Measuring Women’s Status in Society
Introduction

- Proportion of women in parliament as a measure of women’s status in society
- How do we enumerate status?
Overview & Delimitation

- Introduction
- Hypothesis
- Definitions
- Prior Research
- Methods & Data
- Results
- Discussion
Hypothesis

- The proportion of women in parliaments is positively correlated with other indicators thought to measure women’s status.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitions</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Parliament</th>
<th>Old democracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Prior Research

- Assertions
- Theoretical
- Not empirical
Data

- IPU
- UN
- WVS
- Social Watch
- WEF
Methods

- Correlations
- Scatter plots
Educational Participation

- $r=0.23$
- $p<0.05$
- Old democracies: $r=0.45$ ($p<0.01$)
- Not new democracies
Labour Force Participation

- Professional Jobs: $r = 0.22$, $p < 0.05$
- Unclear
- $r = 0.07$, $p > 0.1$
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time since Suffrage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ $r = 0.29$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ $p &lt; 0.001$</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Mechanism?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social Attitudes

- Husband’s earnings: $r=0.50$
- University education: $r=0.56$
- Approve women’s movement: $r=0.41$
- Prefers boy rather than girl: $r=0.16$, $p>0.1$
Social Watch & WEF Scale

- Social Watch: $r=0.53$
- WEF: $r=0.64$
- WEF in old democracies: $r=0.70$
- $p<0.000$
Gender Empowerment Index

- $r = 0.74$
- $p < 0.000$
Discussion

- Close association
- Different dimensions to status
- Approximation
- Easy measurement
- Data availability
- Beyond gender
Conclusion

- Reasonable approximation