

International Seminar on Gender Statistics
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Culture and Gender Statistics: Taking an Example of Gender Preference in East Asia

Ki-Soo Eun
Seoul National University

Change of the Topic

- Ms. Choi already introduced Korean Time-Use Survey yesterday.
- Dr. Mi Young An will introduce gender differentials in paid and unpaid works based on time-use data in detail in Korea.
- Overlapping in presentations for Korean time-use and gender inequality on balancing paid and unpaid works.

Change of the Topic

- Gender statistics based on time-use statistics reflect behaviors in daily life.
- These behaviors such as paid and unpaid works are grounded on norms, values and attitudes in a society.
- Norms, values and attitudes: a culture in a society.
- To avoid redundancy, and introduce the background of the significance of time-use statistics, I talk about gender preference for children in Asia this morning.

Why Gender Preference for Children?

- 1) A main character of culture in a society
- 2) One of main indicators of gender (in)equality in a society

→ Changing gender preference for children has been a signal of social and familial transformation in a society

Transition from a traditional society to a modern society

- Transition from traditional gender preference for children to modern gender preference for children as in a transition from traditional marriage to modern marriage?

Son preference in a traditional society

- Agrarian society
- Patriarchal society

- However, no gender preference or daughter preference even in some traditional societies where bi-lateral family dominated

Global Convergence of Gender Preference

- Gender Balance Preference
- Gender Indifference Preference or No Gender Preference

Welfare State

- Care of the elderly by welfare state, not by the family
- Family's gradual liberation from elderly care responsibility
- Weakening significance of son(s) in a family
- However, even in many modern societies, patriarchal family has been dominant for so long.

The Second Demographic Transition

- Lifestyle change
- No mention on gender preference for children in this theory
- However, women have changed
 - 1) By expansion of educational opportunity for women
 - 2) By Increasing participation in the labor market
- Thus, steady development of gender equality

Value Shift

- Ronald Inglehart
 1. From material values to post-material values
 - 2-1. Traditional values to secular-rational values
 - 2-2. Survival values to self-expression values
- Then, what is gender preference in post-industrial society?

Diversity in Asian Context

- Hanna Rosin. 2012. *The End of Men and the Rise of Women*.
“South Korea constructed one of most rigid patriarchies on the planet.”
- Strong Confucian legacy in Asian culture
- China, India, South Korea: Strong son preference as we confirm in highly distorted sex ratio at Birth in the past
- Taiwan: Strong son preference → Weakening son preference

Diversity in Asian Context

- Japan: Son preference to daughter preference (?) ← Weak tradition of patriarchal family in the past compared to Korea and China.
- Thailand: Bi-lateral family system → No gender preference or rather daughter preference.
- Vietnam: In Northern Vietnam, son preference; In Southern Vietnam and among minorities, weak son preference.

Data

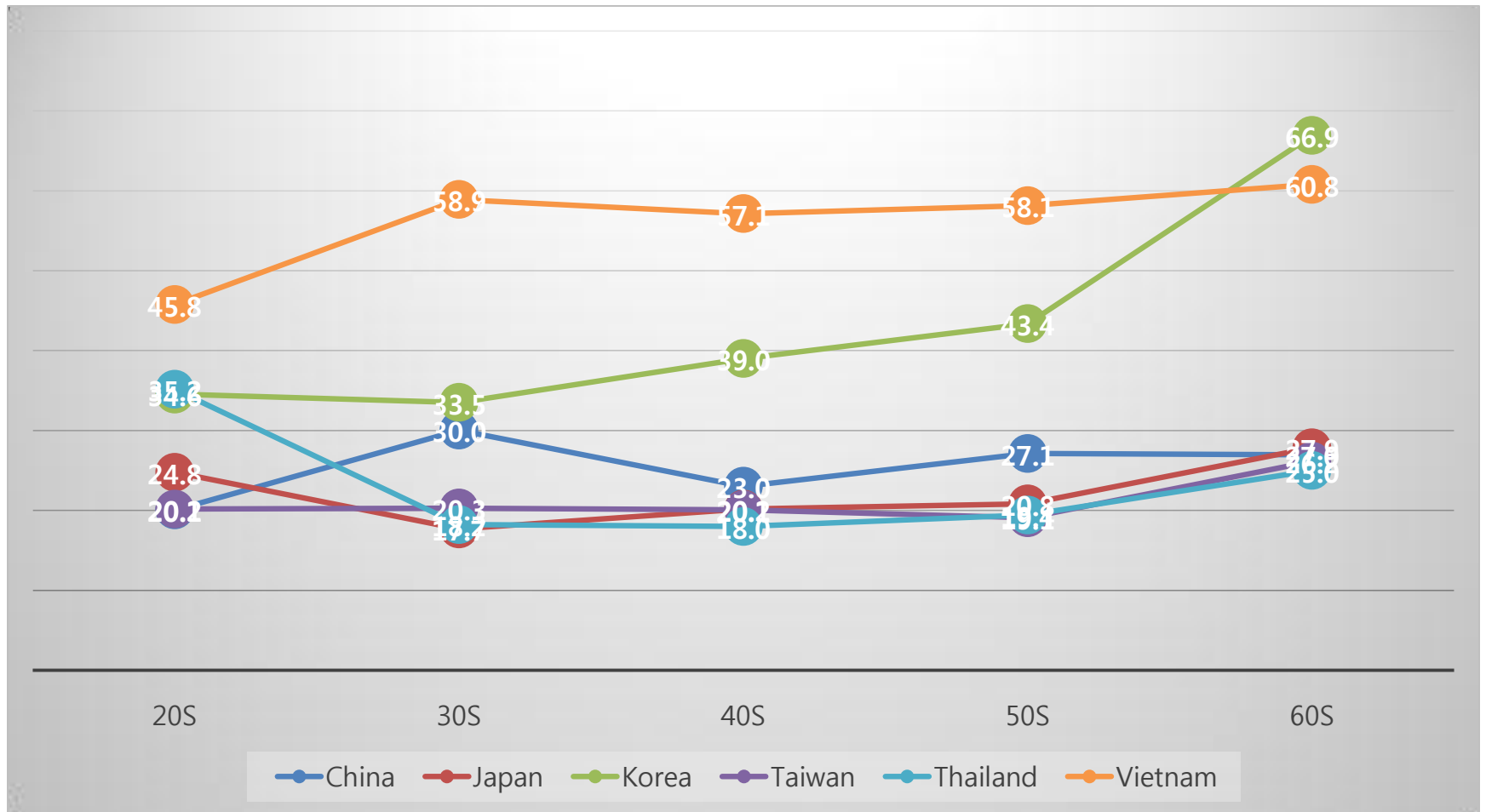
- East Asian Social Survey 2006
(China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan)
- Hanoi Family Survey 2010
- Bangkok Metropolitan Family Survey 2010

Descriptive Analysis of Gender Preference for Children by Sex, Age and Education

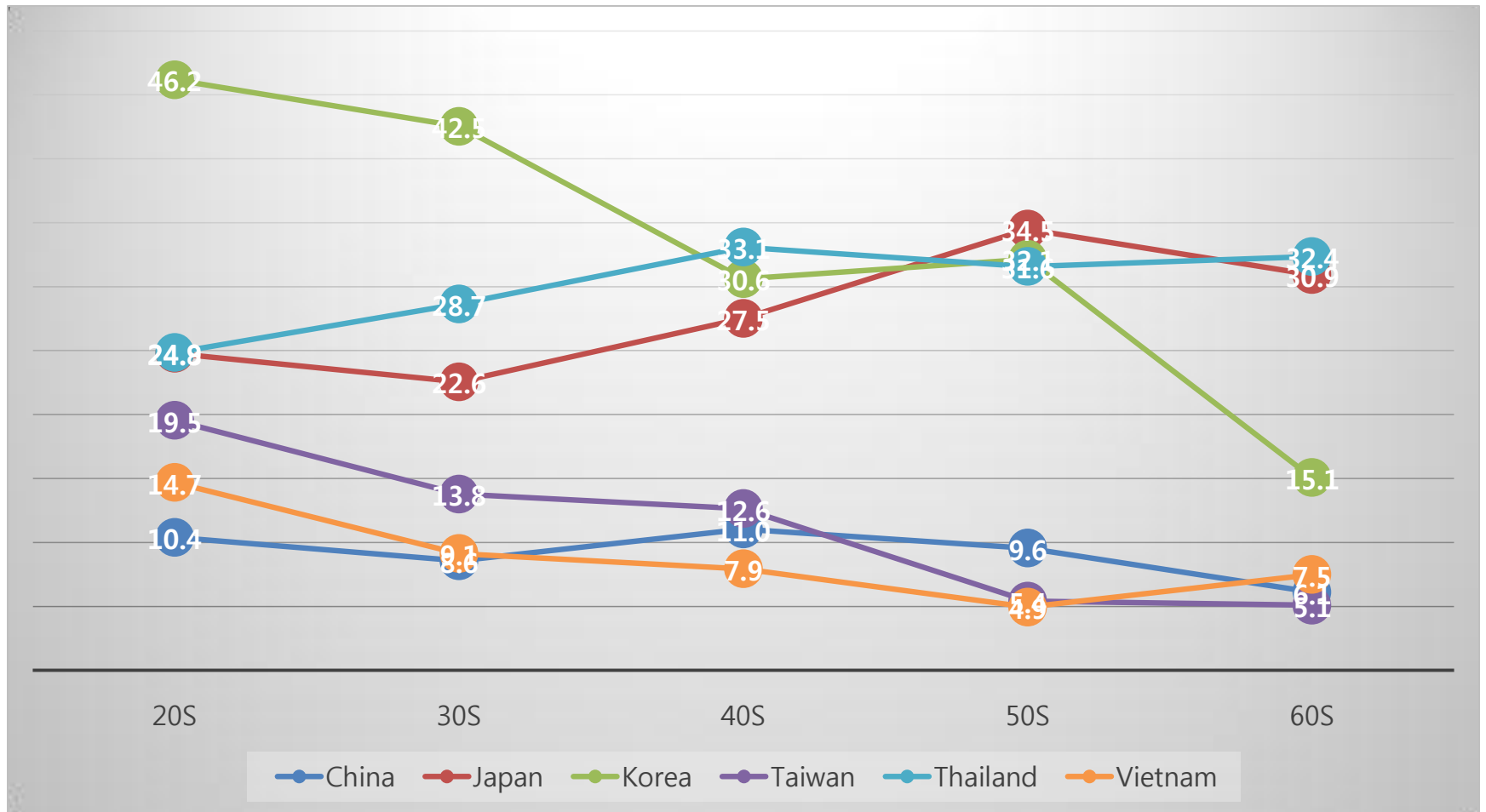
Gender Preference for Children by Sex

	Men			Women		
	Son	Daughter	No Pref.	Son	Daughter	No Pref.
Vietnam	56.1	5.0	38.9	57.4	10.9	31.7
China	27.4	7.6	65.0	23.7	11.0	65.4
Taiwan	24.3	8.1	67.7	18.2	15.3	66.6
Korea	45.9	26.7	27.4	38.9	40.3	20.8
Thailand	30.8	19.6	49.6	17.5	36.8	45.7
Japan	34.6	18.4	47.0	14.1	38.1	47.9

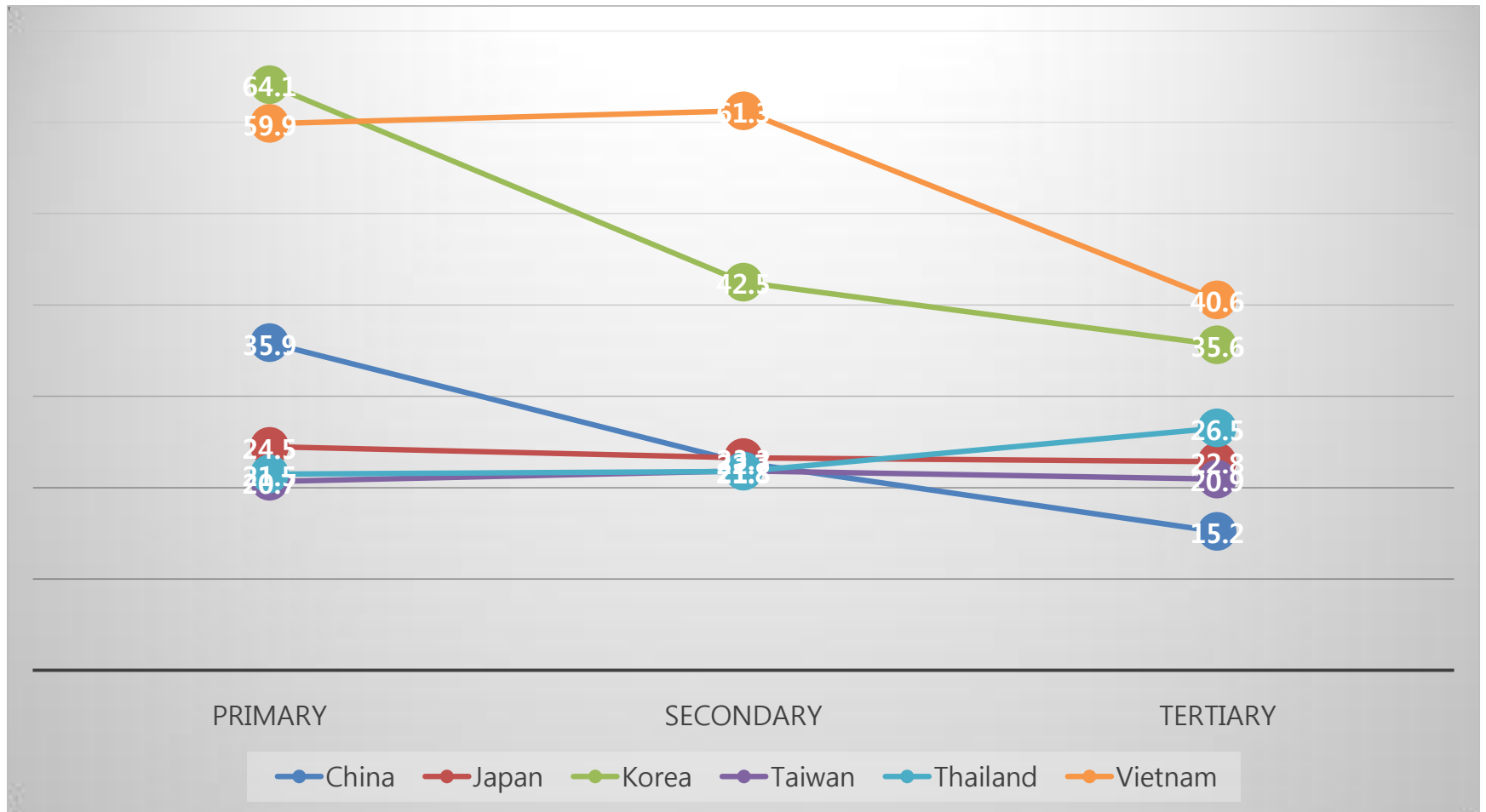
Son Preference by Age



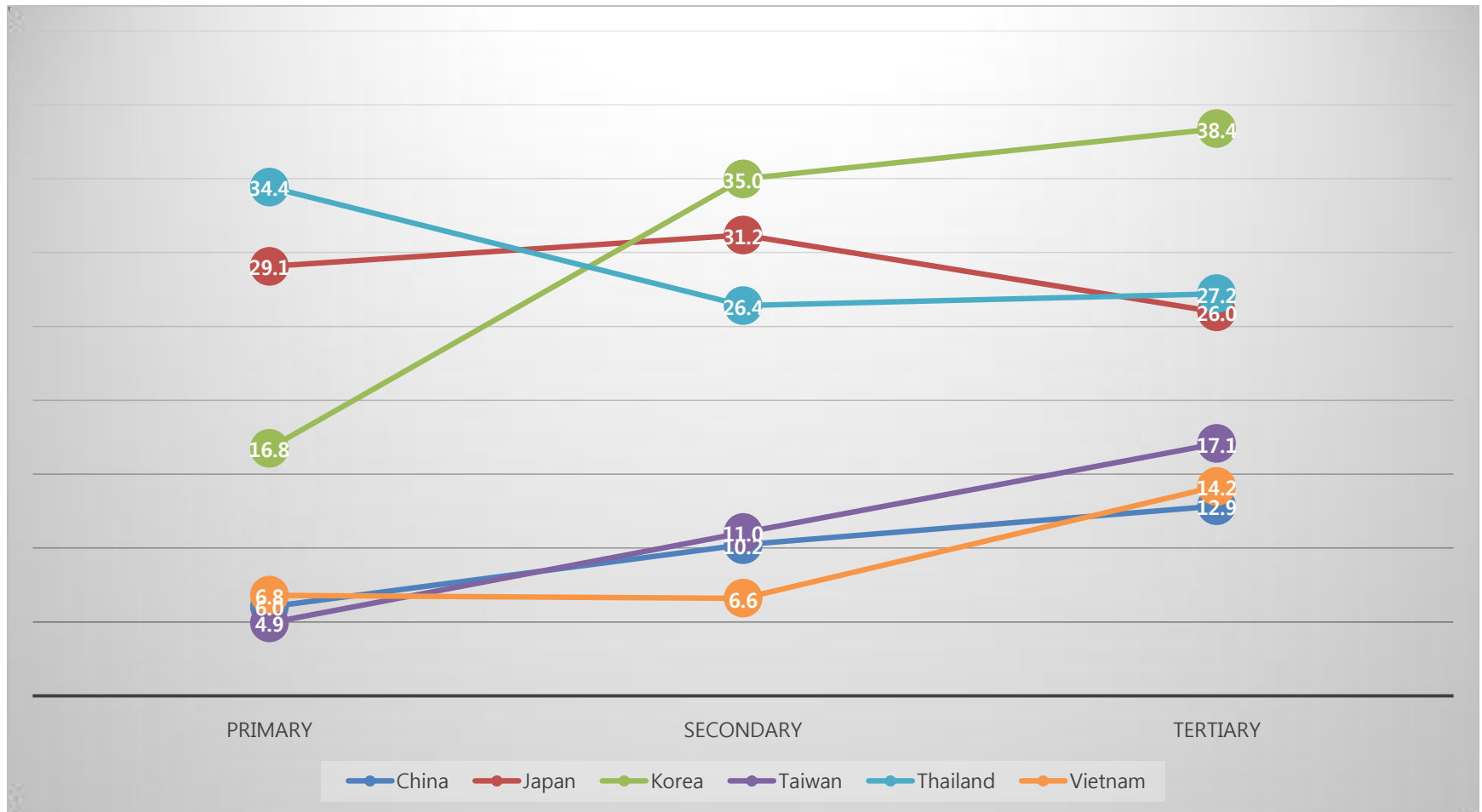
Daughter Preference by Age



Son Preference by Education



Daughter Preference by Education



Multinomial Logistic Regression Analysis

Multinomial Logistic Regression Analysis of Gender Preference for Children

	China		Japan		Korea		Taiwan		Thailand		Vietnam	
	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter	Son vs. Daughter	No Pref. vs. Daughter
Male	.74***	.42**	1.66***	.69***	.71***	.60***	.99**	.76***	1.21***	.66***	.78**	.97***
20s	-.04	-.04	.14	-.31	-.13	-.82**	.12	-.12	.76*	-.23	-.44	-.22
40s	-.58**	-.21	.12	-.22	.41*	.67***	-.17	-.13	-.21	-.17	-.08	.01
50s	-.55*	-.23	-.11*	-.65***	.39	.36	.67	.69*	-.03	-.08	.42	.75*
60s+	-.30	.23	.24	-.66***	1.47***	-.83**	.95*	.48	.11	-.14	.08	.20
Primary	1.13***	.39*	-.22	.22	.64*	.33	.33	.68*	-.01	-.34*	.04	.12
Tertiary	-.65**	-.27	.02	.09	-.11	.17	-.36	-.28	.18	-.22	-1.08***	-.3
Married	.64*	-.11	-.44	-.14	-.01	-.60*	.85**	.62**	.13	-.26	.05	.11
Widow/Div	.80	-.07	-.18	-.20	-.29	-.84*	-.04	-.08	.29	-.37	-.05	.37
Intercept	.16	1.90***	-.78**	.75***	-.43	-.41	-.43	1.02***	-1.00**	.79**	1.50**	.93

Note: ***<.001 **<.01 *<.05

Odds of Male Coefficient (Son Preference vs. Daughter Preference)

China	Japan	Korea	Taiwan	Thailand	Vietnam
2.103	5.280	2.043	2.699	3.342	2.179

1. In Japan, men are 425% or five times more likely to prefer son to daughter than women!
2. In Vietnam, men are 118% or two times more likely to prefer son to daughter than women!
3. In Korea, men are 104% or two times more likely to prefer son to daughter than women!

Odds of Male Coefficient (No Preference vs. Daughter Preference)

China	Japan	Korea	Taiwan	Thailand	Vietnam
1.515	1.989	1.825	2.144	1.942	2.627

1. In Vietnam, men are 163% or more than twice more likely to prefer gender indifference to daughter than women!
2. In Korea, men are 83% or nearly twice more likely to prefer gender indifference to daughter than women!

Age Difference of Son Preference over Daughter Preference

Age	Korea	Vietnam
20s	- 0.13	- 0.44
40s	0.41*	- 0.08
50s	0.39	0.42
60s	1.47***	0.08

In Korea, people in their 60s and over are 333% or four times more likely to prefer son to daughter than people in their 30s!!!

Variations of Family Values by Gender Preference

Society	Gender Preference	Authoritarian	Male-centric	Collectivistic
China	Son	.14*	.18**	- .02
	No gender	- .09	.01	- .15**
Japan	Son	.29***	.30***	.28***
	No gender	- .05	.09*	.03
Korea	Son	.16***	.22***	.08
	No gender	- .12	- .17*	- .07
Taiwan	Son	.46***	.41***	.07
	No gender	.08	.11	- .08
Thailand	Son	.08	.26***	.02
	No gender	- .22*	- .11	- .14
Vietnam	Son	.40**	.28	.12
	No gender	.08	.01	- .01

Note: ***<.001 **<.01 *<.05

Controlling for sex, age, marital status, education

Paid and Unpaid Work for a
Couple in Korea, a Country of
Son Preference

Theoretical Arguments of Division of Household Labor

1. Gender Ideology and Socialization Theory
 - Both men and women are socialized to perform gender-specific roles during their life time.

Theoretical Arguments of Division of Household Labor

2. Time Availability/Constraint Theory

- Rational allocation of time
- Specialization
- Increasing men's paid work hours reduce unpaid work;
- Then, do increasing women's paid work hours also reduce unpaid work at home?

Theoretical Arguments of Division of Household Labor

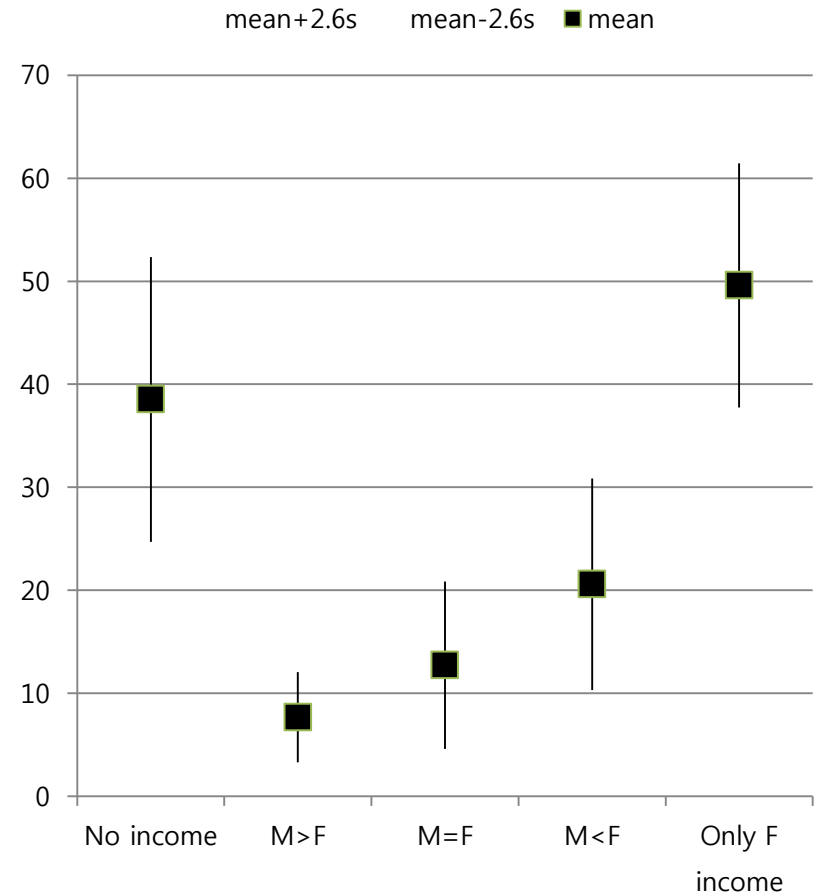
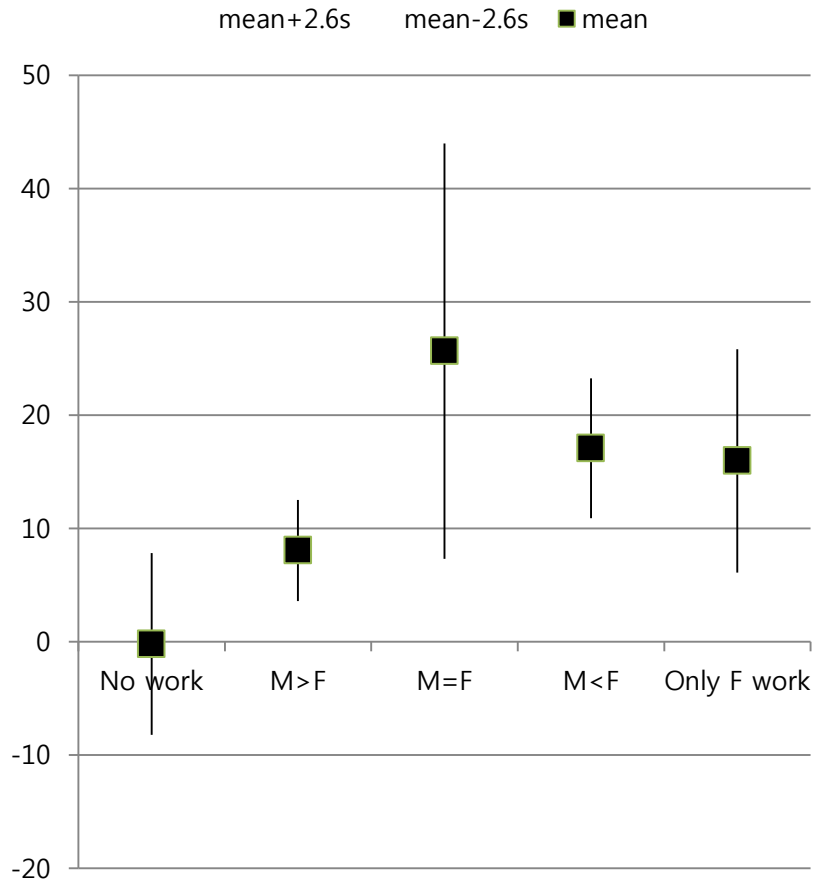
3. Theory of Relative Resource

- Generally, unpaid household work is unpleasant for both men and women.
- Manual and/or emotional work
- Not likely to be recognized or rewarded
- Negotiation and/or exchange between a couple around time for unpaid household work
- Who has more advantageous economic resource to avoid unpleasant household work between husband and wife?

Husband's Unpaid Work Hours

Variable***	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
H's gender role A	3.1 ***	1.7	1.7
H's paid work H		- 0.1***	
Relative work 1		- 0.2	
Relative work 3		8.1***	
Relative work 4		25.7***	
Relative work 5		17.1***	
Relative work 6		16.0***	
H's income			- 0.3
Relative income 1			38.5***
Relative income 3			7.7***
Relative income 4			12.7***
Relative income 5			20.6***
Relative income 6			49.6***
R ²	0.06	0.22	0.08

Husband's unpaid work by relative paid work and relative income

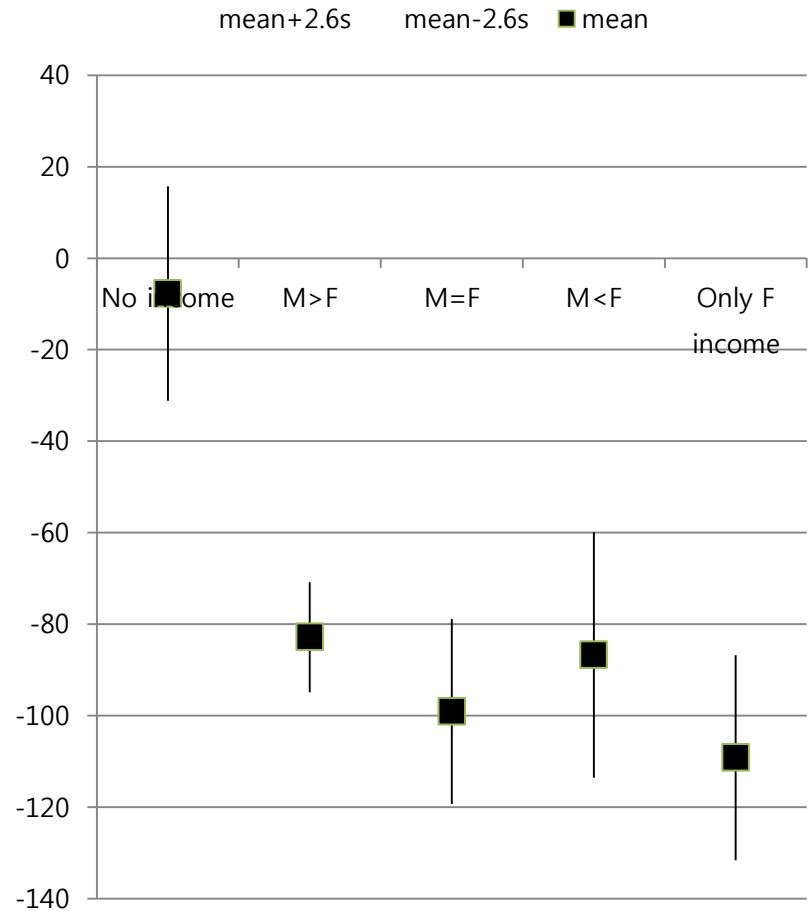
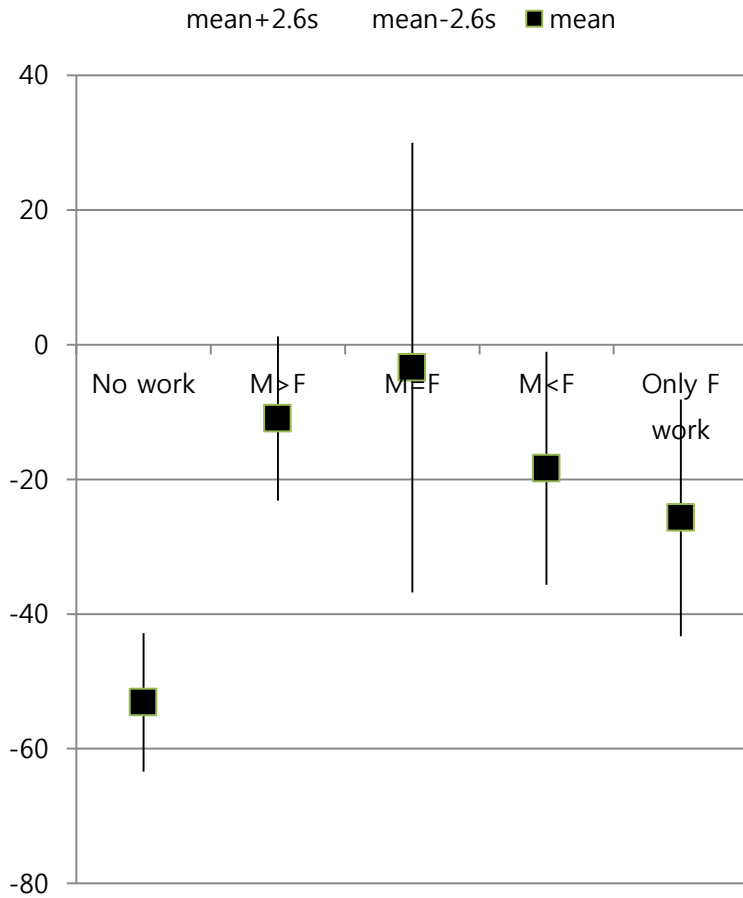


Reference: Only husband's paid work; Only husband's income

Wife's Unpaid Work Hours

Variable***	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
W's gender role A	-1.4 ***	1.4	0.3
W's paid work H		- 0.4***	
Relative work 1		-53.1***	
Relative work 3		-11.0***	
Relative work 4		- 3.4	
Relative work 5		-18.4***	
Relative work 6		-25.7***	
W's income			-19.2***
Relative income 1			- 7.7
Relative income 3			-82.9***
Relative income 4			-99.1***
Relative income 5			-86.7***
Relative income 6			-109.2***
R ²	0.17	0.49	0.32

Wife's unpaid work hour by relative paid work and relative income



Reference: Only husband's paid work; Only husband's income

Conclusion

- Masculine culture still prevails.
- Gender inequality is strong under masculine culture.
- Son preference is prevalent in Asian context. (Norm and Value)
- Unequal division of labor by gender (Behavior)
- Time use data and statistics → Basis of gender equality in Korea and many other countries as well.