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Title: The Impact of Child Support, Foster Care and Care Dependency Grants on Time Use in South Africa

The traditional concept of well-being only gives attention to materials goods and services. However, well-being is also about ‘how people use their time.’ The individual welfare reduces due to stress and fatigue from the long workday, or higher work intensity. Higher work-intensity or long workday is more visible in the poor households, especially for the female members, where the poor cannot afford the market substitutes for their time. The research objective of this study is to examine the impact of child support, foster care and care dependency grants on gendered time allocation of the individuals across market work, household and care work, leisure, personal care and other non-work activities in South Africa. Existing literature focus on the effect of government grants on the labor force participation of the caregivers or the household members. However, to the best of my knowledge, none of the papers have assessed the effect of child support, foster care, and care dependency grants on the time use adjustment, i.e., non-monetary aspects of the well-being of the household members. To assess the effect of grants on time use adjustment I use the 2010 South Africa Time Use Survey. I apply a unique approach of estimating a multivariate (Seemingly Unrelated Regression) model, with five correlated system of equations of time allocation. I also estimate the effect of grants on the likelihood of multitasking by females and males. By using an endogenous treatment effect model, I correct the selection of the households into receiving the grant. The preliminary empirical findings highlight an important aspect of the gender inequalities in the time allocation of the poor employed individuals aged 16 to 64 years. Childcare grant receipt increases female household members time for caregiving, and to balance, females reduce their time from other non-work activities. Because women’s are more involved in the caregiving, the findings indicate that the child support grant may lengthen the workday for women. As such, careful targeting of the care related grant is required to avoid any worsening of gender inequality in time use.