Comments on “Rationed fertility theory and evidence”

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Interesting question: human capital and the birth control policy
  
  Idea: education difference of twins birth in regulated and un-regulated groups
  
  Finding: lower education in un-regulated family
The model

How to think the hypothesis in the model?

The model prediction is not so clear:

- The relationship of $\bar{n}$ and education actually depends on the utility function specification, as well as the technology of raising the quality (in the budget constraint)

From the simulation result, at the optimal fertility rate, the quality also reaches the peak

- It is a coincidence?
- Does the model assume an inverted U shape between quality and family size?
- Unregulated family (large family), when having twins, is more likely to cross the peak
How to evaluate the birth control policy?

- If the quality and family size has a monotonistic decline trend (rather than a U shape), but the marginal effect of quantity on quality is declining as well
  - Do we have a similar observation?
  - Unregulated family, when having twins, the observed quality is lower as well
- But the welfare implication of the birth control policy, in these two cases, are very different
The Hypothesis to test

- In the family controls, the income/wellath is not controlled
  - Do Han people and minority Chinese have different income levels?
- Can we estimate the desire of family size?
  - the family size of their relatives, neighbours?
  - The effect should be observed at the marginal family