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Inside Beninese Households: How Spouses Manage Their Personal Income*

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5 **Abstract**

6 This paper exploits original data collected in Benin, featuring both income and
7 expenditure at the individual level. We provide evidence suggesting that husband
8 and wife do not pool their respective income and thus do not make expenditure
9 decisions on the basis of one common budget. As corroborated by numerous an-
10 thropological accounts on West Africa, husband and wife are secretive and indi-
11 vidualy allocate their personal income to private and public goods. We present a
12 non-cooperative model that enables us to predict the determinants of spouses' pat-
13 terns of consumption. Our empirical results confirm that spouses' financial spheres
14 are relatively disconnected.

15 **Keywords:** Intra-household allocation, Gender, Benin

16 **JEL Classifications:** D12, D13, C21, O15

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17 **1 Introduction**

18 As underlined by Rangel and Thomas (2005), numerous anthropological accounts cast
19 doubts as to the standard unitary model being an appropriate representation of the
20 West African household decision unit. Contrary to the assumption that the household
21 maximizes a single household utility function, husbands and wives seem to have their
22 own budget. In this case, spending decisions are not only influenced by the level of
23 household income but also depend on the partner who earns it. Alongside these ethno-
24 graphic findings, considerable pieces of evidence from the literature on intra-household
25 consumption decisions substantiate that the unitary model may not be valid regarding
26 many decisions. In fact, several case studies in developing countries have shown that
27 the household choices are affected by the identity of the earner.¹ Among the many the-
28 oretical alternatives to the unitary model, a great deal of attention has been dedicated
29 to a model of cooperative household decision-making in which various preferences and
30 weights or individual bargaining powers affect the outcome. This model also posits that
31 however decisions are made, the results are Pareto-efficient. Thomas (1990), among oth-
32 ers, gives credit to this model, using Brazilian data.²

33 However, a number of investigations pertaining to risk sharing within households
34 implicitly reject the cooperative model. See Dercon and Krishnan (2000) who investi-
35 gate whether individuals are able to smooth their consumption over time within the
36 household, by using data on adult nutrition in Ethiopia.³ Studies on intra-household
37 production decisions also tend to find less support for the assumption of cooperative
38 decision making. Notably, Udry (1996) uses agricultural data from Burkina Faso and
39 finds that crop yields are different according to the gender of those controlling a given
40 parcel. Since marginal productivity for an additional unit of either fertilizer or labor is
41 not equal across all household plots, he rejects a cooperative outcome. Another strand
42 of the literature studies the impact of new production opportunities on the household's
43 production decisions. Several studies dealing with this have rejected the hypothesis of
44 cooperative outcome.⁴ Finally, a study by Iversen et al. (2006) using experimental data

¹Hoddinot and Haddad (1995) use data from Côte d'Ivoire and show that changes in gender-specific control of income translate into different expenditure outcomes. Attanasio and Lechêne (2002), using Progres data from Mexico, confirm that wife's relative income share is a significant determinant in household's outcome. See also Doss (1999) and Hallman (2000).

²Similar results have been reported by Thomas and Chen (1994) for Taiwan and Thomas, Contreras and Frankenberg (2002) for Indonesia. Quisumbing and Maluccio (2003) with data on four developing countries also reject the unitary model but do not dismiss the hypothesis that households are Pareto-efficient.

³See also Doss (2001) who uses data on Ghana and Duflo and Udry (2003) who study resource allocation in Côte d'Ivoire.

⁴Doss and McPeak (2005) present a review of this literature and use data on nomadic pastoral setting in Kenya to test models of household decision-making. Their empirical evidence suggests that household decisions are disputed: wives' ability to market milk is contested by husbands using migration decisions.

45 from rural Uganda shows that spouses do not maximise surplus from cooperation and
46 that their contribution decisions repudiate both the unitary and the cooperative model.

47 In this paper we give evidence of non-cooperative behaviour within West-African
48 households by using answers to open-end questions included in our survey question-
49 naire. We thereby seek to highlight the determinants of spouses' individual consump-
50 tion decisions in a context where both husband and wife retain sole control over their
51 personal income. What indeed appears as striking from our field investigations in
52 Benin, is that husband and wife are secretive with respect to income matters. They
53 avoid sharing information about their personal earnings and thus do not make com-
54 mon budget. These behaviors, detailed in the following section, discredit the common
55 budget hypothesis and cast doubts on the unitary and widely used cooperative models.
56 Bringing in such evidence was made possible by collecting first-hand data at the indi-
57 vidual level. Indeed, the originality of this paper lies in including in our survey detailed
58 information on each person's income and expenditure. African datasets rarely exhibit
59 such features since most of them record data at the aggregate household level.

60 As mentioned previously, our goal is to check if non-cooperative behaviour ren-
61 ders expenditure independent from spouse's influence. To what extent are spouses'
62 financial spheres disconnected? In order to answer this question we put forward a non-
63 cooperative model which helps us set up econometric specifications for testing linkage
64 between husband and wife's financial spheres. Our data allow us to establish that intra-
65 household secrecy to a large extent isolates individual expenditure both on private and
66 public goods, from spouse influence.

67 In the following section we present field evidence that underlines the non-cooperative
68 nature of Beninese spouse interactions. Section 3 puts forward a non-cooperative model
69 enabling us to formulate conjectures as to what variables would be expected to drive in-
70 dividual allocations. Section 4 gives a description of the survey on which we based our
71 analysis. We present descriptive statistics on spouses' characteristics and expenditure.
72 We then proceed in section 5 to test our conjectures by using our household dataset and
73 offer consistency checks. Section 6 concludes.

74 **2 Spouse Interactions**

75 During our survey, we carried out several informal interviews that highlighted that
76 spouses were secretive with one another where financial matters were concerned. A
77 large proportion of women and men with whom we spoke in two of the poorest neigh-
78 bourhoods of Cotonou claimed that their spouse was unaware of how successful they
79 were in their occupational activities and was therefore unable to estimate their income.
80 Regardless of gender or age many of the respondents would state: "the less he/she
81 knows about my activities, the better." We also frequently heard such declarations as:

82 "I don't want him/her to know my income otherwise he/she will ask me to meet the
83 cost of such and such expenses." Spouses seem extremely secretive and even appear to
84 consider it natural to share as little information as possible with their partner. Our sur-
85 vey included questions to this effect and were addressed to 572 respondents being over
86 15 years of age and in couple. When asked whether they could estimate their spouse's
87 income; 79% of the answers were negative, 11% positive and 10% admitted to having an
88 incomplete knowledge. Similar results were obtained for the question: "Do you think
89 your spouse knows your income?": 76% answered no, 16% yes and 8% partially. What
90 emerges is a vision of couples whose secretive members rarely seem to inquire about
91 their partner's salary or activities. It is a kind of convention allowing each spouse to
92 keep their income more or less unknown. Thus, by concealing their earnings partners
93 avoid having to share them or creating a common budget and, in doing so, retain sole
94 control over their personal income.

95 These pieces of evidence are also corroborated by the work of anthropologists. Man-
96 del (2006) examines spatial mobility in South Benin and writes that "In African settings
97 (...) resources are usually not pooled within households." (p.361) In his work entitled
98 "Paths of Power: Control, Negotiation and Gender Among the Fon of Benin" Falen
99 (2003) gives a lengthy description of how Beninese Fon⁵ couples interact and confirms
100 their secretive behaviour:

101 The principle economic rule for a married couple is that finances are sepa-
102 rate. Marriage by no means entails a complete sharing of money, property
103 or any other wealth. On the contrary, spouses rarely share access to each
104 other's money or belongings. The notion of a married couple's commu-
105 nal property or joint bank accounts is totally foreign to most Fon people.
106 Indeed, keeping common finances would be dangerous, since money is al-
107 ways scarce and people are generally willing to take, borrow, beg, or in any
108 way extract money from another. (p.164)

109 Guyer (1981) offers a review on the anthropological literature related to the diffi-
110 culty of identifying a decision-making unit, such as the household. She reports similar
111 evidence from other West-African societies. On Yoruba in Nigeria: "A woman's income
112 is kept separate from that of her husband. There is no common budget for a man and
113 his wife" (Marshall, 1964, p.189). Both Lloyd (1968) and Mandel (2003) also describe
114 Yoruba women's economic independence.

115 Lawson (1972, p.95) about the Ewe in Ghana: "Household expenditure patterns in
116 Battor certainly demonstrate that the household cannot be considered as a single unit

⁵The Fon people represents the dominant ethnic group in South and Central Benin. A fifth of all individuals in our dataset have this ethnic affiliation. Falen's account also applies to other ethnic groups and to a certain extent, to contemporary Benin.

117 in which effort and expenditure are directed towards optimizing welfare". Vercrujisse
118 et al. (1974) report that women in the Fante communities in Ghana also enjoy a certain
119 degree of financial independence. Clark (1994) studies the market women of Kumasi,
120 Ghana and observes that they are expected to have an independent source of income
121 and keep separate budgets even after marriage. She also notes:

122 An important aspect of ideal social personhood for men, women, and chil-
123 dren is the ability to control autonomous resources. Individuals retain full
124 control of their personal earnings and property and, conversely, only have
125 conditional or negotiable access to the resources of even their closest kin.
126 Personal dignity requires that an adult woman be able to dispose of her own
127 income, however modest, without explanation or permission from others.
128 As a positive ideal, this is shared not only by Asantes and other Akans in
129 other occupations, but found very widely throughout West Africa. (p.107)

130 The work of Hill (1975), cited in Guyer, states that: "It is abundantly clear (...) that West
131 African husbands and wives seldom form a unified production unit (...). Of course,
132 this is not to deny that there is much mutual dependence and complementarity within
133 the household." (p.123) Other field studies in West-Africa by Keita (1983), Lecarme-
134 Frassy (2000) and Einarsdottir (2004) also underline a high degree of secrecy in spousal
135 relationships and the independence of wives as to how they manage their income. Le
136 Cour Grandmaison (1971) adds to this:

137 One must underline that women's economic independence is a very widespread
138 custom in West-African societies. They had, and still have, a total indepen-
139 dence in managing wealth inherited from their lineage and in the use of
140 goods they acquired through work. Women's insertion in urban area has
141 not changed this rule and salaried or self-employed women enjoy the same
142 rights. (Translation by the author).

143 Before launching our survey we were aware of the fact that interviewing solely Beni-
144 nese heads of households in order to acquire household level data would not have been
145 appropriate and would most certainly have led to biased estimates. To take account of
146 the fact that a household is a collection of separate and individual economies we had to
147 survey husbands, wives and all other adult members of a household separately and in
148 private.

149 **3 A Non-Cooperative Model**

150 Although we believe that a non-cooperative model better describes Beninese spouses'
151 interactions we do not suggest that members of a couple do not consult together con-
152 cerning the provision of public goods. A minimum of common management is required

153 in a couple with regard to the respective gender roles. Contributions to public goods in
154 Benin are often made according to local social norms, fixing the intra-household alloca-
155 tion of expenses on different items according to gender. As breadwinner, the husband is
156 supposed to provide for house-related expenses (rental fees, repair costs, electricity). In
157 addition, it is up to him to cover the costs of housekeeping, schooling fees, apprentice-
158 ships, and the family's medical bills. The wife's role is to take care of the family, cook
159 and pay for the water. In many cases, the husband's income is not sufficient to cover
160 all the needs of the family which makes it necessary for the wife to spend more on the
161 household than what had been expected from her originally.⁶ In Section 4 we provide
162 descriptive statistics related to several types of public goods expenditure which concur
163 with these social norms.

164 Spouses avoid disclosing information about their income and expenses, in order
165 to keep their earnings out of reach of their spouse and manage them with maximum
166 latitude.⁷ In addition, they try to reduce their contribution to the household's public
167 goods since it is detrimental to their own consumption of private goods. In order to
168 implement this strategy, both spouses hide their income and try to give their partner
169 a blurry image of their earnings. By conveying a distorted downward idea of their
170 income, they attempt to depart from the status-quo public good expenses, fixed by social
171 norms, by foisting on to the other a share of their burden. Were one individual able to
172 know that one's partner were capable of giving more towards the household, he or she
173 would demand to contribute less or claim money for his/her own private consumption.
174 Therefore, neither of the spouses is incited to reveal the true amount of their earnings.

175 We assume that husband and wife cannot enter into binding and costless enforce-
176 able agreements. Interactions within couples are the result of self-enforcing agreements
177 corresponding to individual strategies that the husband and wife choose to carry out.
178 In what follows we lay out a simple model of non-cooperative interaction between hus-
179 band and wife, which allows us to understand how the spouse's income can influence
180 one's pattern of expenditure.⁸

181 We design both spouses by the subscripts $i = h, w$. They allocate their income indi-
182 vidually according to their own preferences and derive utility from consuming a purely
183 private good, x_i , with price normalized to one and from the consumption of a public

⁶For additional details on marital roles see chapter 5 of Falen (2003).

⁷Hiding income can prove to be an easier task than hiding expenses. However, considering that their work takes them to different parts of the city, a large fraction of couples do not interact during working hours. The cost of meals, transportation or medicines, money transfers for relatives or colleagues, gifts for funerals and momentary luxury spending on items such as alcohol and cigarettes can therefore be concealed. Moreover, even larger expenses can be kept from one's spouse knowledge. A woman buying stocks of provisions for storage can keep them out of sight in her shop. Taxi drivers paying for regular motorcycle or car repairs or fishermen buying new equipment can keep their investments hidden.

⁸Ulph (1988) and Rasheed (1996) also present a non-cooperative household decision process with voluntary contributions to a public good.

184 good K which is the sum of their own public good provision k_i , with price p_i , and their
185 spouse's public good provision k_{-i} : $K = k_i + k_{-i}$. For the time being, we make no
186 assumption on the degree of substitutability or complementarity between x_i and K . We
187 make the assumption that $u^i(x_i, K)$ is twice differentiable and increasing in all its argu-
188 ments and concave. Moreover we assume that both private and public goods are nor-
189 mal. The wife receives an exogenous income, I_w , and optimizes her utility by choosing
190 x_w and k_w under the Nash conjecture about her husband's choice such that her budget
191 constraint ($x_w + p_w k_w = I_w$) is satisfied. The solution to this maximization problem
192 can be described by the best-response function of the wife (and can be symmetrically
193 expressed for the husband):⁹

$$k_w^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{k_w} u^w(I_w - p_w k_w, k_w + k_h^*) \quad (1)$$

194 Individual consumptions of private and public goods are functions of prices, per-
195 sonal income and expected spouse's public good provision, which in turn is function
196 itself of spouse's income. What interests us are the differences of impact from a change
197 in I_{-i} and in I_i on k_i . So our objective is to investigate how a person's consumption re-
198 acts to changes in their own income and to changes in their partner's perceived income
199 or expected variation in spouse's public good provision. We aim to make predictions
200 on the difference of magnitudes between these effects. By using the implicit function
201 theorem we find that:

$$\frac{\partial k_w}{\partial I_w} = \frac{(p_h^2 u_{11}^h - 2p_h u_{21}^h + u_{22}^h)(p_w u_{11}^w - u_{21}^w)}{\psi} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial k_w}{\partial I_h} = \frac{(p_w u_{12}^w - u_{22}^w)(p_h u_{11}^h - u_{21}^h)}{\psi} \quad (3)$$

202 where $\psi = (p_h^2 u_{11}^h - 2p_h u_{21}^h + u_{22}^h)(p_w^2 u_{11}^w - 2p_w u_{21}^w + u_{22}^w) - (u_{22}^w - p_w u_{12}^w)(u_{22}^h - p_h u_{12}^h)$

203 In case of independence or complementarity between one's private and own pub-
204 lic good consumptions ($u_{12}^i = 0$ or $u_{12}^i > 0$), it is easy to check that the derivative
205 of equation (2) has a positive sign and the second in equation (3) is negative. In case of
206 substitutability ($u_{12}^i < 0$) the result are less clear-cut. If we assume similarity of spouses'
207 utility functions and a given level of prices one can find a range of substitutability for
208 which the same intuitive signs hold (i.e.: if prices are set to one one needs $u_{22}^i < 3u_{21}^i$ to
209 obtain the same signs). One can rewrite the condition under which the personal income
210 effect on k_w is greater in absolute value than the spouse's income effect:

$$\left| \frac{p_h^2 u_{11}^h - 2p_h u_{21}^h + u_{22}^h}{p_w u_{12}^w - u_{22}^w} \right| > \left| \frac{p_h u_{11}^h - u_{21}^h}{p_w u_{11}^w - u_{21}^w} \right| \quad (4)$$

⁹Here spouses are selfish, meaning that their behaviour is not dictated by altruism, and spouses' in-
terdependence in the marriage operates only through the consumption of the public good. With a similar
framework Bergstrom, Blume and Varian (1986) show that for such a game there exists a Nash equilibrium.

211 For similar utility functions for husband and wife and both prices p_i equal to one,
212 this inequality holds if both private and public goods are independent or complement
213 and also for a wide range of levels of substitutability. This inequality can still hold for
214 various price levels or non-similar utility functions but for restricted ranges of com-
215 plementarity and substitutability. On the basis of these results one can formulate a
216 conjecture which we test empirically in Section 5.

217 Conjecture: For low levels of substitutability or complementarity between
218 one's private and public goods we can expect personal income to have a
219 larger impact on one's consumption pattern than spouse's income.¹⁰

220 For the sake of simplicity, we sketched a one-shot game which we could have in-
221 finitely repeated to model long-term marriage relationships. It is more than plausible
222 that this infinitely repeated stage game has multiple Nash equilibria. Social conven-
223 tions regarding the respective responsibilities of husbands and wives can prompt the
224 spouses towards a particular equilibrium. From this context, as Kreps (1990) points out,
225 there may emerge a self-evident way to contribute to the public goods that can lead to
226 a particular Nash equilibrium.

227 Secrecy among spouses prevents the household from benefitting from efficiency
228 gains usually attainable with the repetition of the game. The Folk theorem indeed
229 claims that cooperative outcomes are sustainable in infinitely repeated non-cooperative
230 games as long as the agents are patient enough. In this case, however, as neither in-
231 comes nor strategies are observable, no such Pareto superior outcome can be reached.
232 Under such conditions, detection of fraud or deviation from the cooperative agreement
233 is rendered impossible. This explains why agents may become trapped in a Pareto in-
234 ferior equilibrium, supported by social norms. The threat points of this game consist
235 mainly of reputation damage: wives might complain to their parents-in-law (and then
236 to their own parents) about their son being unable to provide decent living conditions
237 to his family (see Falen 2003, Chapter 5). A husband, being by custom burdened with
238 most of the responsibility, is in a position to compel his wife to put in a bigger share
239 in the family budget. Should she refuse, she could ultimately face repudiation and its
240 critical consequences.

241 3.1 Methodology

242 We are now about to estimate equation (1) for various types of expenditure in order
243 to check our conjecture. Our setting tells us that individual consumption of private
244 and public goods are functions of price, personal income and expected spouse's pub-
245 lic good contribution. We can thus come up with a linear function to estimate both x_i

¹⁰A similar conjecture can be formulated if the maximisation in equation 1 is done with respect to x_w or if we use a quasi-linear utility function allowing for two different public goods: $u^i = v^i(x_i) + q^i(k_i, k_{-i})$.

246 and k_i in nominal terms that would incorporate these three variables. One may argue
 247 personal income to be found endogenous: other variables contained in the error terms
 248 such as tastes and preferences, which among other things would reflect an inclination
 249 to consume goods rather than leisure, could also be correlated with this regressor. Con-
 250 sequently, we use techniques dealing with endogeneity, instrumenting for personal in-
 251 come. Since k_{-i} is not directly observable we need to find a proxy. Taking the actual k_{-i}
 252 value in our specification would lead to an endogeneity problem: this variable being it-
 253 self a function of the explained variable. A more sensible way to work in order to obtain
 254 consistent and unbiased estimators is to proxy expected spouse's public good provision
 255 by using the spouse's income, I_{-i} . This provides us with an estimation of both income
 256 effects. Despite having advocated widespread secrecy, we can still justify the presence
 257 of spouse's income in our specification. We think that in order to maximize their utility
 258 and manage the joint provision of public goods, spouses make guesses, whether accu-
 259 rate or not, as to their partner's income to be able to gauge k_{-i} . We can therefore rewrite
 260 our specification as follows:

$$x_{ij}, k_{ij} = \alpha_{0j} + \alpha_{1j} \text{income}_i + \alpha_{2j} \text{income}_{-i} + \sum_{r=1}^{R-1} \delta_{rj} z_r + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad (5)$$

261 Semiparametric estimates¹¹ tend to show that the relationship between expenditure
 262 and personal income is linear. However, by way of consistency check we altered our
 263 specification using the natural logarithm of personal income to allow a non-linear re-
 264 lationship (see Section 5.2). To control for potential price effects we use z_r which is a
 265 vector of dummy variables for household district location and ε_{ij} is the error term. Ex-
 266 penditure data are aggregated into five categories denoted by j . They are expressed in
 267 nominal terms and reported on a monthly basis. One of them can be considered a pub-
 268 lic good: food and other daily non-durables (charcoal, gas for cooking, petrol for lamp,
 269 etc). While two other categories have both a private and public goods component which
 270 we cannot disentangle from our data: health (medications, hospital fees, etc) and cloth-
 271 ing. Both include personal expenditure as well as expenses towards the other members
 272 of the household, notably children. The remaining two concern private budget items:
 273 personal expenditure (alcohol, meals out, cigarettes, entertainment, etc) and savings.

274 In equation (1), k_i is function of the spouse's expected public good contribution. By
 275 estimating several public goods expenditure categories with respect to spouse's income,
 276 the interpretation of this coefficient becomes less clear. In a one public good setting the
 277 coefficient meaning is straightforward: income is positively linked to the provision of
 278 that good, and the sign of the marginal effect depends on the level of substitutability or

¹¹We used semiparametric estimates of partial linear regressions (plreg in stata) to linearly control for $x - 1$ independent variables and non-parametrically smoothe a nonlinear function of the x^{th} independent variable.

279 complementarity. However, with multiple public goods, when regressing on a partic-
 280 ular k_{ij} , the marginal spouse's income effect can represent the influence of a variation
 281 of contribution in k_{-ij} or in a different public good, or both. For example, a wife can
 282 react to her husband's expected increase in medication expenditure by varying her own
 283 health expenditure or by varying her expenditure on daily food. In this case, we should
 284 interpret the $income_{-i}$ coefficient as the marginal effect from a variation in the spouse's
 285 aggregate level of public good provision. If we think that public goods contributions
 286 are somehow separate from one another then the interpretation is simplified. The co-
 287 efficient of $income_{-i}$ on k_{ij} can be read as the marginal effect of an expected change in
 288 k_{-ij} . Whether categories of public goods expenses are isolated from one another has to
 289 be checked with formal tests. This would require panel data which we lack. In any case,
 290 interpretations of results presented in Section 5 should be made keeping that in mind.

291 We enrich our specification in (5) by adding a variable *household size* and a series
 292 of variables dem_v which represent the number of persons of demographic groups v in
 293 the household (female aged between 16-59, children aged between 6 and 15, younger
 294 than 6, older than 60, etc). The idea being that one individual may spend one's income
 295 differently according to the demographic distribution within the household. These vari-
 296 ables are standard in this type of analysis. We also add a dummy variable *polygamous*
 297 to control for unaccounted effects that could come from households practicing polygyny
 298 (details regarding this are presented in the next section). Our new specification takes
 299 the following form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_{ij}, k_{ij} = & \alpha_{0j} + \alpha_{1j} income_i + \alpha_{2j} income_{-i} + \alpha_{3j} polygamous_i + \\
 & + \alpha_{4j} householdsize_i + \sum_{r=1}^{R-1} \delta_{rj} z_r + \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \lambda_{vj} dem_r + \varepsilon_{ij}
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

300 4 Description of our Survey

301 Our data collection took place during the first three months of 2004 in the two districts
 302 of Vossa and Enagnon located on the outskirts of Cotonou (a city of about 1.1 million
 303 inhabitants). Respectively of 63 and 60.1 ha, both districts are known to the city's au-
 304 thorities to be the poorest. Apart from an adjacent slum called Enagnon-plage, Enagnon
 305 has been divided into plots in 1998. Vossa and Enagnon are near downtown Cotonou
 306 where a large portion of their inhabitants work and commute everyday.

307 Our survey covered 497 households: 110 in Vossa and 387 in Enagnon (of which
 308 114 are located in Enagnon-plage). The selection of every household was carried out
 309 randomly. Enumerators were required, for all members older than fifteen, to fill in a
 310 form detailing expenses destined for clothing and health during the past six months

311 and to produce precise information regarding food and personal expenditure for the
312 previous week.¹² Our survey also contains a series of questions related to the use of
313 savings vehicles and the amount of money put into each of these.¹³ In Cotonou, var-
314 ious means are available for securing savings. On the one hand, for the vast majority
315 of poor inhabitants only informal institutions are accessible, such as itinerant bankers
316 or money collectors, insurance groups (see LeMay-Boucher (2008)) and rotating savings
317 and credit associations (roscas). On the other hand, less risky savings vehicles such as
318 bank accounts are only available to wealthy individuals since formal financial institu-
319 tions charge substantial fees. Whether these savings are to be used for the purchase of
320 a private or public good is difficult to predict. However, Dagnelie and LeMay-Boucher
321 (2008), by analyzing roscas in Cotonou establish that the "pot" is mainly used for small
322 business investments and private consumption. It would then be fairly accurate to think
323 of savings as an expenditure of no direct benefit to the spouse.

324 In order to privately tackle tricky issues related to expense or income, all members of
325 each household were interviewed separately. Particular attention was thus put on con-
326 fidentiality in order to obtain maximal accuracy and our enumerators strictly abided by
327 those rules. Additional details on our survey methodology can be found in Appendix
328 A. Overall, households represent 2083 individuals. Among them, only 572 are mem-
329 bers of a couple, this remaining sample being divided into 292 women and 280 men. It
330 is important to note that members of couples considered here are those for which both
331 spouses were surveyed. This means that both spouses live in the same household - at
332 least to a certain extent - and thus have regular interactions. We therefore discarded
333 couples for which one spouse was living elsewhere.

334 Considering that there are polygamous households, our dataset includes more women
335 than men (polygamy takes the sole form of polygyny in our sample). A significant share
336 (21%) of all individuals are involved in polygyny. However, this does not translate into
337 a wide gap in terms of gender proportions in our survey (51%/49%) nor into a signifi-
338 cant difference of polygynous individuals across genders given that many polygynous
339 husbands live in the presence of only one wife. Therefore, only one wife was surveyed
340 except for a few rare households (eleven in total) for which several wives per husband
341 were registered in our database. Polygyny could appear to be a concern with respect to
342 the modelling of the intra-household decision process put forward previously. The fact
343 that this brings in additional players could complicate the resolution of the game (pos-
344 sibility of collusions, etc). However, seeing how polygyny works in Benin, we think
345 it should not raise any questions where our estimations are concerned. Falen (2003)
346 describes how spouses interact while involved in daily activities. According to his ac-

¹²Information was also collected as to schooling expenditure, but high censoring rates prevented us from treating it as an additional expenditure category

¹³Savings accumulated outside of these vehicles -notably those stashed under the mattress- were not reported or computed.

347 count, and to our own informal interviews, a polygynous household can be considered
348 as consisting of many separated couples. Through various ways the husband makes
349 sure that each of his wives knows as little as possible with respect to his involvement
350 with the other(s). Moreover, as jealousy is widespread among wives of polygynous hus-
351 bands, seldom do they interact and share daily expenses or public good expenditure.
352 Every one of them is inclined to care for her own offspring and manage her household
353 separately. Dissension among wives is a source of concern. Falen reports: "because
354 of co-wife jealousy, a polygynous man may invite one wife to live in his own house,
355 while renting a house elsewhere for other wives. If he has multiple wives living in
356 his compound, he must provide separate lodging for each one." (p.57) For polygynous
357 households we thus consider, for regression purposes, the relationship between the hus-
358 band and each one of his wives independently. For the eleven households for which we
359 have data on several (or all) wives, we allocate the same value for spouse's income to
360 each wife. For husbands, we attribute an average over all of his wives' incomes. Other-
361 wise the vast majority of polygynous husbands live with only one wife making it thus
362 impossible for us to compute an average. Hence, the previous non-cooperative model
363 we sketched should still be adequate in describing multiple one-to-one relationships
364 among polygynous households. In order to empirically ensure that polygyny does not
365 affect our results, we carry out our regressions introducing a dummy for members of
366 polygamous households (respectively 56 and 68 individuals for the husbands and wives
367 subsamples).

368 Table 1 shows descriptive statistics of all types of budget expenditure, spouses char-
369 acteristics and households composition. It appears that men are on average significantly
370 older and more educated. They also have larger levels of expenditure for all types of
371 budget expenditure except savings. Proportionately, men and women show no signif-
372 icant differences in their use of savings devices. These figures are in accordance with
373 the local social norms in terms of public goods provision described earlier. Aside from
374 these broad expenditure categories, we collected data on several other precise budget
375 items for which the proportion of zero values is too large to be of any econometric
376 use. Notwithstanding that, these data also emphasize the social norms previously men-
377 tioned: out of 31 non-null expenditures dedicated to house repairs, 28 are made by the
378 husbands. We have the following proportions of non-null expenditure, for electricity:
379 124 husband / 14 wives and rent: 94 husbands / 3 wives. Table 2 displays the censoring
380 levels for each of our expenditure categories and the proportions of expenditure that are
381 strictly greater for the husband than for the wife. As can be observed, censoring levels
382 are important for both health and saving, and only for the latter is there no majority of
383 couples in which husbands spend strictly more than wives.

384 5 Estimating Expenditure Functions

385 In Tables 3 to 6 we present our estimates of equation (6) with OLS, Tobit, 2SLS and
386 IV Tobit. In each table, the first column displays estimates related to food and other
387 daily non-durables (estimated by OLS and 2SLS). The other four columns exhibit es-
388 timates which take account of the censoring of the other categories and are estimated
389 using Tobit (with and without instrumentation). The Tobit model is appropriate if we
390 consider that zero values are corner solutions for households which, given their prefer-
391 ences, chose not to consume due to realized prices and income.¹⁴ Estimates are obtained
392 on two subsamples: husbands and wives. Combining both would certainly have en-
393 riched our results. However, regressing on this aggregate sample would have required
394 a series of household dummies, to capture intrahousehold unaccounted for interactions
395 and specificities, which created a problem of weak instruments for all our potential
396 candidates. Preliminary tests indicate that our estimates suffer from heteroskedasticity,
397 which we correct for. Outliers in the form of bad leverage points were identified and
398 given lesser weight /or/ discarded using the technique described in Verardi and Croux
399 (2008) for robust estimation. This explains why sample size differs from one category
400 to another.

401 Tables 3 and 4 report the results for both the husbands and wives subsamples us-
402 ing OLS and Tobit estimating techniques. These results do not take into account the
403 potential endogeneity of the variable personal income. For the subsample of husbands,
404 income has a positive and significant impact for every category. Spouse's income has
405 a significant and positive impact only on food and superfluous expenses. Differences
406 in significance tend to show that personal income has a more widespread impact on
407 one's pattern of consumption than spouse's income. However, it appears that both in-
408 come and spouse's income coefficients are not significantly different at a ten percent
409 level, except for savings. As to the subsample of wives, we find stronger results. In this
410 case, spouse's income is never significant and for all items its coefficient is significantly
411 smaller than the one on income.

412 Tables 5 to 6 present the results for both subsamples using 2SLS and IV Tobit. The
413 last line of each table reveals the coefficients and standard errors of our instrumental
414 variable used in the first stage regression where personal income is the dependent vari-
415 able. Our identifying instrument, a dummy taking value one if an individual has been
416 living in the neighbourhood for at least 24 months, is strongly significant for all cate-
417 gories. Intuitively there are reasons to expect this variable to be correlated with income

¹⁴Another explanation for zeroes is infrequent purchase. Some of the goods may be consumed during the survey period but not necessarily purchased at that time. In this case a purchase-infrequency model is indicated as it treats zeroes as resulting from the durable nature of a good. This can apply to two of our expenditure categories: health and clothing. This phenomenon however seems unlikely since we collected data on consumption over a period of six months prior to interviewing.

418 (spending time in a neighbourhood helps create a network and potential earning op-
419 portunities) while at the same time it can reasonably be considered independent from
420 tastes and preferences. This does not in itself guarantee a successful identification of the
421 second stage estimation. In order to ensure that our 2SLS estimations have acceptable
422 properties, we carry out some checks. Our estimates may indeed suffer an important
423 bias if the instrument is only weakly correlated with the endogenous variable. Since
424 the Cragg-Donald statistics based weak-instrument test does not apply in the presence
425 of heteroskedasticity, we cannot refer to the critical values put forward by Stock and
426 Yogo (2005) to evaluate the strength of our instrument. Hence, we turn to the robust
427 version of this test: the Kleibergen-Paap rk F-statistic. As Baum et al (2007) note, our
428 statistics should be compared to the value 10, the "rule of thumb" given by Staiger and
429 Stock (1997). Our statistics of 9.80 and 10.29 respectively for the husbands and wives
430 subsamples are close to this threshold. This indicates that weak instruments need not
431 be regarded as a crucial problem here.

432 Results from 2SLS and IV Tobit shown in Tables 5 and 6 point out that for the sub-
433 sample of husbands personal income has a positive and significant impact on only three
434 expenditure categories: food, superfluous expenditure and savings. For all items our
435 2SLS and instrumented Tobit estimates reveal that spouse's income has no significant
436 impact on expenditure. Similarly to our previous estimates, both income and spouse's
437 income coefficients are not significantly different at a ten percent level, except for sav-
438 ings. As for the subsample of wives we find that, apart from health, personal income
439 is significant in explaining the pattern of expenditure across all categories. Spouse's
440 income is not significant for all items and save for health, its coefficient is significantly
441 smaller than on income.

442 Results from the subsample of wives validate our conjecture since for all expenditure
443 categories - except for health in the case of instrumented regressions - personal income
444 has a larger impact in absolute value than spouse's income. Not only are spouse's in-
445 come coefficients not significant across items but they are also significantly smaller than
446 personal income coefficient. As far as our conjecture is concerned, the results are less
447 clear-cut for the husbands subsample. Personal income is widely significant contrarily
448 to spouse's income while both appear to be of similar magnitude, with the exception of
449 savings. However, these results confirm that both private and public goods contribu-
450 tions are indepent from spouse's income. Thus, irrespective of the nature of the good,
451 whether public or private, consumption appears to be isolated from spouse's influence
452 which fits our separate spheres framework.

453 5.1 Quantile regressions

454 When addressing this issue of what determines expenses for different kinds of goods,
455 the mean could be influenced by extreme points at the right tail of the distribution. It

456 therefore seems relevant to go beyond the mean and two-stage least squares or instru-
457 mented Tobit techniques. It is in fact more than plausible that individuals in the lower
458 quantiles of the distribution act or react differently than those in the higher quantiles.
459 This is all the more true given that a non-negligible number of individuals in our sample
460 choose not to spend on some budget items. We indeed observe censoring in most of the
461 expenditure categories - the only non-censored item being 'food and other non-durable
462 expenses'.

463 A suitable method for investigating this question is the Censored Quantile Instru-
464 mental Variables (CQIV) estimator developed by Chernozhukov and Kowalski (2007)
465 and put to use by Kowalski (2007) which simultaneously takes account of endogeneity
466 and censoring and therefore produces non-biased estimates. They propose to use, as a
467 first step, the control function approach to correct for endogeneity. The residuals from
468 the first step are then to be included with all the endogenous and exogenous variables in
469 the three-step censored quantile regression estimator developed by Chernozhukov and
470 Hong (2002). Moreover, contrary to IV Tobit which is likely to be inconsistent in this
471 case, CQIV does not rest on distributional assumptions for handling censoring. We also
472 resort to Lee's estimator (2007) combining the control function approach with quantile
473 regressions for the only non-censored budget item.

474 Tables 7 to 11 display quantile regression estimates for all the expenditure categories.
475 In all tables, we present bootstrapped standard errors obtained after 500 replications.
476 Although the results for the male subsample are less compelling, the female subsam-
477 ple largely confirms what has been put forward previously. Since the coefficients on
478 spouse's income are almost never significant, as opposed to those on income, spouses'
479 financial spheres appear once again to be isolated from one another. Moreover, as long
480 as the coefficient on *income* is significant at a 5% level¹⁵, the difference with the coeffi-
481 cient on *spouse's income* is also significant.

482 5.2 Other Consistency Checks

483 One may regard estimating equation by equation as inappropriate considering that all
484 expenditure decisions are made simultaneously with respect to a given income. Mean-
485 ing that if you increase the expenses for one budget item, it will affect the others. Es-
486 timations should then be carried out on a system of equations. We thus perform a
487 three-stage estimation for systems of simultaneous equations that integrates all five
488 expenditure categories and instruments the endogenous variable *income*. Results (not
489 displayed) confirm our previous conclusions with respect to our conjecture and our
490 separate spheres framework. We also run the same system of equations considering

¹⁵However, in the male subsample, two differences are not significant regarding the superfluous ex-
penses category.

491 simultaneously the endogeneity of *income* and *spouse's income*.¹⁶ Results are similar for
492 females while the coefficients of *income* lose significance in the male subsample.

493 We also ran similar regressions including the natural log of income instead of in-
494 come in level in order to mimic a potential non-linear relationship with expenditure
495 categories. Results for our 2SLS and instrumented Tobit - using the same instrument
496 as for income - lead to similar outcomes: expenditure categories are positively and sig-
497 nificantly influenced by one own's income, and spouse's income is generally not sig-
498 nificant.¹⁷ As to the significance of difference in magnitude between coefficients on the
499 logarithms of income and spouse's income, we also obtain similar results as for levels.

500 Alternative specifications were explored by adding variables such as *age* and *educa-*
501 *tion*. *Education* can be suspected of affecting spending pattern (in this case we used *No*
502 *education* a dummy taking value one if individual has not attended primary school) and
503 *age* may reflect the fact that irrespective of the household's demographic distribution,
504 young individuals have different expenditure patterns from those of long established
505 household members. Education was found to have no impact throughout the set of
506 regressions while age prevented us from finding adequate instruments. However, in
507 all of the regressions, whether or not correcting for endogeneity, the inclusion of both
508 variables did not alter our overall conclusions.

509 The body of evidence gathered from our various estimations tends to indicate that
510 spouse's income is not significant when taking into consideration endogeneity and cen-
511 soring. Therefore, private goods consumption as well as public goods contributions
512 appear to be safe from spouse's influence. These pieces of evidence give credit to our
513 separate spheres framework.

514 6 Conclusion

515 What our empirical investigations reveal is that our conjecture is verified in the case
516 of the females subsample and to a lesser extent for the males subsample. Furthermore
517 our estimates confirm that spouses' financial spheres are disconnected. For almost all
518 our private and public goods expenditure categories spouse's income appears to be not
519 significant in explaining one's individual consumption allocation. Therefore, raising
520 marginally the wife's income would influence her private and public consumption ac-
521 cording to her own preferences, and not those of her husband. This would barely affect
522 her husband's provision of public goods based on his best response function. Our find-
523 ings are robust to changes in functional forms and to three-step simultaneous equations

¹⁶The instruments are dummies taking a value of one if duration in the area exceeds 24 months for the individual and the spouse respectively.

¹⁷In the female case, the Kleibergen-Paap statistics indicates that weak instrument might constitute a concern.

524 estimations, and remain true across a majority of the non-censored quantiles. They in-
525 dicate that members of a couple are secretive and relatively independent and that their
526 union is best depicted as interdependence through the consumption of public goods.

527 This investigation highlights important policy implications. If policy makers were to
528 aim at raising women's financial capability, they could simply transfer money directly
529 to them. Risk of leakage into their husband's pocket is indeed minimized since spouses
530 do not pool income and households appear to be a collection of separate economies.
531 Increasing a certain type of public good expenditure would imply considering social
532 conventions regarding the respective responsibilities of husbands and wives, and the
533 potential spouse's income effects that we emphasized.

534

APPENDIX

535 **A Survey Methodology**

536 We selected households according to a random process. In Enagnon we succeeded in
537 obtaining a map of the city and performed a simple selection of lots according to an
538 implemented random process. In this district it is common for households to live on the
539 same lot in semi-detached rooms. Our enumerators selected one room per lot according
540 to a clock-wise selection varying from lot to lot (for the first lot of the day they selected
541 the first room clock-wise, for the following one the second room clockwise and so on).
542 In Enagnon-plage and Vossa we used a pseudo-random process by which every tenth
543 lot according to a specific direction was picked and then room selections were done
544 in a similar fashion to Enagnon. Overall, only 3 households categorically refused to
545 be surveyed and were replaced by other randomly selected households. Enumerators
546 were asked to pass several times and at different moments of the day, until contacts were
547 established in such a way that none of the selected households were skipped. The most
548 qualified of our enumerators also acted as a supervisor and visited many households
549 already interviewed in order to check the accuracy of the responses. Other than that we
550 analysed every completed questionnaire closely. Several appointments were held with
551 each team of enumerators and in case of incoherence or lack of answers we regularly
552 sent them back on the field. Questionnaires often needed successive rounds of checks
553 until final approval. As mentioned above we emphasized the fact that the interview
554 with every single household member had to be carried in his/her sole presence in order
555 to get as precise and reliable information as possible. Fear of divulging information in
556 front of other members would have led individuals to lie or to refuse to answer. On
557 average our four teams of two enumerators completed eight questionnaires a day. The
558 taking account of intra-household secrecy greatly lengthened the survey by requiring
559 specific appointments with each adult member. We compensated every household for
560 their time by donating 1500 francs CFA.

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	Sample in Couple		Female in Couple		Male in Couple	
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.
<u>Expenditure in 1000 CFA francs (monthly):</u>						
Food & non durable expenses	46.60	32.17	37.76	23.45	55.83	37.11
Health	16.79	42.35	6.57	18.55	27.44	55.57
Clothing	22.42	27.84	18.45	20.58	26.57	33.33
Personal expenditure	2.76	2.70	1.82	1.72	3.73	3.16
Expenses in savings devices	12.27	27.58	10.61	15.71	14.00	35.97
Income	70.03	72.48	55.34	33.23	85.36	95.59
<u>Spouses characteristics:</u>						
Female	0.51	0.50	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Polygamous	0.21	0.41	0.23	0.42	0.20	0.40
Age	38.27	11.77	34.90	10.35	41.79	12.14
Not educated	0.46	0.50	0.66	0.48	0.26	0.44
Household size	5.19	2.34	5.28	2.44	5.09	2.24
Vossa	0.28	0.45	0.28	0.45	0.29	0.45
Enagnon	0.46	0.50	0.46	0.50	0.45	0.50
<u>Number of households members:</u>						
Male, aged 16 - 59	1.37	0.93	1.39	0.97	1.35	0.89
Female, aged 16 - 59	1.39	0.78	1.42	0.81	1.36	0.74
Children, aged 6 - 15	1.45	1.53	1.50	1.56	1.40	1.51
Children younger than 6	0.85	0.87	0.84	0.86	0.88	0.88
Members older than 60	0.10	0.35	0.10	0.35	0.10	0.34
Number of observations	572		292		280	

Table 1: Individual Characteristics

	Censoring		$y_H > y_W$
	Husband	Wife	
Expenses			223 (80%)
Health	33%	56%	176 (63%)
Clothing	18%	16%	161 (58%)
Superfluous expenses	5%	9%	220 (79%)
Savings	34%	29%	120 (43%)
N	280	292	

Table 2: Censoring levels of the dependent variables

	Food	Health	Clothing	Superfluous expenses	Savings
Income	.261 ***(.0717)	.146 **(.0621)	.0608***(.0214)	.0158 ***(.00297)	.13 ***(.0315)
Spouse income	.247 ***(.0708)	.133 (.125)	.028 (.0736)	.0138 **(.00535)	.0096 (.0501)
Polygamous household	11.3 ** (5.42)	8.66 (14)	5.38 (4.74)	.575 (.428)	-3.8 (3.66)
Size of the household	4.08 (3.21)	2.65 (5.03)	-1.17 (2.27)	-.0911 (.179)	-1.15 (1.47)
Female aged between 16 and 59	-4.24 (6.01)	1.3 (7.99)	4.9 (4.27)	-.149 (.319)	-1.65 (2.68)
Children aged between 6 and 15	-5.85 (3.67)	-2.07 (5.84)	.375 (2.82)	-.26 (.203)	1.44 (1.69)
Younger than 6	-.756 (2.89)	7.19 (6.49)	3.09 (2.96)	.157 (.208)	3.32 * (1.77)
Older than 59	-10.1*** (3.41)	15.3 (11.8)	-8.49 * (4.61)	-.594 (.423)	-4.18 (3.34)
Vossa	-2.37 (3.56)	10.6 (11.6)	8.32 * (4.77)	-.348 (.319)	-.462 (3.23)
Enagnon	12 *** (3.77)	-2.2 (9)	9.44 ** (3.92)	.562 * (.295)	-1.28 (3.03)
Constant	9.49 (6.96)	-31.6** (13.9)	4.83 (5.68)	2.2 *** (.452)	1.67 (4.26)
Number of observations	273	275	277	275	271

Table 3: Coefficients for different budget items with OLS and Tobit for Males

	Food	Health	Clothing	Superfluous expenses	Savings
Income	.48 ***(.0408)	.223 ***(.0805)	.249 ***(.0536)	.0299 *** (.0031)	.225 ***(.0483)
Spouse income	.0109 (.0145)	-.041 (.0253)	.00688 (.0149)	.00116 (.00094)	.00828 (.0146)
Polygamous household	2.61 (2.53)	3.66 (5.11)	1.99 (3.3)	.249 (.225)	2.7 (2.59)
Size of the household	3.47 ** (1.7)	2.98 (3.41)	.605 (1.6)	-.107 (.113)	-.506 (1.27)
Female aged between 16 and 59	-1.83 (2.36)	-3.14 (4.98)	-2.46 (3.27)	.163 (.216)	1.89 (2.25)
Children aged between 6 and 15	-3.22 (1.98)	-4.31 (4.56)	.214 (1.91)	.0906 (.127)	1.05 (1.28)
Younger than 6	-4.39 ** (1.85)	-5.11 (4.91)	-.419 (2.02)	.0443 (.135)	.328 (1.33)
Older than 59	-5.55 ** (2.6)	1.63 (4.77)	-2.41 (2.66)	.278 (.298)	.528 (2.38)
Vossa	-1.65 (2.27)	5.88 (6.4)	9.8 *** (2.68)	-.638 *** (.198)	-2.44 (1.93)
Enagnon	3.97 * (2.05)	1.67 (4.5)	11.3 *** (2.99)	-.00708 (.197)	-3.6 * (1.99)
Constant	1.77 (3.95)	-22.3*** (8.33)	-6.17 (4)	.247 (.273)	-6.19 * (3.2)
Number of observations	290	292	290	290	287

Table 4: Coefficients for different budget items with OLS and Tobit for Females

	Food	Health	Clothing	Superfluous expenses	Savings
Income	.312 * (.181)	-.473 (.583)	-.0659 (.287)	.048 ** (.023)	.622 ** (.267)
Spouse income	.214 (.131)	.594 (.476)	.149 (.289)	-.0111 (.0194)	-.27 (.165)
Polygamous household	10 (7.05)	31 (27.8)	9.25 (9.67)	-.354 (.859)	-13.4 (8.17)
Size of the household	3.62 (3.23)	5.57 (6.84)	-.586 (2.75)	-.187 (.285)	-6.42 (3.93)
Female aged between 16 and 59	-3.74 (5.58)	-.79 (10.8)	3.96 (5.1)	-.219 (.527)	6.54 (6.4)
Children aged between 6 and 15	-5.55 (3.42)	-4.14 (7.17)	.161 (3.12)	-.211 (.279)	5.6 (3.52)
Younger than 6	-.395 (2.94)	4.55 (7.56)	2.05 (4.01)	.271 (.294)	7.71 * (4.07)
Older than 59	-9.43 ** (3.86)	6.04 (15.6)	-11.3 (8.24)	-.026 (.674)	1.11 (5.53)
Vossa	-2.18 (3.53)	11.1 (12.9)	10.1 (6.41)	-.367 (.396)	1.67 (4.66)
Enagnon	12.2 *** (3.69)	.217 (10.6)	10.5 ** (4.93)	.465 (.385)	2.39 (4.84)
Constant	8.37 (7.12)	-20.1 (17.8)	6.65 (7.44)	1.66 ** (.686)	-14.3 (10.1)
Income instrumented by:					
Duration in the area > 24 months	21.29*** (6.8)	22.8 *** (6.76)	25.9 *** (7.79)	22.7 *** (7.05)	21.8 *** (6.3)
Number of observations	273	275	277	275	271

Table 5: Coefficients for different budget items with 2SLS and IVTobit for Males

	Food	Health	Clothing	Superfluous expenses	Savings
Income	.746 *** (.201)	.579 (.427)	.577 *** (.217)	.0612 *** (.0195)	.833 *** (.24)
Spouse income	-.0192 (.0248)	-.0917 (.0682)	-.0366 (.0334)	-.00237 (.0024)	-.067 (.0417)
Polygamous household	1.24 (2.91)	2.17 (5.75)	.795 (4.05)	.0889 (.308)	.113 (3.83)
Size of the household	3.28 * (1.68)	2.57 (3.42)	.402 (1.86)	-.13 (.135)	-.558 (1.9)
Female aged between 16 and 59	-2.73 (2.51)	-3.9 (5.34)	-3.52 (3.74)	.0564 (.273)	-.137 (3.67)
Children aged between 6 and 15	-3.59 * (1.99)	-4.5 (4.69)	-.131 (2.13)	.0487 (.151)	.154 (2.1)
Younger than 6	-3.5 * (1.96)	-3.85 (4.94)	.656 (2.28)	.149 (.174)	2.06 (2.34)
Older than 59	-6.46 ** (2.85)	.489 (5.36)	-3.45 (3)	.175 (.284)	-1.68 (3.57)
Vossa	1.63 (3.56)	10.1 (8.17)	13.7 *** (3.79)	-.255 (.325)	4.75 (4.03)
Enagnon	6.41 ** (3.09)	4.16 (5.41)	13.7 *** (3.69)	.281 (.308)	1.51 (3.81)
Constant	-9.62 (9.54)	-37 * (19.4)	-20.1 ** (9.25)	-1.09 (.912)	-33.3*** (11.1)
Income instrumented by:					
Duration in the area > 24 months	11.32 *** (3.53)	12 *** (3.61)	12.4 *** (3.6)	11.3 *** (3.47)	12 *** (3.57)
Number of observations	290	292	290	290	287

Table 6: Coefficients for different budget items with 2SLS and IVTobit for Females

	Male				Female				
	Income		Spouse income		Income		Spouse income		
10	0.336	(0.272)	0.035	(0.246)	0.727	***	(0.265)	-0.0321	(0.0449)
20	0.232	(0.246)	0.107	(0.244)	0.907	***	(0.270)	-0.0558	(0.0368)
30	0.258	(0.232)	0.151	(0.157)	0.766	***	(0.277)	-0.0204	(0.0357)
40	0.273	(0.242)	0.215	(0.384)	0.761	***	(0.246)	-0.0260	(0.0321)
50	0.188	(0.232)	0.266	(0.185)	0.706	***	(0.193)	-0.0122	(0.0330)
60	0.333	(0.246)	0.243	(0.195)	0.774	***	(0.202)	-0.0190	(0.0367)
70	0.353	(0.242)	0.314	(0.191)	0.821	***	(0.257)	0.0263	(0.0427)
80	0.370	(0.482)	0.280	(0.379)	0.882	***	(0.323)	0.0188	(0.0459)
90	0.489	(0.533)	0.288	(0.399)	1.030	***	(0.392)	-0.0075	(0.0504)

Table 7: Expenses: quantile regressions - endogeneity corrected with control function

	Male				Female				
	Income		Spouse income		Income		Spouse income		
40	-0.292	(0.198)	0.343	* (0.180)					
50	-0.298	(0.311)	0.422	(0.295)					
60									
70	-0.641	(0.454)	0.738	* (0.382)	0.129	(0.130)	-0.0164	(0.0203)	
80					0.224	(0.206)	-0.0291	(0.0331)	
90	0.272	(1.360)	-0.036	(0.990)	0.971	** (0.400)	-0.1290	** (0.0648)	

Table 8: Health: CQIV

	Male				Female			
	Income		Spouse income		Income		Spouse income	
20	0.345	(0.215)	-0.322	(0.228)	0.155	(0.199)	-0.0055	(0.0359)
30					0.337	** (0.152)	-0.0276	(0.0299)
40	0.119	(0.375)	-0.039	(0.361)	0.450	** (0.200)	-0.0343	(0.0333)
50	0.283	(0.555)	-0.376	(0.525)	0.587	*** (0.219)	-0.0289	(0.0326)
60	0.016	(0.353)	0.069	(0.343)	0.585	*** (0.227)	-0.0319	(0.0346)
70	-0.046	(0.415)	0.110	(0.411)	0.741	*** (0.234)	-0.0588	(0.0318)
80	-0.454	(0.480)	0.535	(0.501)	0.702	*** (0.270)	-0.0409	(0.0380)
90	0.124	(0.753)	0.205	(0.754)	0.738	* (0.435)	0.0054	(0.0775)

Table 9: Clothing: CQIV

	Male					Female				
	Income		Spouse income			Income		Spouse income		
10	0.047	*	(0.025)	-0.0120	(0.0200)	0.053	(0.041)	-0.0027	(0.0047)	
20	0.040		(0.025)	-0.0075	(0.0196)	0.030	(0.019)	0.0004	(0.0023)	
30	0.061	**	(0.027)	-0.0187	(0.0226)	0.037	**	(0.018)	-0.0006	(0.0054)
40	0.058	**	(0.029)	-0.0182	(0.0227)	0.048	**	(0.019)	-0.0018	(0.0024)
50	0.053	*	(0.030)	-0.0223	(0.0244)	0.048	**	(0.021)	-0.0014	(0.0028)
60						0.049	**	(0.022)	-0.0016	(0.0029)
70	0.061	**	(0.030)	-0.0162	(0.0240)	0.068	**	(0.028)	-0.0028	(0.0047)
80	0.083	**	(0.032)	-0.0338	(0.0277)	0.102	***	(0.034)	-0.0044	(0.0084)
90	0.195	***	(0.041)	-0.1250	***	(0.0333)	0.057	(0.038)	-0.0001	(0.0047)

Table 10: Superfluous expenses: CQIV

	Male					Female					
	Income		Spouse income			Income		Spouse income			
40						0.245	*	(0.134)	-0.0075	(0.0644)	
50	0.191		(0.204)	-0.084	(0.113)	0.329	**	(0.129)	-0.0166	(0.0215)	
60	0.981	*	(0.531)	-0.493	*	(0.293)	0.495	***	(0.128)	-0.0333	(0.0212)
70	0.583	***	(0.151)	-0.277	***	(0.107)	0.497	***	(0.128)	-0.0303	(0.0282)
80	0.676	***	(0.206)	-0.282	**	(0.122)	0.741	***	(0.178)	-0.0490	(0.0372)
90	0.981	***	(0.286)	-0.392	**	(0.182)	0.978	***	(0.226)	-0.0809	(0.0516)

Table 11: Savings: CQIV