

Supplementary online information

The Effect of Pregnancy on Engagement with Politics. Towards a Model of the
Political Consequences of the Earliest Stages of Parenthood

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A Descriptives of sample and main variables

A majority (about 90 percent) of the respondents in the Swedish Citizen Panel (SCP) are recruited using non-probability methods. The SCP enjoys high coverage rates (mostly valid emails), low item non-response, and low levels of survey speeding and straight-lining (LORE annual reports, www.lore.gu.se). The full panel consisted of about 75,000 active respondents when we fielded our last survey in late 2019. The panel gives us a large convenience sample of the population but does not constitute a representative sample. The sample is skewed towards male, highly educated, older, and politically interested respondents.

At waves 1 and 2, the respondents in the entire panel were asked whether they or their partner were pregnant. Later the sampling frame was limited to respondents below the age of 50. Table ?? gives details, including the size of the invited sample, the overall AAPOR response rate, and the dates of the field periods. Table A.2 shows that the proportion of respondents who stated that they were pregnant was around 1.5 percent of the total sample each time we asked. The corresponding proportion for partners was between 2 and 2.5 percent. The difference between the proportions reflects that there are more men in the panel as a whole.

In our analyses, we defined as “pregnant” or “partner to pregnant” those who indicated that they or their partner were pregnant at least once between May 2015 and December 2019 and for whom we have information on 1) gender and 2) number of children. To provide as much theoretical and empirical clarity as possible, we excluded two respondent subsets. The first was the individuals whose pregnancy did not result in a baby. We obtained this information from a question the year following their indication of pregnancy asking all respondents whether they had a child during the past year. We also looked at whether their stated “number of children in the household” had changed. Together, these controls make it possible for us to determine the time after the pregnancy as “after childbirth” or “when the baby grows older.” The second group that we excluded were female partners of pregnant women, as there were few of these in the data (17 individuals, 1.8 percent of women in the sample). Apart from this, we exclude respondents who had noted that they were men and who reported being pregnant (18 individuals, 1.6 percent of the male sample).

Table A.3 shows the unweighted descriptive statistics for the respondents who gave birth to their first child during our studied period (treated) and for the respondents in our matched control group. In our analyses we re-scale the dependent variables using a min-max method, which means the values are all on a range of [0,1] ($x_{rescaled} = \frac{x - \min(x)}{\max(x) - \min(x)}$; see section 2.2 Mazziotta and Pareto 2021).

Table A.1: Response rates

	Invited sample size	AAPOR response rate *	Field period
Wave 1	62,915	61%	May 5, 2015 – June 1, 2015
Wave 2	64,656	63%	Dec 1, 2015 – Jan 4, 2016
Wave 3	32,006	63%	May 31, 2016 – June 23, 2016
Wave 4	28,501	62%	Dec 9, 2016 – Jan 4, 2017
Wave 5	25,129	59%	June 14, 2017 – Aug 18, 2017
Wave 6	26,943	58%	Dec 12, 2017 – Jan 1, 2018
Wave 7	27,017	54%	June 12, 2018 – Aug 6, 2018
Wave 8	28,770	53%	Dec 10, 2018 – Jan 8, 2019
Wave 9	27,421	60%	June 4, 2019 – June 26, 2019
Wave 10	26,654	57%	Dec 11, 2019 – Jan 14, 2020

Note: *Only completed responses are considered responses, i.e., we exclude partial responses in the calculation (see AAPOR 2016). The invited sample size is further explained in the text.

Table A.2: Screening question

		Yes, I am pregnant		Yes, my partner is pregnant		No, neither I nor my partner are pregnant		Total	
		N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Row %
Wave 1	May 2015	290	1.6	383	2.1	17640	96.3	18313	100
Wave 2	Dec 2015	335	1.7	463	2.4	18495	95.9	19293	100
Wave 3	June 2016	268	1.6	383	2.2	16584	96.2	17235	100
Wave 4	Dec 2016	262	1.5	390	2.3	16343	96.2	16995	100
Wave 5	June 2017	210	1.5	274	1.9	13829	96.6	14313	100
Wave 6	Dec 2017	227	1.5	344	2.3	14641	96.2	15212	100
Wave 7	June 2018	258	1.8	305	2.1	13732	96.1	14295	100
Wave 8	Dec 2018	273	1.8	348	2.3	14383	95.9	15004	100
Wave 9	June 2019	246	1.6	319	2.1	14704	96.3	15269	100
Wave 10	Dec 2019	245	1.7	291	2.0	13855	96.3	14391	100

Table A.3: Descriptives statistics

Dimension	Variable		Treated					Control				
			Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs
Background variables	Age	overall	33.95	5.17	18.00	58.00	N = 20650	34.43	8.81	14.00	55.00	N = 102580
		between		4.96	20.00	56.00	n = 2065		8.69	16.00	52.20	n = 10258
		within		1.47	31.65	36.85	\bar{T} = 10.0		1.46	32.13	37.33	\bar{T} = 10.0
	Education	overall	7.63	1.17	1.00	9.00	N = 7846	7.15	1.64	1.00	9.00	N = 31763
		between		1.18	2.00	9.00	n = 2072		1.64	1.00	9.00	n = 10374
		within		0.33	3.23	12.13	\bar{T} = 3.8		0.46	3.15	11.15	\bar{T} = 3.1
	Personal income	overall	8.49	2.58	1.00	13.00	N = 20960	7.02	3.27	1.00	13.00	N = 107660
		between		2.27	1.00	13.00	n = 2096		3.06	1.00	13.00	n = 10766
		within		1.23	-0.51	19.29	\bar{T} = 10.0		1.17	-2.98	17.82	\bar{T} = 10.0
	Married	overall	0.34	0.47	0.00	1.00	N = 20790	0.11	0.31	0.00	1.00	N = 105610
		between		0.42	0.00	1.00	n = 2079		0.30	0.00	1.00	n = 10561
		within		0.22	-0.56	1.24	\bar{T} = 10.0		0.09	-0.79	1.01	\bar{T} = 10.0
Political information-seeking	World politics	overall	26.91	23.22	0.00	100.00	N = 7762	30.52	25.38	0.00	100.00	N = 29501
		between		19.67	0.00	100.00	n = 1958		22.28	0.00	100.00	n = 8787
		within		12.52	-35.59	104.91	\bar{T} = 4.0		13.19	-41.48	110.52	\bar{T} = 3.4
	Swedish politics	overall	25.94	22.64	0.00	100.00	N = 7764	28.65	24.12	0.00	100.00	N = 29502
		between		19.23	0.00	100.00	n = 1958		20.98	0.00	100.00	n = 8786
		within		12.27	-44.06	103.94	\bar{T} = 4.0		12.87	-43.35	98.65	\bar{T} = 3.4
	Local politics	overall	8.34	14.36	0.00	100.00	N = 7755	9.33	15.13	0.00	100.00	N = 29452
		between		12.11	0.00	100.00	n = 1958		13.15	0.00	100.00	n = 8780
		within		7.99	-55.66	86.34	\bar{T} = 4.0		8.21	-58.17	89.33	\bar{T} = 3.4
	Pol information-seeking	overall	61.09	52.07	0.00	300.00	N = 7775	68.38	55.78	0.00	300.00	N = 29542
		between		44.70	0.00	300.00	n = 1958		49.34	0.00	300.00	n = 8789
		within		27.20	-76.91	295.09	\bar{T} = 4.0		28.40	-103.62	258.38	\bar{T} = 3.4
Attitudes on the importance of politics	Political interest	overall	3.39	0.60	1.00	4.00	N = 10463	3.35	0.65	1.00	4.00	N = 42803
		between		0.54	1.00	4.00	n = 2081		0.62	1.00	4.00	n = 10628
		within		0.30	0.76	4.83	\bar{T} = 5.0		0.29	0.85	4.85	\bar{T} = 4.0
	Importance of being knowledgeable about politics	overall	4.16	0.75	1.00	5.00	N = 9014	4.15	0.77	1.00	5.00	N = 33520
		between		0.66	1.00	5.00	n = 1985		0.71	1.00	5.00	n = 9221
		within		0.38	1.33	6.66	\bar{T} = 4.5		0.39	1.15	6.81	\bar{T} = 3.6
	Pondering societal development	overall	4.38	0.60	2.00	5.00	N = 7436	4.37	0.64	1.00	5.00	N = 27527
		between		0.51	2.00	5.00	n = 1947		0.58	1.00	5.00	n = 8823
		within		0.34	2.58	5.98	\bar{T} = 3.8		0.34	2.37	6.87	\bar{T} = 3.1
	Attitudes on the importance of politics index	overall	0.81	0.15	0.08	1.00	N = 5949	0.80	0.16	0.00	1.00	N = 22079
		between		0.14	0.17	1.00	n = 1911		0.16	0.00	1.00	n = 8356
		within		0.05	0.48	1.04	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.05	0.42	1.15	\bar{T} = 2.6
Political discussions	With partner	overall	3.08	0.97	1.00	5.00	N = 5868	2.59	1.23	1.00	5.00	N = 19216
		between		0.86	1.00	5.00	n = 1905		1.13	1.00	5.00	n = 7820
		within		0.50	0.83	5.75	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.56	-0.41	5.59	\bar{T} = 2.5
	With colleague	overall	2.53	1.03	1.00	5.00	N = 5886	2.49	1.06	1.00	5.00	N = 21321
		between		0.92	1.00	5.00	n = 1906		0.95	1.00	5.00	n = 8173
		within		0.52	-0.47	5.28	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.51	-0.51	5.49	\bar{T} = 2.6
	With other friends and acquaintances	overall	2.43	0.81	1.00	5.00	N = 5896	2.61	0.91	1.00	5.00	N = 21499
		between										
		within										

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Dimension	Variable		Treated Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs	Control Mean	SD	Min	Max	Obs
		between		0.71	1.00	5.00	n = 1909		0.82	1.00	5.00	n = 8193
		within		0.44	0.43	4.93	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.46	0.36	5.36	\bar{T} = 2.6
	With people you don't know	overall	1.37	0.61	1.00	5.00	N = 5872	1.46	0.70	1.00	5.00	N = 21417
		between		0.55	1.00	5.00	n = 1905		0.62	1.00	5.00	n = 8184
		within		0.33	-0.88	3.87	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.36	-1.21	4.46	\bar{T} = 2.6
	Dicussed politics index	overall	2.36	0.64	1.00	5.00	N = 5906	2.28	0.69	1.00	5.00	N = 21544
		between		0.59	1.00	5.00	n = 1909		0.64	1.00	5.00	n = 8202
		within		0.28	1.17	3.98	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.30	0.45	5.22	\bar{T} = 2.6
Political participation	Boycott/buycott	overall	3.11	1.37	1.00	5.00	N = 5906	2.97	1.42	1.00	5.00	N = 21922
		between		1.21	1.00	5.00	n = 1907		1.30	1.00	5.00	n = 8467
		within		0.68	0.11	5.86	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.63	-0.03	5.97	\bar{T} = 2.6
	Creates/shares political content online	overall	1.82	1.12	1.00	5.00	N = 5902	1.99	1.25	1.00	5.00	N = 21916
		between		1.03	1.00	5.00	n = 1908		1.16	1.00	5.00	n = 8460
		within		0.48	-1.18	4.82	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.52	-1.01	4.99	\bar{T} = 2.6
	Visit political orgs' websites	overall	1.69	0.90	1.00	5.00	N = 5903	1.80	0.97	1.00	5.00	N = 21905
		between		0.79	1.00	5.00	n = 1909		0.89	1.00	5.00	n = 8461
		within		0.47	-1.06	4.69	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.46	-1.20	4.80	\bar{T} = 2.6
	Participation in petitions	overall	1.53	0.70	1.00	5.00	N = 5890	1.61	0.78	1.00	5.00	N = 21892
		between		0.63	1.00	5.00	n = 1908		0.72	1.00	5.00	n = 8461
		within		0.33	-0.72	4.53	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.35	-0.72	4.61	\bar{T} = 2.6
	Political participation index (boycott, sharing online, website, petition)	overall	1.68	0.70	1.00	5.00	N = 5913	1.80	0.77	1.00	5.00	N = 21943
		between		0.64	1.00	5.00	n = 1909		0.73	1.00	5.00	n = 8467
		within		0.29	-0.57	3.68	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.30	0.02	4.72	\bar{T} = 2.6
Trying to change	School	overall	1.23	0.54	1.00	3.00	N = 5729	0.13	0.29	0.00	1.00	N = 21200
		between		0.48	1.00	3.00	n = 1848		0.26	0.00	1.00	n = 7682
		within		0.29	-0.27	2.73	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.14	-0.62	0.88	\bar{T} = 2.8
	Childcare	overall	1.21	0.48	1.00	3.00	N = 5725	0.04	0.16	0.00	1.00	N = 21165
		between		0.40	1.00	3.00	n = 1848		0.14	0.00	1.00	n = 7679
		within		0.28	-0.12	2.71	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.10	-0.71	0.79	\bar{T} = 2.8
	Health care	overall	1.28	0.57	1.00	3.00	N = 5719	0.14	0.28	0.00	1.00	N = 21178
		between		0.49	1.00	3.00	n = 1848		0.25	0.00	1.00	n = 7680
		within		0.31	-0.22	2.78	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.15	-0.61	0.89	\bar{T} = 2.8
	Volunteer associations	overall	1.23	0.52	1.00	3.00	N = 5725	0.14	0.28	0.00	1.00	N = 21222
		between		0.44	1.00	3.00	n = 1849		0.24	0.00	1.00	n = 7684
		within		0.29	-0.27	2.73	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.15	-0.61	0.89	\bar{T} = 2.8
	Political parties	overall	1.27	0.57	1.00	3.00	N = 5728	0.16	0.30	0.00	1.00	N = 21226
		between		0.49	1.00	3.00	n = 1849		0.27	0.00	1.00	n = 7687
		within		0.30	-0.23	2.77	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.16	-0.59	0.91	\bar{T} = 2.8
	Tried to change - index	overall	1.25	0.34	1.00	3.00	N = 5745	1.25	0.35	1.00	3.00	N = 21289
		between		0.31	1.00	3.00	n = 1849		0.32	1.00	3.00	n = 7690
		within		0.17	-0.09	2.70	\bar{T} = 3.1		0.17	0.05	2.75	\bar{T} = 2.8

A.1 Measures of political engagement

Table A.4 shows in which waves our measures of political engagement were included in the Swedish Citizen Panel.

Table A.4: Overview of dependent variables measuring political engagement in the Swedish Citizen Panel

	May 2015	Dec 2015	May 2016	Dec 2016	May 2017	Dec 2017	May 2018	Dec 2018	May 2019	Dec 2019
Political interest	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Importance of being politically knowledgeable			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pondering societal development				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Political information seeking ^a		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Discuss politics ^b						✓	✓	✓	✓	
Political participation ^c							✓	✓	✓	✓
Trying to change ^d						✓	✓	✓	✓	

Note: The first three items are the ones that give us the index on attitudes about the *Importance of politics*. The index used in the analyses in the main text comprise of the four timepoints where all three items were asked. When running individual models for each item, all observations are used, see Tables D.1 to D.5. For the other indexes, all items were measured at the same time points. ^a Measured with three items: local, national, and world politics. ^b Discussing politics with partner, colleagues, other friends and acquaintances, and people you don't know. ^c Includes sharing content online, boycotting/buycotting, signing petitions, and visiting political organizations' webpages. ^d Trying to change things about schools, childcare, healthcare, volunteer associations, or political parties. See Table B.1 for the exact wordings of the questions.

A.2 Data availability

The data cannot be provided due to privacy concerns and risk of re-identification. The data include information about bodily changes (i.e., details regarding the beginning and ending of pregnancies) and political attitudes, both of which constitute sensitive data according to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation. However, we have provided the code needed to format and analyze the data. We are happy to provide opportunities for interested researchers to reproduce the analyses on site, using a remote desktop or similar solutions. The procedure for this is described in a separate document (README on APSR Dataverse).

B Question formulations

Table B.1: Question formulations translated from Swedish to English

Dimension/ question	Question and item wording	Response options
Screening variables	<i>Pregnancy screening question:</i> Q: Are you or your partner pregnant right now?	1 – Yes, I am pregnant right now 2 – Yes, my partner is pregnant right now 3 – No, neither I nor my partner is pregnant right now
	<i>Birth screening question:</i> Q: Have you or your partner given birth in the past year?	1 – Yes, I have 2 – Yes, my partner 3 – No
	<i>Child relationship screening question:</i> Q: What is your relationship with the child?	1 – Biological parent 2 – Adoptive parent 3 – Stepparent 4 – Other 5 – Do not want to answer
	<i>Children:</i> Q: Do you have children?	1 – No 2 – Yes, one child 3 – Yes, two children 4 – Yes, three children 5 – Yes, four children 6 – Yes, five children 7 – Yes, six or more children
Background variables	<i>Age:</i> Q: What year were you born?	[Discrete years]
	<i>Education:</i> Q: What is your educational attainment?	1 – Did not finish elementary school 2 – Elementary school 3 – High school, less than 3 years 4 – High school, 3 years or more 5 – Post-high school, non-tertiary education, less than 3 years 6 – Post-high school, non-tertiary education, 3 years or more 7 – Tertiary education, less than 3 years 8 – Tertiary education, 3 years or more 9 – PhD
	<i>Personal income:</i> Q: How much is your monthly salary?	1 – Less than SEK 4,000 2 – SEK 4,000–8,999 3 – SEK 9,000–12,999 4 – SEK 13,000–15,999 5 – SEK 16,000–18,999 6 – SEK 19,000–22,999 7 – SEK 23,000–25,999 8 – SEK 26,000–29,999 9 – SEK 30,000–36,999 10 – SEK 37,000–44,999 11 – SEK 45,000–54,999 12 – SEK 55,000–64,999 13 – More than SEK 65,000 14 – Don't know/rather not say 15 – Other
	<i>Marital status:</i> Q: What is your current marital status?	1 – Single – never married 2 – In relationship – never married 3 – Cohabiting – never married 4 – Married 5 – Divorced – and single 6 – Divorced – and in new relationship 7 – Widowed – and single 8 – Widowed – and in new relationship

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Dimension/ question	Question and item wording (English)	Response options (English)
Information-seeking	Q: How much time do you spend on average per day searching for information about the following subjects (e.g., via the Internet, television, radio, newspapers, etc.)? <i>Items:</i> World politics Swedish politics Municipal policy	1 – No time at all 2 – 10 min 3 – 20 min 4 – 30 min 5 – 40 min 6 – 50 min 7 – 1 hr 8 – 1 hr 10 min 9 – 1 hr 20 min 10 – 1 hr 30 min 11 – More than 1 hr 30 min
Attitudes on the importance of politics	<i>Political interest</i> Q: Generally speaking, how interested are you in politics? <i>Importance of being knowledgeable about politics</i> Q: How important is it to you to be knowledgeable about politics? <i>Pondering societal development</i> Q: How much do you reflect on society's development	1 – Very interested 2 – Fairly interested 3 – Not particularly interested 4 – Not at all interested 1 – Not at all important 2 – Not particularly important 3 – Neither important nor unimportant 4 – Fairly important 5 – Very important 1 – Not at all 2 – A little 3 – Neither a little nor a lot 4 – A lot 5 – Very much
Political discussions	Q: Thinking about a regular week in your life right now, how often do you discuss politics and societal issues? <i>Items:</i> With your partner With a colleague With other friends and acquaintances With people you don't know	1 – Never 2 – Once a week 3 – Several times a week 4 – Every day 5 – Several times a day
Political participation	Q: Thinking about a regular month in your life right now, how often do you do the following: <i>Items:</i> Buy or boycott goods for political, ethical or environmental reasons Create or share politically or socially relevant material on the internet Visit the websites of political organizations Participate in name collections, internet petitions or similar	1 – Never 2 – Once a week 3 – Several times a week 4 – Every day 5 – Several times a day
Trying to change	Q: Thinking about the past three months of your life, have you tried to change things about: <i>Items:</i> Schools Childcare Health care Volunteer associations Political parties	1 – No 2 – Yes, sometimes 3 – Yes, several times

C Matching procedure

We use coarsened exact matching (CEM; Blackwell et al. 2009), which is a matching method where the treated and untreated groups are balanced in terms of the covariates used in the algorithm. Compared to other exact matching methods, CEM gives some leeway in terms of matching to close neighbors, such as matching 29-year-olds to 30-year-olds, for example.

We match pregnant respondents to non-pregnant ones using observed factors in the data set (Rosenbaum and Rubin 1983). To create the matched control group, pregnant respondents are matched to non-pregnant ones using a number of observed characteristics where the likelihood of being treated is unrelated to the outcomes of engagement. For an exhaustive discussion on selection effects and matching related to becoming a parent, see Fitzenberger, Sommerfeld, and Steffes (2013).

Matching is a useful method when the focus is on identifying causal effects in observational data, but it demands a lot from the data in the sense that many non-treated observations are needed. In addition, matching requires good predictors of the treatment assignment process, i.e., whether women and men choose to become pregnant or become pregnant by chance (or not). We use four such variables for the matching procedure to create the untreated control group: age, education, gender, and the number of survey responses. Gender is our most important variable to match on, but age is also pertinent since pregnancy represents a life cycle decision. In their study on the effects of becoming a parent on labor market outcomes, Fitzenberger, Sommerfeld, and Steffes (2013, 60) even find that age is the only crucial key selection variable needed to identify the treatment effect (except the number of children, which does not apply in our study on first-time parents). From models predicting the likelihood to become pregnant at different ages, we know that this likelihood increases around age 35 compared to 25 or 45. We bin the age variable into two-year intervals between 26 and 38 to allow the matching algorithm fewer restrictions in the matching procedure, while still maintaining the overall age structure of the respondent pool, particularly around the ages when women (and their partners) are more likely to become pregnant.

Education is included in the matching algorithm to represent differences in social economic status. Auxiliary analyses that we performed on our data showed that there are only slight differences for women (not men) in terms of timing of pregnancy and education. More specifically, the likelihood is lower for the highly educated in earlier ages, but the difference is not significant after the age of 26. Education is used in a dichotomized format in the matching algorithm so that highly educated (those with partial or completed university studies) are separated from others.

The fourth matching variable is continuous and indicates the number of responses to surveys. The purpose of this variable is to balance the *number* of valid responses to our dependent variables in the treatment and control groups. This matching covariate is a proxy for a more detailed matching method where the availability of data for the dependent variables is balanced exactly wave by wave. This ensures that treated and matched untreated people were asked about our outcome measures at about the same time. In practice, the difference between the treatment and control is negligible in terms of the average number of non-missing

observations for all dependent variables across all waves.¹

The variables used in the matching algorithm are almost exclusively pre-treatment covariates but in a few respondent cases they are measured after treatment. We prioritized having more matching candidates than to fully rule out minimal potential for selection biases.² Missing values on the matching covariates are imputed using multiple imputation methods.³

We report alternative matching algorithms in Section E, Tables E.1 to E.5, showing that our results are robust to different specifications in this regard.

D Main results with individual items and gender gaps

In Tables D.1 to D.5, we show the analyses for each separate item included in the indices presented in Table 1 in the main text.

1. Matching item nonresponse patterns of the outcome variables perfectly in the treated and the control groups is not feasible due to the resulting exponential increase in number of strata. However, the number of survey responses is a good substitute indicator as there is little reason to expect there to be systematic differences in response patterns between treatment and control within a group with the same survey response propensity. See also the alternative matches (Match 3 and 4 in Section E) where matches are done on a survey-by-survey basis, a method that produce similar or stronger estimates.

2. Since in most cases, we have several responses to our matching variables for a given respondent, we select the matched cases in the following order regarding the distance between response and timing of the pregnancy of the treated match: 1) closest pre-treatment responses before the estimated month of conception, 2) responses given in the estimated month of conception, 3) post-treatment responses. This last category makes up 17 percent of the matches for marital status, 16 percent of the cases for income, and 17 percent of the cases for education. However, in practice, this should not matter much as these variables change little over the course of the five years we study.

3. Missing values are handled by imputing values using chained equations. The following variables are imputed: age in 2015 (i.e., the same as birth year), education, gender, having a partner, and income. The latter four are dichotomized to simplify the process, and are only used in this format (in the control variables and in one of the matching algorithms). The proportions of imputed values are the following: age, 7 percent; education, 2 percent; gender, 7 percent; partnership, 3 percent; income, 2 percent.

Table D.1: Results by Pol information-seeking (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	World politics	Swedish politics	Local politics	Pol info idx
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	-0.28 (0.97)	0.25 (0.94)	0.04 (0.64)	0.04 (2.19)
Pregnant	-4.51** (1.03)	-3.88** (1.02)	-1.69* (0.78)	-10.15** (2.46)
Given birth	-4.46** (1.32)	-3.52** (1.24)	-3.41** (0.62)	-11.44** (2.80)
Baby 6 months	-6.71** (1.33)	-5.38** (1.26)	-3.14** (0.71)	-15.31** (2.80)
Baby 1-2 years	-5.90** (1.59)	-4.62** (1.43)	-2.30** (0.78)	-12.75** (3.21)
Child 2-4 years	-5.97** (2.25)	-6.01** (1.84)	-2.83** (0.98)	-14.74** (4.13)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	-0.64 (1.01)	0.48 (1.01)	0.40 (0.64)	0.23 (2.31)
Pregnant	-4.20** (1.08)	-2.83** (1.06)	-0.36 (0.69)	-7.36** (2.42)
Given birth	-3.97** (1.30)	-2.86* (1.24)	-1.41 (0.75)	-8.39** (2.82)
Baby 6 months	-1.26 (1.51)	-1.01 (1.40)	-0.18 (0.93)	-2.47 (3.32)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.40 (1.68)	-0.42 (1.52)	0.94 (1.07)	0.08 (3.76)
Child 2-4 years	1.23 (2.98)	1.37 (2.72)	1.89 (1.81)	4.22 (6.38)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men-women)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	-0.36 (1.37)	0.24 (1.34)	0.36 (0.89)	0.19 (3.12)
Pregnant	0.31 (1.45)	1.04 (1.42)	1.33 (1.01)	2.80 (3.35)
Given birth	0.49 (1.81)	0.66 (1.72)	2.01* (0.95)	3.04 (3.88)
Baby 6 months	5.45** (1.98)	4.37* (1.85)	2.96** (1.14)	12.84** (4.24)
Baby 1-2 years	5.49* (2.27)	4.20* (2.04)	3.24* (1.30)	12.83** (4.83)
Child 2-4 years	7.20 (3.70)	7.38* (3.25)	4.72* (2.03)	18.96* (7.52)
Women	24.32	23.69	7.95	55.86
Men	34.63	31.57	10.04	76.15
Diff	-10.31**	-7.88**	-2.08**	-20.29**
R ²	0.054	0.045	0.017	0.051
N wave-individual	36485	36487	36430	36537
N individuals	10321	10320	10315	10322

Note: * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$. Standard errors clustered at the individual level within parentheses. The gender gap is calculated as the difference between men and women during a pregnancy period relative to the same difference among the non-pregnant group. Matched control averages are predicted values using main model specifications.

Table D.2: Results by Importance of politics (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Pol interest	Pond soc dev	Imp of know pol	Imp of politics idx
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	0.02* (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men-women)</i>				
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	0.03** (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	0.02 (0.02)	0.04** (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.03 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	0.05** (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03* (0.02)	0.04** (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.02 (0.02)	0.04** (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)
Women	0.75	0.84	0.77	0.78
Men	0.83	0.85	0.81	0.83
Diff	-0.08**	-0.01*	-0.05**	-0.05**
R ²	0.043	0.017	0.035	0.040
N wave-individual	57186	33635	41075	27040
N individuals	11659	9833	10252	9495

Note: * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$. Standard errors clustered at the individual level within parentheses. The gender gap is calculated as the difference between men and women during a pregnancy period relative to the same difference among the non-pregnant group. Matched control averages are predicted values using main model specifications.

Table D.3: Results by Discuss politics (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	With partner	With colleague	With friends	With unacqu	Discuss politics idx
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	0.04** (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	0.03 (0.02)	-0.07** (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.02)	-0.09** (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.05** (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	0.03* (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.04** (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	0.04* (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.02)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.03 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Given birth	0.01 (0.02)	0.08** (0.02)	0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.00 (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	0.04* (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.05* (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.05** (0.02)	0.03* (0.01)	0.05** (0.01)
Women	0.44	0.39	0.39	0.10	0.33
Men	0.40	0.39	0.41	0.12	0.33
Diff	0.04**	0.00**	-0.01	-0.02**	0.00
R ²	0.167	0.045	0.031	0.014	0.022
N wave-individual	23369	25275	25430	25335	25478
N individuals	8623	8869	8882	8872	8886

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01. Standard errors clustered at the individual level within parentheses. The gender gap is calculated as the difference between men and women during a pregnancy period relative to the same difference among the non-pregnant group. Matched control averages are predicted values using main model specifications.

Table D.4: Results by Political participation (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Boycott/ buycott	Online pol content	Visit pol websites	Part in petitions	Pol part idx
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	-0.05* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.09** (0.02)	-0.07** (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.05** (0.01)
Given birth	-0.04 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.04** (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	-0.04 (0.02)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.04 (0.02)	-0.04** (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	0.02 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.04 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	0.00 (0.02)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men-women)</i>					
Pre-pregnant	0.06* (0.03)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.12** (0.03)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.03* (0.01)	0.05** (0.01)
Given birth	0.06* (0.03)	0.01 (0.03)	0.02 (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)
Baby 6 months	0.06* (0.03)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	0.03 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.05 (0.03)	0.06* (0.03)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)
Women	0.60	0.25	0.16	0.18	0.30
Men	0.46	0.24	0.22	0.13	0.26
Diff	0.14**	0.01	-0.07**	0.06**	0.03**
R ²	0.059	0.019	0.025	0.054	0.029
N wave-individual	25859	25855	25844	25822	25890
N individuals	9148	9145	9146	9146	9150

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01. Standard errors clustered at the individual level within parentheses. The gender gap is calculated as the difference between men and women during a pregnancy period relative to the same difference among the non-pregnant group. Matched control averages are predicted values using main model specifications.

Table D.5: Results by Trying to change (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	School	Childcare	Health care	Volunt assoc	Pol parties	Trying to change idx
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>						
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.04* (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.04** (0.02)	0.05** (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	-0.07** (0.01)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02* (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.02 (0.02)	0.10** (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.06** (0.01)	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.00 (0.02)	0.17** (0.02)	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.06** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>						
Pre-pregnant	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.00 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.02 (0.02)	0.07** (0.01)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.00 (0.01)	0.15** (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.04** (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men-women)</i>						
Pre-pregnant	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.02)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.03)	0.02 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.04 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.03)	0.05* (0.02)	-0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1-2 years	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.00 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)
Child 2-4 years	0.00 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.07** (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Women	0.12	0.04	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.11
Men	0.14	0.04	0.12	0.14	0.18	0.12
Diff	-0.02*	-0.00	0.03**	-0.01	-0.06**	-0.01
\bar{R}^2	0.009	0.042	0.008	0.011	0.019	0.009
N wave-individual	24484	24455	24449	24502	24509	24572
N individuals	8358	8357	8356	8361	8363	8365

Note: * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$. Standard errors clustered at the individual level within parentheses. The gender gap is calculated as the difference between men and women during a pregnancy period relative to the same difference among the non-pregnant group. Matched control averages are predicted values using main model specifications.

E Additional analyses

In this section, we report two additional sets of analyses. 1) Are the results that we show in the main text robust for other matching specifications than the ones we describe in Section C? For example, what happens when we add more matching covariates or limit the sample? 2) Are our interpretations of the results different when we look at how the pregnant sample changes compared to their pre-pregnancy state *in comparison to themselves*, rather than in comparison to the matched control group?

First, we conclude that the results are robust to different matching algorithm specifications, and this is illustrated in Tables D.1–D.5. The table includes our five engagement indices and uses seven different matches, of which the first is the one we use in our main analyses. As described in the main text, our matched analyses build on a weight that produces a balance between the treatment and control group in terms of the covariates used in the matching algorithm. There are trade-offs when designing such a match: 1) What covariates are used, 2) how are these variables categorized (or binned), 3) whether the match is achieved by weighting or by trimming the sample, a so called k2k match (often 1-to-1, i.e., each non-treated observation is assigned as a control to one specific treated observation). What these decisions affect in practice – besides the comparability between treatment and control – is how many of the treated and non-treated observations are kept. Such dilemmas are described at length in Iacus, King, and Porro (2012, section 2.6).

The matches we compare in Table E.1 all include age (eight age bins if not specified), education, and gender, but differ in terms of i) whether any additional matching covariates are included, ii) how variables are categorized, iii) whether a matching weight or sample trimming (1-to-1 match) is used, and iv) which of the two survey response matching methods we use.

- Match 1 is described more in detail in Section C, and is the one we use in our main analyses. It uses a standard nonresponse variable, i.e., a continuous measure of the number of survey responses. Its output is a matching weight.
- Match 2 is the same as Match 1, except it is a so called 1-to-1 match. The purpose of this match is to check how treatment effects differ when trimming the matched group so that there is only one matched respondent for each treated respondent, without any weighting.
- Match 3 is also a 1-to-1 match. This match differs from Match 2 in that it uses ten dichotomous response variables as matching covariates, one for each of the ten survey waves, rather than a single continuous measure of the response pattern. The purpose here is to check whether a more detailed match of survey response pattern affects the estimates.

Matches 4–7 are similar to Match 1 in that they are weight-based, but vary in how survey response patterns are taken into account, whether additional matching covariates matter, or how limitations of the age range affect the sample. More specifically:

- Match 4 uses dichotomous response variables.
- Match 5 uses more age strata, more specifically one-year cohorts between the ages of 20 and 45 (rather than two-year cohorts).
- Match 6 uses more age strata and two additional matching covariates: income and partnership, variables that could predict the timing of a pregnancy.
- Match 7 limits the age range of the treated sample: the ages 26 to 39 (the 10th to the 90th percentile of the treated sample). The purpose of the match is to check whether the treatment effect estimates are sensitive to outliers particularly in the matched sample, as it is skewed towards older respondents.

An indication of how good the matched sample is as a counterfactual in general is seen in the first line of each section of Tables D.1–D.5 where the difference in outcome between the non-pregnant and pre-pregnant is tested. One interpretation of a non-significant difference here is that the samples are balanced – the never-treated and not-yet-treated are not only similar in terms of matching covariates, but also on our outcome variables. None of our five engagement indicators are significantly different in the main analysis (Match 1). Only two out of 105 tests across all matches and outcomes (7 matches \times 5 indicators \times 3 pre-pregnant comparisons) result in significant differences, which corresponds to one percent of all tests.

The matching comparisons also indicate that how response patterns are modelled does not seem to matter that much for the outcome. The results show that the effects are on the same level or stronger when using either Match 3 and Match 4, both of which had a very detailed match on availability of data.

Match 5 and Match 6 both provide sensitivity tests of whether a more detailed match on age cohorts and predictors of the pregnancy treatment affect the treatment effect. Here too, we see similar or larger effects than the ones we report.

A final potential threat to inference we consider is that only including respondents who do not become pregnant during our studied period means that our control group has a lower propensity to have a child (potentially for a spurious reason). One way to look at this is to limit the age range of the sample, as we do in Match 7. This makes the matched sample more likely to contain more future parents, proportionally speaking. It should be noted that the entire matched sample potentially contains many more future parents than we identify here as we are only following them for five years. Again, this alternative specification does not matter in any substantial way.

All in all, we find that the best trade-off between modelling pregnancy timing, balance on dependent variables between never-treated and not-yet-treated, and keeping as many of the respondents as possible in our analyses is by using Match 1. Although, it should be noted that all other matches produce similar or larger effect sizes.

As a last note: It does not matter to results whether we produce weights that are specifically calculated based on the subsample where there is data on that specific variable or whether we use a single weight that is based on the full sample. The analyses reported use a weight that is based on the full sample.

Second, the panel format of the SCP allows us to also report pre-and post analyses of the pregnant sample over time. While those analyses cannot rule out that effects seen in the pregnant sample are not due to larger trends also visible in the untreated sample, they help us evaluate the robustness of the direction of the results in the sense that we can follow individuals over time from before they were pregnant. Table E.6 shows pre-post regression coefficient using a fixed effect (FE) estimator, with clustered standard errors at the individual level, and using the same controls as in our matched analyses.

Our conclusions are robust also when doing this type of pre-post analysis focusing on the within-group changes. We see that the results go in the same direction for all of our indices, but show smaller effects in minutes for the political information question. These analyses demonstrate the movement of engagement indices of pregnant individuals at different early parenthood stages, however, since they do not take into account how the rest of the panel is moving, it is not an ideal method on its own.

Combining the pre-post analyses with a matched control analysis seems to suggest that the use of a difference-in-difference (DiD) estimator is feasible. However, we note that a DiD analysis typically implies that there is a time component to the analysis with (at least) two measurements in both the treatment and the control groups, such that $DiD = (t_{1,treated} - t_{1,nontreated}) - (t_{0,treated} - t_{0,nontreated})$. Yet the control group in this study – while also experiencing the passing of time – cannot be assigned a time-marker that compares to the pregnancy stage in the treated group without making a number of additional assumptions. While trying to assign hypothetical birth months to the control group using various methods for creating matching strata, we also induced substantial random error in the DiD estimates and the results were not robust to different randomizations of hypothetical birth months. It is therefore preferable to use a model that compares the treated group (at different stages of pregnancy and early parenthood) to the control group, and to do so using a matching procedure that takes into account when the treated and untreated are interviewed, as well as to include wave-fixed effects.

Table E.1: Matching comparisons – Pol information-seeking (b/SE)

	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.04 (2.19)	0.06 (2.39)	-3.95 (3.20)	-2.10 (3.16)	1.01 (2.22)	-2.18 (3.10)	-0.17 (2.36)
Pregnant	-10.15** (2.46)	-10.08** (2.66)	-14.91** (3.37)	-13.13** (3.55)	-9.13** (2.48)	-11.79** (3.29)	-10.22** (2.64)
Given birth	-11.44** (2.80)	-11.58** (2.99)	-14.38** (3.71)	-13.71** (3.55)	-10.49** (2.84)	-14.76** (3.29)	-12.62** (2.68)
Baby 6 months	-15.31** (2.80)	-15.65** (3.01)	-16.03** (3.91)	-15.87** (3.69)	-14.55** (2.84)	-17.97** (3.51)	-15.35** (2.95)
Baby 1–2 years	-12.75** (3.21)	-13.06** (3.47)	-14.43** (4.40)	-13.84** (4.11)	-11.98** (3.26)	-15.90** (3.89)	-14.30** (3.13)
Child 2–4 years	-14.74** (4.13)	-14.08** (4.37)	-21.05** (3.98)	-20.02** (3.63)	-14.05** (4.19)	-16.44** (4.60)	-13.69* (4.47)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.23 (2.31)	-1.35 (2.65)	0.23 (3.07)	0.81 (2.80)	0.61 (2.36)	-1.07 (2.75)	1.19 (2.53)
Pregnant	-7.36* (2.42)	-9.55** (2.74)	-6.73* (3.40)	-6.24* (3.09)	-6.97* (2.46)	-8.44* (2.91)	-7.04* (2.71)
Given birth	-8.39* (2.82)	-10.75** (3.11)	-8.44* (3.72)	-8.08* (3.42)	-7.97* (2.85)	-10.57** (3.30)	-8.52* (3.11)
Baby 6 months	-2.47 (3.32)	-5.06 (3.57)	0.58 (4.27)	1.51 (4.01)	-2.17 (3.34)	-3.32 (3.78)	-4.75 (3.71)
Baby 1–2 years	0.08 (3.76)	-2.33 (4.01)	2.66 (4.84)	3.12 (4.59)	0.30 (3.79)	-0.89 (4.29)	-0.41 (4.13)
Child 2–4 years	4.22 (6.38)	1.87 (6.50)	7.29 (7.54)	7.28 (7.42)	4.49 (6.41)	1.61 (6.68)	0.14 (5.89)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men-women)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.19 (3.12)	-1.41 (3.43)	4.18 (4.24)	2.91 (4.02)	-0.41 (3.15)	1.11 (4.10)	1.36 (3.38)
Pregnant	2.80 (3.35)	0.52 (3.66)	8.19 (4.56)	6.89 (4.52)	2.16 (3.38)	3.35 (4.34)	3.18 (3.68)
Given birth	3.04 (3.88)	0.83 (4.15)	5.95 (5.03)	5.63 (4.79)	2.52 (3.91)	4.18 (4.60)	4.10 (4.01)
Baby 6 months	12.84* (4.24)	10.60* (4.49)	16.60* (5.54)	17.38** (5.32)	12.38* (4.27)	14.65* (5.05)	10.60* (4.63)
Baby 1–2 years	12.83* (4.83)	10.73* (5.06)	17.09* (6.21)	16.96* (6.01)	12.28* (4.86)	15.01* (5.64)	13.90* (5.04)
Child 2–4 years	18.96* (7.52)	15.96* (7.65)	28.34** (8.30)	27.30** (8.19)	18.54* (7.55)	18.05* (7.99)	13.83 (7.26)
R ²	0.051	0.065	0.069	0.048	0.054	0.056	0.054
N individual (treated)	1905	1884	1131	1199	1899	1710	1629
N individual (control)	8417	1878	1141	3418	5892	3058	3058
N wave-individual	36537	15084	10004	20208	28891	18431	21671

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01.

Table E.2: Matching comparisons – Importance of politics (b/SE)

	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	0.02* (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.02* (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	0.03 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.03 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.03 (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	0.04* (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.04* (0.01)	0.06** (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)
Child 2–4 years	0.04* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.06* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.06* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)
R ²	0.040	0.047	0.051	0.040	0.038	0.034	0.039
N individual (treated)	1845	1825	1111	1177	1839	1659	1572
N individual (control)	7650	1839	1106	3438	5510	2897	4006
N wave–individual	27040	11590	7830	15937	21885	14113	16255

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01.

Table E.3: Matching comparisons – Discuss politics (b/SE)

	Alg 1	Alg 2	Alg 3	Alg 4	Alg 5	Alg 6	Alg 7
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.05* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.04** (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Given birth	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.03* (0.01)
Given birth	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Baby 1–2 years	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.05* (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.05* (0.01)	0.04* (0.02)	0.05** (0.01)
R ²	0.022	0.019	0.021	0.025	0.022	0.011	0.022
N individual (treated)	1825	1805	1102	1168	1820	1644	1553
N individual (control)	7061	1770	1074	3494	5283	2805	3834
N wave–individual	25478	11239	7678	15585	21150	13766	15860

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01.

Table E.4: Matching comparisons – Political participation (b/SE)

	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.05** (0.01)	-0.05** (0.01)	-0.07** (0.01)	-0.06** (0.01)	-0.05** (0.01)	-0.07** (0.01)	-0.05** (0.01)
Given birth	-0.04** (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.05* (0.02)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.05* (0.02)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.05* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.05* (0.02)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.04** (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Pregnant	0.05** (0.01)	0.04* (0.01)	0.05* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.05** (0.01)	0.07** (0.02)	0.05** (0.01)
Given birth	0.03* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.04 (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)	0.05* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)
Baby 6 months	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.02)	0.04 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.00 (0.02)
Child 2–4 years	0.04* (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)	0.07* (0.02)	0.06* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.06* (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)
R ²	0.029	0.025	0.036	0.034	0.031	0.043	0.029
N individual (treated)	1825	1805	1102	1168	1820	1644	1553
N individual (control)	7325	1781	1084	3658	5349	2831	3832
N wave–individual	25890	11270	7695	15851	21259	13814	15862

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01.

Table E.5: Matching comparisons – Trying to change (b/SE)

	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.05** (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.04* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.02 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Pregnant	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.04** (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.04* (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.04** (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>							
Pre-pregnant	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	-0.00 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)
Pregnant	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	0.03* (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Baby 6 months	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Baby 1–2 years	0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Child 2–4 years	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
R ²	0.009	0.014	0.017	0.010	0.009	0.016	0.009
N individual (treated)	1763	1745	1077	1142	1759	1594	1500
N individual (control)	6602	1703	1053	3367	5057	2712	3697
N wave–individual	24572	10837	7514	15560	20677	13458	15509

Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01.

Table E.6: Pre-post fixed effects estimator (b/SE)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Pol information- seeking	Importance of politics	Discuss politics	Political participa- tion	Trying to change
<i>Women (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pregnant	-5.23** (1.78)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	-4.73 (2.48)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	-5.97* (2.71)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-2.52 (3.24)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.00 (0.02)
Child 2–4 years	-3.82 (4.07)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.04* (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)
<i>Men (ref: non-pregnant)</i>					
Pregnant	-2.23 (1.95)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Given birth	-2.37 (2.71)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	1.97 (3.38)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Baby 1–2 years	-0.69 (3.71)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)
Child 2–4 years	-0.52 (5.89)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.00 (0.02)
<i>Difference in gender gap (men–women)</i>					
Pregnant	3.00 (2.42)	0.01 (0.01)	0.02* (0.01)	0.03** (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Given birth	2.36 (3.23)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.03* (0.01)	0.02 (0.01)
Baby 6 months	7.94* (3.67)	0.01 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)
Baby 1–2 years	1.84 (3.90)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)
Child 2–4 years	3.31 (6.00)	0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)	0.04* (0.02)	-0.01 (0.02)
R ² within	0.030	0.006	0.026	0.011	0.015
R ² between	0.011	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.003
R ² overall	0.008	0.007	0.000	0.001	0.006
N wave-individual	7620	5827	5730	5738	5543
N individual	1905	1845	1825	1825	1763
ρ	0.823	0.823	0.775	0.771	0.692
σ_u	66.867	0.142	0.159	0.158	0.153
σ_e	31.025	0.066	0.085	0.086	0.102

Note: Note: * p<0.05, ** p<0.01. Clustered standard errors within parentheses. We report contrasts in relation to the pre-pregnancy period with a linear time effect.

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