

Civil Conflict, Sex Ratio and Intimate Partner Violence in Rwanda

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Abstract

This paper examines the long-term impact of civil conflict on intimate partner violence and women's decision-making power using post-genocide data from Rwanda. Household survey data collected 11 years after the genocide show that women who became married after the genocide experienced significantly increased intimate partner violence and decreased decision-making power relative to women who became married before. The effect was greater for women in localities with high genocide intensity. I find that variation in the marriage market sex ratio across localities and over time explains part of the effect of the genocide on intimate partner violence.

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