

# Does Single-Sex Schooling Affect Gender Norms? Evidence from Japanese High Schools\*

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## Abstract

This paper empirically analyzes the impact of attending single-sex high schools on gender norms using individual-level data from the “Survey on Regional Characteristics of Career Choice of Female Students in Science and Engineering Fields,” commissioned by the Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office to Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd. in 2021. First, controlling for parental gender norms, parental education, prefecture of residence, household living conditions, high school level, and a private high school dummy, we estimate the impact of attending single-sex high schools on students’ gender norms using a DID analysis. The results show that single-sex high school education statistically significantly strengthens gender norms. Next, a heterogeneity analysis between boys’ and girls’ schools shows that attending girls’ schools has no significant impact on gender norms, while attending boys’ schools significantly strengthens gender norms. However, it should be noted that the small sample size limits power.

Key words: Single-sex education, Gender norms

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