

Economics Seminar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

SPEAKER: V Bhaskar, University College London

TITLE: Sex Selection and Gender Balance

TIME: 11:30-1:00 P.M.

DAY & DATE: Friday, 5th March 2010

PLACE: Seminar Room 2

Abstract:

We model parental sex selection and the equilibrium sex ratio. With intrinsic son preference, sex selection results in a male-biased sex ratio. This is inefficient, due to a marriage market congestion externality. Medical innovations that facilitate selection increase inefficiency. If son preference arises endogenously, due to population growth causing an excess of women on the marriage market, selection may improve welfare. These results are robust to allowing prices or intra-household transfers in a frictional market. We analyze the effects of sex ratio imbalances on parental investments, the effect of fertility on sex selection and concerns for family gender balance.

<http://www.isid.ac.in/~pu/seminar.html>