

ABSTRACT

Higher education is an important investment in human capital; however, access and completion of higher education remain strongly influenced by family conditions. This study examines the impact of family structure disruption, particularly single-parent status, on children's probability of participating in and completing higher education in Indonesia. Using data from the 2023 Survei Sosial Ekonomi Nasional (Susenas) and a linear probability model approach, this study controls various child, parental, and household characteristics to isolate the effect of family structure. The results indicate that children from single-parent households have a lower probability of both participating in and completing higher education compared to those from intact families. Furthermore, the analysis reveals heterogeneous effects based on the cause of parental separation. Parental divorce is found to have a stronger effect on children's participation in higher education, while parental death is more strongly associated with barriers to the completion of higher education. Overall, these findings highlight the important role of family structure in shaping children's higher education outcomes in Indonesia.

Keywords: Single-Parent Status, Higher Education Outcomes, Family Structure Disruption, Linear Probability Model

JEL Classification: J12, I21, I24

