

LEXICOGRAPHIC SON PREFERENCE IN VIETNAM

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Abstract: Using Vietnamese Household Living Standard Survey 2006, the paper examines lexicographic son preference, a type of gender preference when parents prefer at least one son regardless number of daughters. The research suggests that lexicographic son preference remains its significance in Vietnam. More specifically, it is one son preference. Without son, mothers are under substantial pressure of having next child at the earliest time. In contrast, families with at least one son do not take the current sex composition of their children into the decision of both fertility timing and family size.

JEL Classification: J11 • J12 • J13

JEA Classification: J • L • U

Key words: Son preference • Sex composition • Fertility

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