

Intergenerational Transfer of Occupational Status in Portugal, 1850-1960: Unravelling Modernization Processes

This paper sets out to investigate the consequences of modernization processes as they took place in Portugal between 1850 and 1960 on the transfer of occupational status from father to son. Information from marriage registers in six municipalities in Portugal will be used. We ask the following questions: Do these municipalities differ with respect to status transfer? Do they become more similar over time? And how can differences between municipalities be explained? We answer these questions using a high quality dataset from various locations in Portugal during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The data cover agricultural, trading, administrative and industrial areas. Some of these industrialize rapidly, some show high migration rates. The data are drawn from The Portuguese Historical Sample in Social Mobility (HSP-SM). They cover more than 15.000 families with information on occupation, legitimacy, migration status. Additionally, data were collected on the localities the families lived in, covering transport and communication facilities, economic change, and inheritance practices. Using a multilevel design, we will unravel the effect of modernization processes.

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