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What Will Happen If Household Income was Controlled by Women: Mardin and Mugla Field Research / Gelirin Kontrolü Kadınların Elinde Olsaydı: Mardin-Muğla Alan Araştırması

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ABSTRACT

Personal income owned by household members gives them bargaining power on household resources and this bargaining power affects the distribution of expenditure within the household (Hoddinott and Haddad, 1995; Phipps and Burton, 1998; Kakwani and Son, 2006). Studies show that an increase in women's personal income and therefore bargaining power, has effects on the structure of household spending and many areas such as increasing spending on children like education, health, food and clothing (Thomas, 1990; 1992; 1997; Hoddinott and Haddad, 1991; Lundberg et al., 1997; Phipps and Burton, 1998; Quisumbing and Brière, 2000; Quisumbing and Maluccio, 2003; Ward, Batts, 2008). This study examines if income was completely controlled by women and/or there was an increase in income controlled by women, how it will change the distribution of intra-household expenditure in Turkey. For this purpose, a questionnaire was conducted to 367 married couples with children that have different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, in the central district of Mardin and Mugla. The findings indicate that, an increase in income controlled by women increases the share of expenditure for education and expenses for children and compulsory expenditures such as clothing and expenses for the general needs of the home increases as well.

KEYWORDS Personal Income; Bargaining Power; Intra-Household Expenditure; Mugla; Mardin

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