Report on **Bachelor Thesis**

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Student:	**Denisa Urbanová**
Advisor:	**PhDr. Jana Votápková, Ph.D.**
Title of the thesis:	**How does motherhood influence drinking habits? An investigation of alcohol consumption among women in the Czech Republic**

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Short summary

The thesis uncovers the patterns of drinking behavior among women in Czechia. EHIS 2009 data were analyzed using ordinal logistic regression. A robustness check was carried out using a logit model. The sample was restricted to women up to 3 children to exclude individuals dependant on social benefits.

The results reveal that having an additional child increases the probability of heavy drinking by 5.4 percentage points. However, if there is a partner present, the probability of heavy drinking decreases by 6.3 percentage points on average. This suggests that a father in the household is protective against motherhood stress. A similar protective nature was discovered for employed mothers of young children. Interesting differences were discovered between younger and older women.

Contribution

The thesis is an econometric exercise. The contribution lies in its application on a Czech sample. The findings of the thesis are interesting, however, if further elaborated upon, they have a potential to serve as a background for policy recommendations in the area of family and health policy.

Methods

The thesis uses ordered logit model, as the dependent variable is an ordered count variable. As a robustness check a logit model is used as a dependent variable for a robustness check is binary. The methods used are appropriate, well intereptted and tested.

Literature

Literature review is well structured and written. Sources are well cited. I would appreciate a clearer identification of the thesis contribution both to the literature – what is missing in the empirical research – and the results – how the results fit into the empirical results found in the literature.

Manuscript form

The thesis reads well. After initial mistakes, Denisa made a good progress in her academic writing and her thesis is a good attempt for a scholarly work. It is well structured and organized.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

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Denisa´s progress in empirical work and academic writing is obvisous. Her initial attempts were not very good, but the submitted thesis is a decent piece of a scholarly work. The thesis reads well and brings some interesting conclusions. In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, **I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.** The results of the Turnitin analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources

Questions for the defense:
1. When intepretting the results in predicted probabilities, how many observations were there in each subsample? I would worry about the loss of the Degrees of freedom. Can you guarantee consistency in the subsamples?
2. On page 1, the author mentions „intensive mothering practices" as a result social pressures on women-mothers. The term „intensive mothering practices" is however not explained. What does this term mean? Explain.
3. Identify contribution of your thesis. Who can benefit from it? What research gap does it fill?

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY		POINTS
Contribution	*(max. 30 points)*	28
Methods	*(max. 30 points)*	28
Literature	*(max. 20 points)*	17
Manuscript Form	*(max. 20 points)*	18
TOTAL POINTS	*(max. 100 points)*	**91**
GRADE	**(A – B – C – D – E – F)**	**A**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Jana Votápková, Ph.D.

DATE OF EVALUATION: May 29, 2024

Digitally signed (May 29, 2024)
Jana Votápková
Referee Signature

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**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

CONTRIBUTION: _The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis._

METHODS: _The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed._

LITERATURE REVIEW: _The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way._

MANUSCRIPT FORM: _The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography._

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	**A**
81 - 90	**B**
71 - 80	**C**
61 – 70	**D**
51 – 60	**E**
0 – 50	**F**