The Consequences of Teenage Childbearing Before Roe v. Wade

Online Appendix

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Date of First Conception

In 1973 and 1976, we only have information on the number of months pregnant if the pregnancy did not result in a live birth. To determine the date of first conception, we assume that pregnancies ending in live birth (single and multiple) lasted 9 months, and subtract this from the date the first pregnancy ended (in months). For pregnancies not ending in live birth (single or multiple fetal loss) we subtract the number of months pregnant from the date the pregnancy ended (in months).

In 1973, there are no instances in which the respondent reports only the year of the pregnancy outcome, and not the month. However, in 1976, some respondents do not report the month of the pregnancy outcome. In these cases, we impute the month of the pregnancy outcome to be June of the given year. For live births (single and multiple), we determine the date of conception by subtracting 9 months from the imputed date of the pregnancy outcome. For fetal loss (single and multiple), we determine the date of conception by subtracting the number of months pregnant from the imputed date of the pregnancy outcome.

In the 1982 through 1995 surveys, there is a variable denoting the date of first conception. However, for some respondents in the 1982 and 1988 surveys only the year of the conception is known, and not the month. Again, we impute the month of conception to be June of the given year.

Age at First Conception

To determine the age at first conception in the 1973 and 1976 surveys, we subtract the date of the respondent's birth (in months) from the constructed date of conception (in months).

In 1976, some respondents reported only the year and not the month of their birth. In these cases, we impute the month of the respondent's birth to be June of the given year. In the 1982 through 1995 surveys, there is a variable denoting the respondent's age at first conception.

All of the subtraction of dates is done in century months, and we then convert the century month to a variable in the form "year.(month/12)", where we substitute a value of 11.8 for December instead of 12.

Married Before Conception

In 1973 and 1976 we denote the respondent as having been married before conception if the reported date of her first marriage is earlier than, or the same month as, the constructed date of first conception.

In 1973, respondents are asked for the date of their present marriage and, if they were married more than once or are no longer married, they are additionally asked for the date of their first marriage. We construct a variable denoting the date of first marriage, which is equal to the date of the present marriage if the respondent has only been married once and they are currently married. The date of first marriage is equal to the reported date of first marriage for respondents who are not married, or who are married more than once. There are some respondents who report not being married, but have a valid date for the present marriage and not for the first marriage. For these respondents, we code the first marriage date as the date of the present marriage. In 1976, there is only one variable denoting the date of the first marriage. If either the constructed date of first conception or the marriage date is missing, then we code the married before conception variable as missing.

In the 1982 through 1995 surveys, there is a variable denoting the interval between the first conception and the first formal marriage (imputing the month of marriage or conception to be June if the month was not given). There is a separate code in each of these surveys for the first conception occurring after or the same month as the first marriage. For these survey years, we construct the married before conception variable using these codes.

For those individuals who have never married, we code the married before conception variable as zero. For the individuals with missing values for the married before conception variable, we create a new variable coded as zero for these individuals and also include in the regressions an indicator for whether the individual had a missing value for the original variable.

Because the month of conception and marriage is not provided by some respondents, it is possible that our value of married before conception is incorrect for those individuals. We

provide an upper bound on the total number of respondents for whom we may be incorrect, by counting the number of individuals for whom the difference between the date of conception and marriage is less than 6 months (12 months if both dates are imputed). In 1973, there are not any respondents who report only the year of marriage or conception. In 1976, some respondents report only the year of conception and not the month. Imputing the month to be June, there are seven individuals who may have the marriage before conception coded incorrectly. In 1982, there are 8 respondents who may have the marriage before conception coded incorrectly. In 1988, some respondents report only the year of conception or marriage, and not the months (though none of these report only the year of conception and marriage). There are 6 respondents who may have the marriage before conception coded incorrectly. In 1995, there are not any respondents who report only the year of marriage or conception. The upper bound on the total number of incorrect codes for married before conception is 21.

Married Before Pregnancy Outcome

We code the respondent as having been married before the pregnancy outcome if the reported date of the marriage in century months is earlier than, or the same month as, the date of the pregnancy outcome. We discuss the specifics for each survey year below.

In 1973, we compare the date of first marriage (constructed as described in the above section) to the date of the pregnancy outcome (PREG1_DTENDED).

In 1976, some respondents report only the year and not the month of the pregnancy outcome. We impute the month of the outcome to be June of the given year. We then compare this date to the date of first marriage (MAR1DT). The marriage date is not ascertained for some individuals and is set to missing.

In 1982, we also impute the month of the pregnancy outcome (B22A) to be June of the given year if the respondent does not report a month. We then compare this date to the date of first marriage (MAR1MO), which is only missing if the respondent was never married.

In 1988, some respondents report only the year and not the month for both the date of the pregnancy outcome (B14MO) and the date of first marriage (FMAR1MO). In both of these cases, we impute the month to be June of the given year.

In 1995, if the respondent reports the year of the pregnancy outcome or the first marriage, she always reports the month as well. We compare the date of the pregnancy outcome (PREGEND) to the date of the first marriage (MARDAT01).

For those individuals who have never married, we code the married before outcome variable as zero.

Again, it is possible that our value of married before the pregnancy outcome is incorrect

for the respondents who did not report the month of pregnancy outcome or marriage. In 1973, there are not any respondents who report only the year of the pregnancy outcome and marriage. In 1976, some respondents report only the year of the pregnancy outcome, yielding 9 possible incorrect codings. In 1982, there are 3 possible incorrect codings. In 1988, some respondents report only the year of the pregnancy outcome or the marriage (and only one reports neither the month of the pregnancy outcome nor the marriage), yielding 3 possible incorrect codings. In 1995, no respondent reports only the year of the pregnancy outcome or marriage. In total, the upper bound on the number of incorrect codes for married before pregnancy outcome is 15.

Miscarriage

We define miscarriage as a pregnancy reported to have ended in miscarriage or stillbirth within the first 22 weeks or five months of the pregnancy.

The length of the pregnancy is constructed somewhat differently depending on the sample.

In 1973 and 1976, the respondent is only asked for the number of months pregnant in the case of a pregnancy loss. In order to obtain the number of weeks pregnant for those who experienced a pregnancy loss (single or multiple), we multiply the number of months pregnant by 4.3. In 1973 and 1976, there are no respondents who report that as a teen they experienced during our sample period both a live birth and a pregnancy loss as a part of the same pregnancy.

In 1982, the respondent is only asked for the number of months pregnant at miscarriage/stillbirth (B47), and so this is multiplied by 4.3 to obtain the number of weeks pregnant for respondents reporting a stillbirth or miscarriage (OUTCOME). If the respondent does not report the number of months pregnant, then she is asked for the trimester in which the miscarriage/stillbirth occurred (B48). If she reports it occurred in the first trimester, then we multiply 1.5 (months) by 4.3, so that this will be coded as a miscarriage. Similarly, if she reports it occurred in the second trimester, we multiply 4.5 (months) by 4.3, so that this too will be coded as a miscarriage. Respondents who report a double outcome, including at least one live birth, are coded as giving birth.

In 1988, the respondent is asked for the number of weeks pregnant (B_15), regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy (OUTCOME). However, if the respondent did not report the number of weeks, she was asked whether she was pregnant for less than 3 months, 3-6 months, or more than 6 months. If she responded that she was pregnant for less than three months, we multiply 1.5 (months) by 4.3, so that this will be coded as a miscarriage. Similarly, if she responds that she was pregnant for 3-6 months, then we multiply 4.5 by 4.3

so that this will also be coded as a miscarriage. No respondents in 1988 report a double pregnancy outcome as a teen during our sample period.

In 1995, the respondent reports either the number of weeks she was pregnant (WKS_PREG) or the number of months (MON_PREG), regardless of the pregnancy outcome (OUTCOME). If she reports the number of months pregnant, we multiply this by 4.3. If she does not report either, and the outcome of the pregnancy was not a stillbirth or a live birth, then she is asked whether she was pregnant for less than 3 months, greater than or equal to 3 months but less than 6 months, or greater than or equal to six months (DK3GEST). If she reports that she was pregnant for less than three months, we multiply 1.5 (months) by 4.3 so that this is coded as a miscarriage. If she reports that she was pregnant for at least three months but less than 6 months, then we multiply 4.5 (months) by 4.3 so that this is also coded as a miscarriage. There is one respondent who reports that as a teen during our sample period she experienced a live birth and miscarriage as part of the same pregnancy. She is coded as giving birth.

For each year, we code the number of weeks pregnant as missing if the respondent refused to answer the question about the length of the pregnancy, she reported that she did not know or did not remember the length, or the answer was not ascertained.

Having constructed the length of pregnancy, we are able to define miscarriage as a pregnancy reported to have ended in miscarriage or stillbirth, and ending within the first 22 weeks of the pregnancy.

We note that there are eight observations who report a live birth after less than 4 weeks of pregnancy, when asked for pregnancy duration in weeks. However, when asked for the duration in months they report either 8 or 9 months. We thus continue to include these observations. There is one observation who reports a live birth, but does not report the duration. Since we are interested in the effect of motherhood, the duration of the pregnancy for a live birth is not important, and so we include this observation.

Working

We code the respondent as currently working if she responds that she was working full-time, part-time, with job but on maternity leave, with job but not at work, two part-time jobs, and working but on vacation/strike/temporary illness. We code the respondent as not currently working if she responds that she is unemployed/laid off/looking, retired, in school, keeping house, other, disabled or on disability, or taking it easy/doing nothing/hanging out.

In the 1976 survey, labor force status is asked separately for those pregnant and not currently pregnant. The question is not asked of pregnant women if they responded that

they had not worked in the last twelve months. We code these women as not working. In the remaining surveys the variable describing labor force status is non-missing for every respondent.

Age at First Marriage

In 1973, the variable denoting age at first marriage is given only in intervals. We impute in the following way: less than 16 (15), 16-17 (17), 18-19 (19), 20-21 (21), 22-24 (23.5), 25-29 (27.5), 30 or more (32.5).

In the remaining survey years, the data are not in intervals.

Education

In 1973, the variable ED_HIGRADE denotes the highest grade of regular school attended and the variable ED_COMPLETHI denotes whether the respondent completed that grade. We constructed the educational attainment variable by setting it equal to ED_HIGRADE if the respondent denoted that the grade was completed. Otherwise, we set the variable equal to ED_HIGRADE-1.

Marital Status

In 1982 through 1995, we code the respondent as married using her formal marital status (FMARITAL). This variable also has a separate code denoting whether the respondent was never married. In 1973, we code the respondent as married if she responds that she was married (MAR_STAT=1), as opposed to informal (MAR_STAT=2). This variable has a separate code denoting whether the respondent was single with own children. These women are coded as never having married since they are not coded as divorced, separated, or widowed. In 1976, we code the respondent as married if she responds that she was in a formal marriage (MARSTAT=1). We define respondents who are single with own children (MARSTAT=4) to have never married.

Family Income

In 1973 and 1976, some respondents provide non-grouped income. For those who do not, they denote the interval which we impute as follows: less than $1000 per year ($500), $1,000-$1,999 ($1,500), $2,000-$2,999 ($2,500), $3,000-$3,999 ($3,500), $4,000-$4,999 ($4,500), $5,000-$5,999 ($5,500), $6,000-$6,999 ($6,500), $7,000-$7,999 ($7,500), $8,000-$8,999 ($8,500), $9,000-$9,999 ($9,500), $10,000-$11,999 ($11,000), $12,000-$14,999 ($13,500), (1973) $15,000-$24,999

($20,000), (1976) $15,000-$19,999 ($17,500), (1976) $20,000-$24,999 ($22,500), $25,000 or more (in 1973 $30,000, in 1976 $27,500). We impute this last amount assuming the length of the interval is the same as the length of the previous interval. In 1976, respondents were offered both weekly and yearly intervals. The weekly intervals were the weekly equivalent of the yearly intervals, and so respondents who provided the weekly interval were coded as if they had provided the corresponding yearly interval. In 1982 and 1988, there are 17 intervals which we impute as follows: less than $2,500 ($1,250), $2,500-$4,999 ($3,750), $5,000-$5,999 ($5,500), $6,000-$6,999 ($6,500), $7,000-$7,999 ($7,500), $8,000-$8,999 ($8,500), $9,000-$9,999 ($9,500), $10,000-$10,999 ($10,500), $11,000-$11,999 ($11,500), $12,000-$12,999 ($12,500), $13,000-$14,999 ($13,999), $15,000-$16,999 ($15,999), $17,000-$19,999 ($17,999), $20,000-$24,999 ($22,499), $25,000-$34,999 ($29,999), $35,000-$49,999 ($42,499), $50,000 and more ($74,499).

In 1995, there are 18 intervals which we impute as follows: less than $7,000 ($3,500), $7,000-$8,499 ($7,750), $8,500-$9,999 ($9,250), $10,000-$11,999 ($10,999), $12,000-$13,999 ($12,999), $14,000-$15,999 ($14,999), $16,000-$17,999 ($16,999), $18,000-$19,999 ($18,999), $20,000-$24,999 ($22,499), $25,000-$29,999 ($27,499), $30,000-$39,999 ($34,499), $40,000-$49,999 ($44,499), $50,000-$59,999 ($54,499), $60,000-$69,999 ($64,499), $70,000-$79,999 ($74,499), $80,000-$89,999 ($84,499), $90,000-$99,999 ($94,499), $100,000 and up ($124,499).

Adoptions

In 1973, respondents are asked for the date that their first live birth stopped living with them. This variable is missing if there was no live birth, the child was living in the respondent's household, or the child had died. We code the child as having been placed for adoption if the baby never lived with the respondent. In 1976, the respondent is asked where the child from each pregnancy is living at the time of the survey. We code the child as having been placed for adoption if the respondent reported that the child is living with adopted parents, and code the variable as missing if the respondent answers that she does not know or a response was not ascertained. In 1982 through 1995, the respondent is asked where their first live birth is living. We code the child as having been placed for adoption if the respondent reports that the child is living with adoptive parents, and code the variable as missing if the response was missing.

Remarried

This variable is conditional on the first marriage having ended. It is equal to one if the respondent has had at least two marriages, and is equal to zero if the respondent has had

one marriage and is not currently married. The variable is missing if the number of marriages is missing or the current marital status is missing.