

The long-term impact of in-utero exposure to natural disasters: Evidence from the 2010 Pakistan flood

Rida Ali Khan (KDI School of Public Policy and Management)

Abstract

This paper Utilizes the 2010 flood as a natural experiment, to examine the long-term effects of prenatal stress exposure. The flood in Pakistan began in late July, resulting in the brunt of the damages and loss. It affected more than 20 million people, caused between 1,800 and 2,000 casualties, and damaged or destroyed approximately 1.7 million houses, making it the worst flood. Microdata from the years 2019 and 2021 indicate that cohorts in utero during the flood displayed reduced rates of functional and cognitive development compared with unaffected birth cohorts.

Keywords: Flood 2010, Natural Disaster, In-Utero Exposure, Children Development, Economic

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