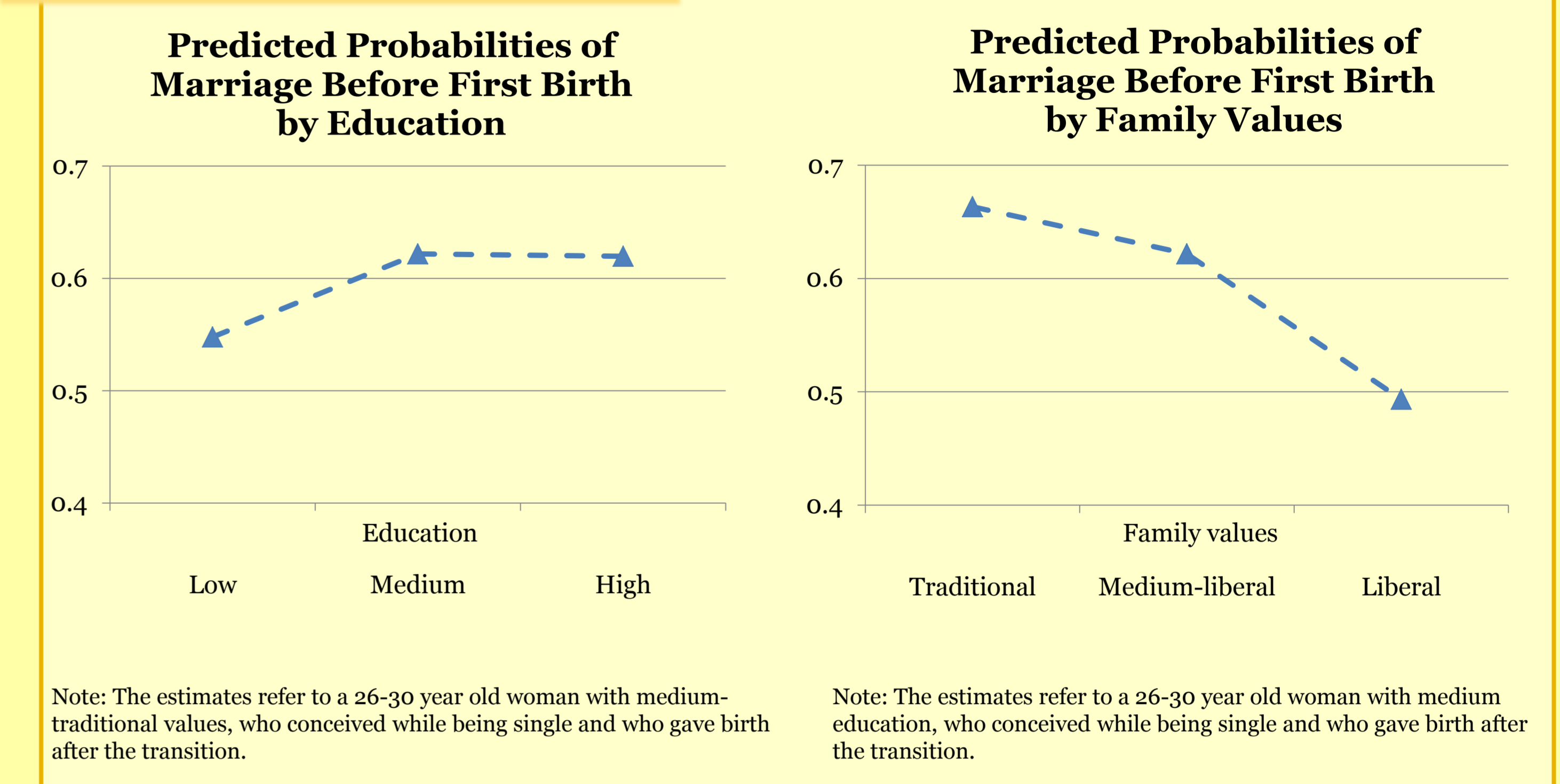


- Logistic regression
- N = 1,525

5. Results – Model 1



6. Results – Model 2



7. Discussion & Conclusion

1. Higher educated women are less likely to conceive within cohabitation than within marriage compared to their lower educated counterparts. This finding is consistent with previous research and challenges the SDT.
- In line with the expectations of the SDT, more liberal women have a higher risk of a cohabiting or a single conception than a marital conception compared to more traditional women with similar characteristics.
- However, as values are measured at the time of the survey, one needs to be cautious when interpreting these results. Additional analyses are planned to examine whether and how values change over time, and how this influences our results.
- The probability of a marital conception is the most likely. The probability of a single conception is higher than that of a cohabiting conception. An explanation for this might be that some single conceptions happen within a non-resident partnership.
2. Before the societal transition, the risk of both a single and a cohabiting conception is smaller compared to a marital conception, than after the transition.
- The interaction effect indicates that the influence of education on the risk of a cohabiting conception differs before and after the transition. Before the transition, education has a positive gradient.
- The impact of values is constant across time.
3. In general, the probability of marriage after a non-marital conception is high.
- Increased education and more traditional values are associated with a greater propensity to marry before the birth.

8. Acknowledgements