

CFPR SEMINAR SERIES



March 13, 2026
12:00 – 1:30PM



Chairperson:
Dr. Senhu Wang
CFPR Steering Committee Member
Sociology & Anthropology



NUS AS7
The Shaw Foundation Building
Level 6 Seminar Room, 5 Arts Link
Singapore 117570



<https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cfpr/seminars-workshops>

The Trade-Offs Between Income, Time, and Childbearing: Experimental Evidence From Multiple Countries

We field a seven-country survey of respondents aged 20–49 to examine how adults value income and time trade-offs when deciding whether to have a child. Respondents evaluate profiles with hypothetical couples considering either a first or a second birth, forcing trade-offs across domains. We examine whether the size of the motherhood penalty affects childbearing preferences, whether income is more salient for first versus second births, and how these effects vary by women's age. Results should illuminate which factors most strongly shape childbearing decisions and inform policymakers about designing income transfers and regulating time constraints.

Speaker

Dr. Alicia Adserà
Princeton University



Alicia Adserà is a Senior Research Scholar and Lecturer in Economics at the Princeton School of Public and International and faculty associate at the Office of Population Research (Princeton University). Her research interests are in economic demography, development, and international political economy. Her work focuses on the interplay between labor markets and fertility and on an array of migration topics. Two current projects involve multi-country data collection to analyze fertility preferences and choices, as well as the relative importance of different dimensions of successful aging. Before joining Princeton, she was an Associate Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a Research Affiliate at the University of Chicago's Population Research Center. She holds a PhD in Economics from Boston University.