The Strength of Media: Impact of TV on Gender Equality in Education of Afghanistan

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After falling of Taliban regime on 2001, yet the Afghanistan's educational system remains a challenge for both boys and girls, particularly cultural restrictions and operational systems are the biggest barriers in front of girl's education in Afghanistan from devaluating of education for females to the lack of instructors. On the other side the rapid growth of digital media; especially television in Afghanistan has given a good opportunity for the viewers to get new information, familiarities with the culture and ways of life of other countries, which affects their behaviours and attitudes.

This paper examines the impact of television on gender equality in education of Afghanistan as well as the number of female enrolment in primary schools. Seven year, district-level panel dataset taken from the survey of Afghan people from 2006 to 2018 by Asia Foundation, was used in this analysis. Two stage least square method employed for the empirical analysis of this paper and access to government electricity is used as an instrumental variable assuming of an exogenous given condition.

The results of this study indicates that there is a positive significant impact of TV viewers on supporting for gender equality in education. The results also show a positive and significant increase in the number female's enrolment in primary school. Moreover, it is found that TV has a significant impact on reduction of family size that control the population growth and economic expansion. The results recommend that the government should enact a policy that all the television channels should have at least one program that broadcast the developed countries attitudes towards the female education. The results also suggest that the government should focus on electricity infrastructure in order to increase the accessing to television substantially.