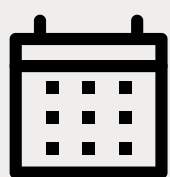


# WOMEN'S EDUCATION, MARRIAGE, AND FERTILITY OUTCOMES: EVIDENCE FROM THAILAND'S COMPULSORY SCHOOLING LAW



**IISERB**

Increased education affects market and non-market outcomes. This paper investigates the causal impact of the extension of compulsory education from 6 to 9 years on females' education, marriage, and fertility outcomes in Thailand. Using data from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and a donut-hole Regression Discontinuity (RD) design, we show that the new law increases lower secondary school completion in girls, leading to decreased probabilities of giving birth in the school-age years (14-17 years). The policy primarily affects the marginal child leading to the postponement of the timing of their fertility to after-school years. We also document heterogeneity and show that the results are stronger for Muslim women. The policy leads to a consistent drop in the probability of marriage and cumulative births for Muslim women, which sustain beyond the completion of schooling years. The results hold with alternative empirical model specifications and falsification tests.



**04 MAY (2023), 10 : 30 AM**

**PLASMA ROOM NO - 110 (MIAN BUILDING)**

**DR PALLAVI PANDA**

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY), GENESEO**

Dr. Pallavi Panda is an Associate Professor of Economics at the State University of New York (SUNY), Geneseo. Her research areas are in development economics, health, gender, and demography with a concentration on Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. She is a Hewlett Fellow and has received the Hewlett Foundation/IIE Research Fellowship for her work on trade and health in sub-Saharan Africa. For her research evaluating the impact of social and political policies on global societies, she recently was awarded the BAC Research Award for Positive Societal Impact. She has presented her work widely at top U.S. and international conferences and published her work in journals like World Development. At SUNY Geneseo, she enjoys teaching courses in Microeconomics, Development Economics, Gender Economics, and Health Economics. She is a recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching by SUNY in 2022. Prior to joining SUNY Geneseo, she completed her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Riverside, a Master's in Economics from Delhi School of Economics in India, and a Bachelor's in Economics from Miranda House, Delhi University. She won the Dean's Distinguished Fellowship Award at the University of California, the DSE Merit Scholarship at the Delhi School of Economics, and the Sumana Dutta Gold Medal during her undergraduate study at Miranda House.

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES**