

# The Gender Gap in Attitudes toward Trade: Putting Gender Back into the Equation

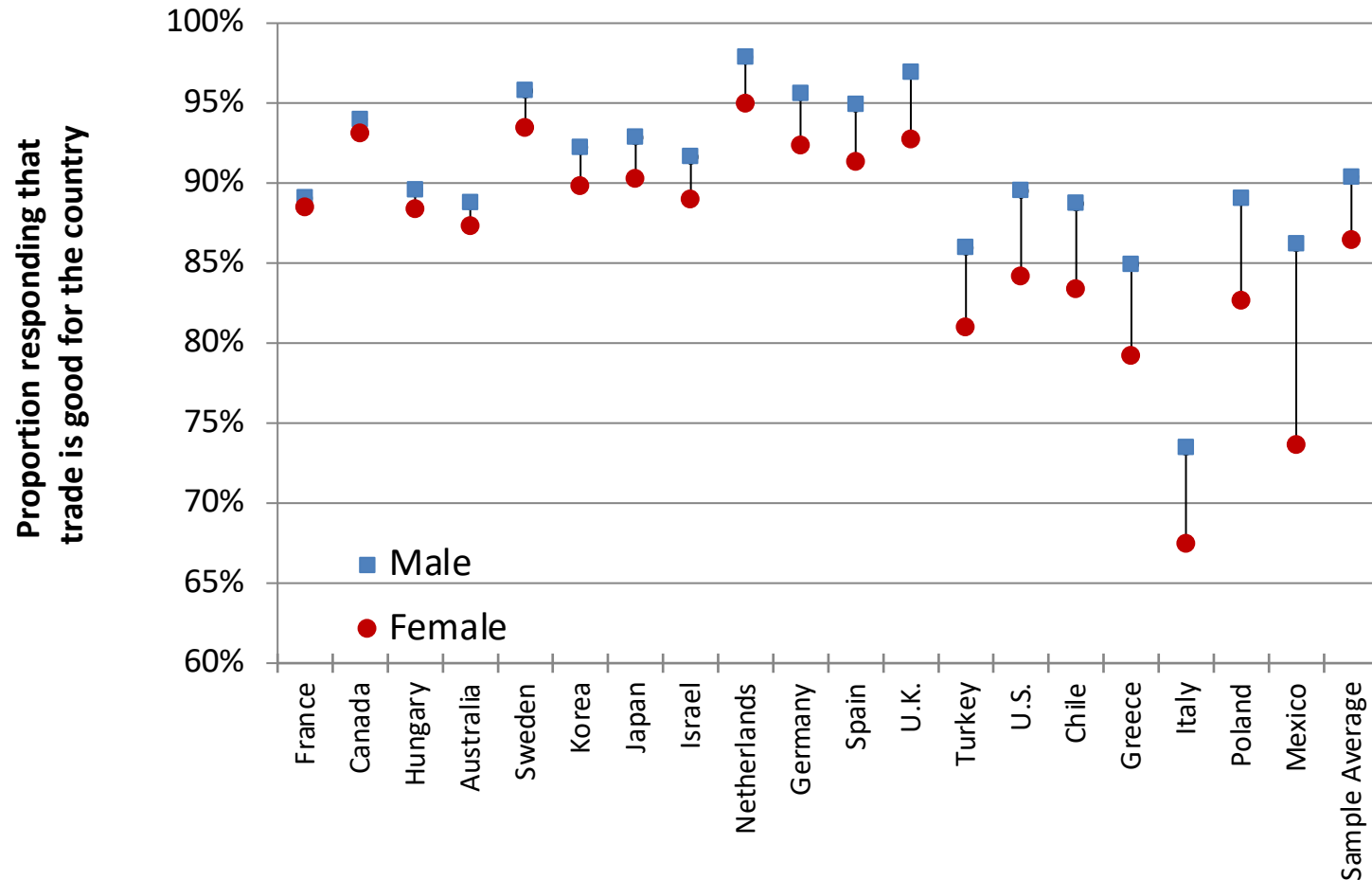
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# The Gender Gap in Trade Attitudes

- Empirical reality well known
- Typical strategy is to “explain away” the gap
  - Employment selection
  - Education selection
  - Psychological differences in risk acceptance
- Our strategy is to accept the gap at face value
  - Ask instead: What explains cross-national differences in relatively similar countries?

# The Gender Gap in 19 OECD Countries (Pew Global Attitudes, 2017)



*Survey question: In general, do you think trade and business ties between [survey country] and other countries around the world is a good thing or a bad thing for [survey country]?*

# Gender Discrimination & Attitudes toward Trade

- Structural discrimination varies across countries
- Contributes to gender gap in concern about economic volatility and employment pressures
- Economic uncertainty is reflected preferences for trade protection
- **Working hypothesis:** The gender gap in trade attitudes will be greater in countries with more gender discrimination.

# Research Design

Three tests of our theory. If correct, we should observe:

## Research Design

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1. Positive correlation between greater discrimination and larger gender gap

Gender  
Inequality

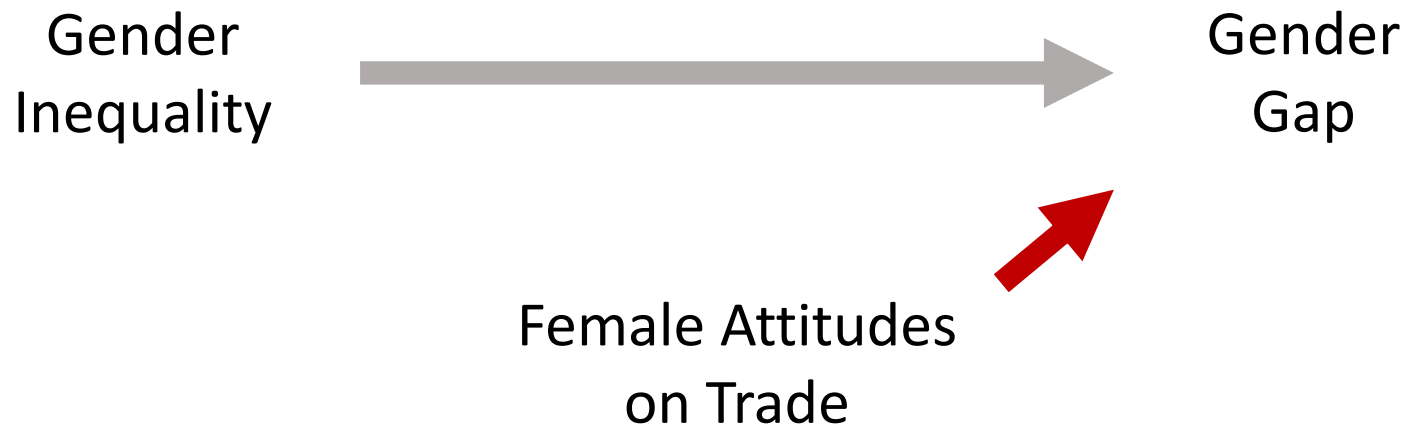


Gender  
Gap

## Research Design

Three tests of our theory. If correct, we should observe:

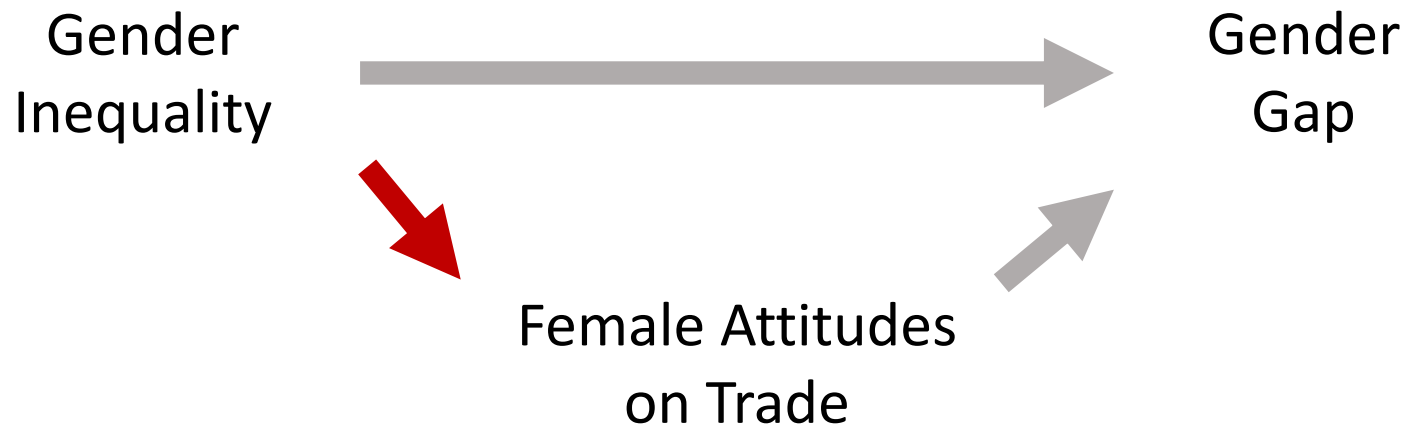
1. Positive correlation between greater discrimination and larger gender gap
2. Women's (rather than men's) preferences correlated with the size of the gap



## Research Design

Three tests of our theory. If correct, we should observe:

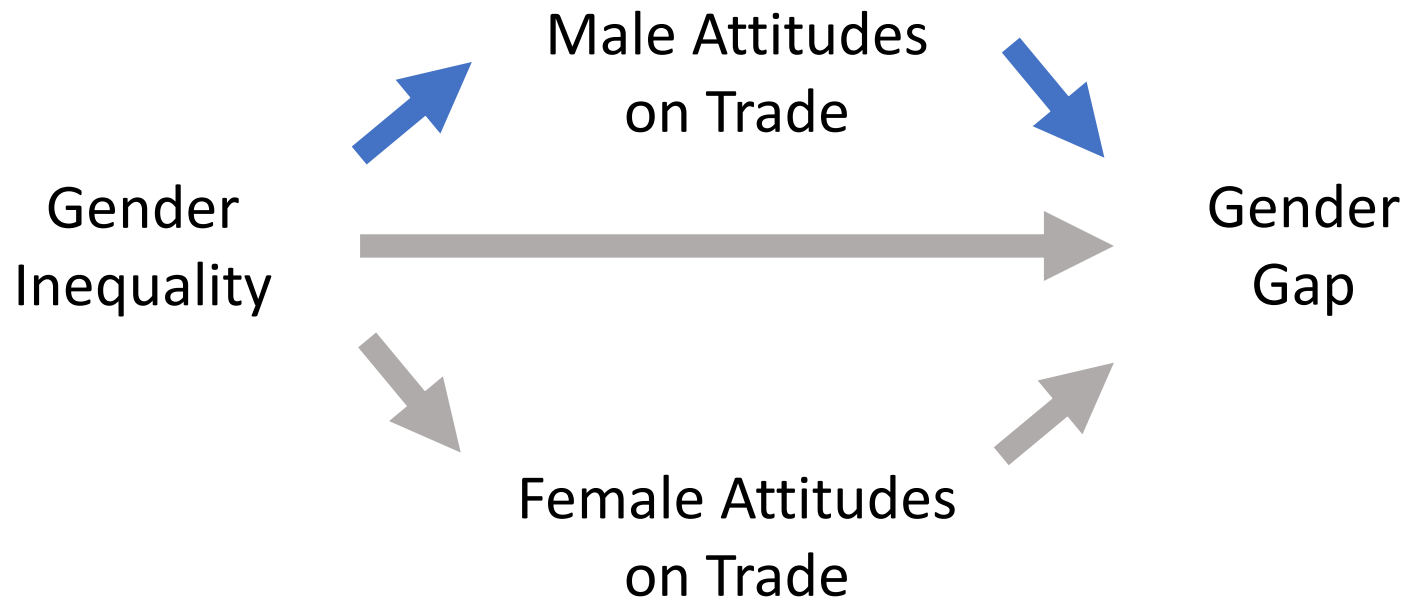
1. Positive correlation between greater discrimination and larger gender gap
2. Women's (rather than men's) preferences correlated with the size of the gap
3. Gender discrimination correlated with women's preferences for trade (rather than men's)





## Research Design

We should not observe:



# Research Design

- OECD countries only
- Pew Global Attitudes surveys: difference in proportion of women to men who say that trade is (somewhat) good for the country
- Measures of *de jure* discrimination
  - Women, Business, and Law (WBL) index, World Bank
- Measures of *de facto* discrimination
  - Global Gender Gap (GGG) index (economic participation and opportunity module), World Economic Forum
  - Survey question about preference for employing men over women when jobs are scarce, World Values Survey (WVS)

# Test 1: Correlations between Discrimination Measures and the Gender Gap



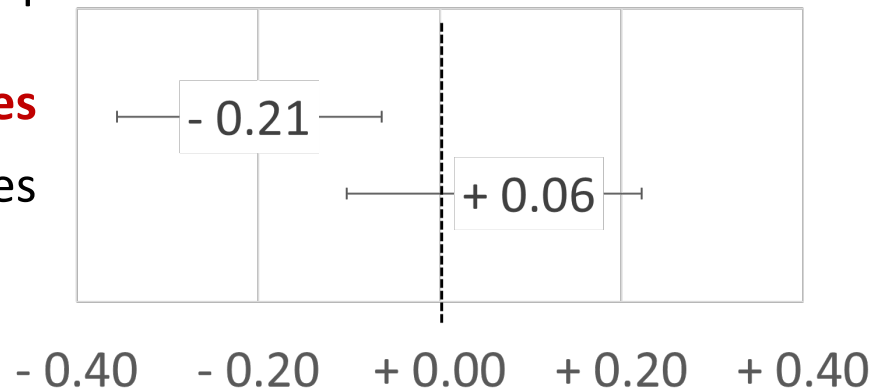
Summary of Table 1/Test 1. Red denotes significant correlation.

## Test 2: Correlations between Women's Preferences (but not Men's) and the Gap

Female/Male Attitudes on Gender Gap

**Female Attitudes**

Male Attitudes



Summary of Table 2/Test 2. Red denotes significant correlation.

# Test 3: Correlation between Gender Discrimination and Women's Preferences, Men's Less So

3a. Inequality on Female Attitudes

**WBL Index**

**GGG EPO**

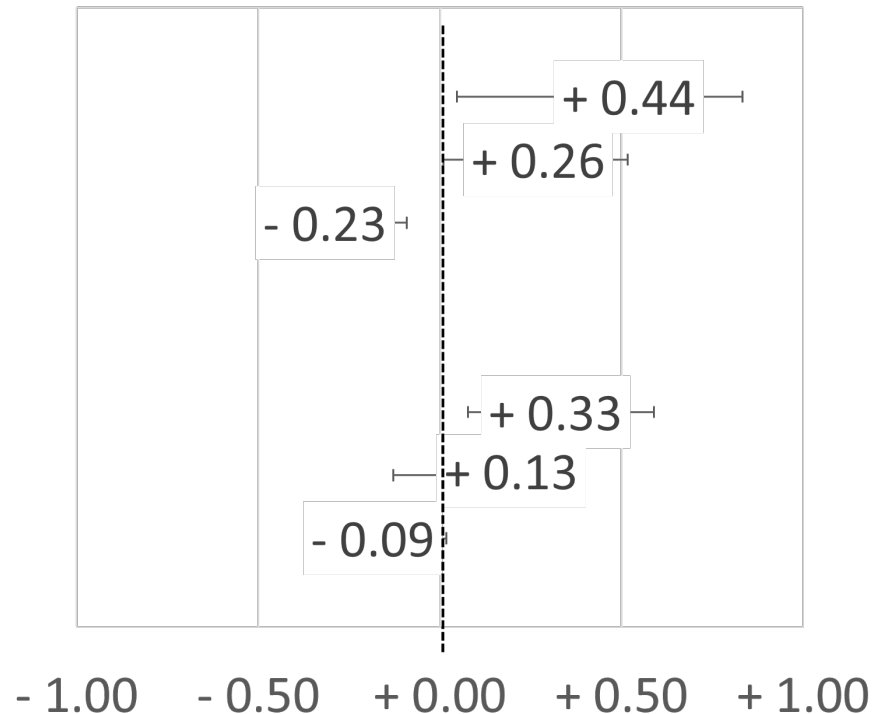
**Prioritize Men's  
Employment**

3b. Inequality on Male Attitudes

**WBL Index**

GGG EPO

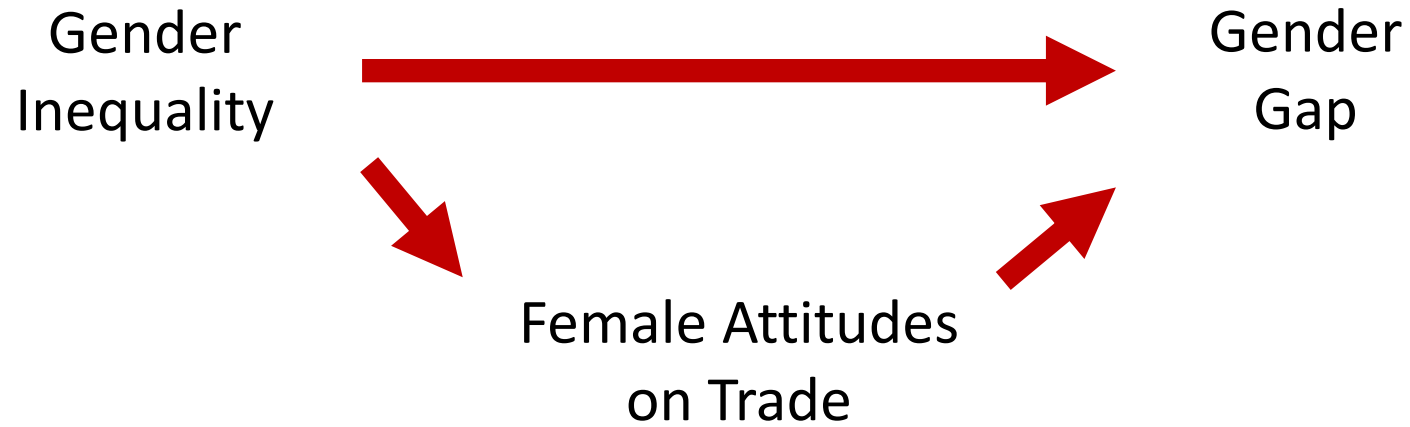
Prioritize Men's Employment



Summary of Table 3/Test 3. Red denotes significant correlation.

## Conclusion

Three tests of our theory. We did observe:



## Next Steps

- Explore the intersection of education and gender
  - Is the observed gender gap driven primarily by differences between non-degree holding men and women?
  - But issues of comparability with coding education cross-nationally and across surveys
- Multi-level modeling (?)
  - Primary concerns remains the gender gap but could provide more flexibility to integrate other concerns

# The Gender Gap in Attitudes toward Trade: Putting Gender Back into the Equation

Thank you.



# Test 1: Correlations between Discrimination Measures and the Gender Gap

Table 1: Analysis of relationship between discrimination measures and the trade attitudes gender gap (Pew Global Attitudes Survey, 2002-2017)

Predictor	Gender Gap: M-F Differences in Trade is good for the [country]								
	Base			Economic Controls			"Asia" Dummy		
WBL Index Extended	-0.06 (0.09)			-0.10 (0.09)			-0.11 (0.10)		
GGG EPO		-0.11* (0.06)			-0.12* (0.06)			-0.13** (0.06)	
Prioritize Men's Employment			0.08** (0.03)			0.12** (0.04)			0.14*** (0.03)
Log Trade/GDP				0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
GDP Growth				0.00 (0.00)	0.00 (0.00)	-0.01 (0.00)	0.00 (0.00)	0.00 (0.00)	-0.01 (0.00)
Asia							-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)
Constant	0.12 (0.08)	0.13*** (0.04)	0.01 (0.02)	0.1 (0.09)	0.11* (0.06)	-0.02 (0.03)	0.11 (0.10)	0.13* (0.07)	-0.01 (0.02)
<i>Number of Obs</i>	93	93	77	93	93	77	93	93	77
<i>Number of Clusters</i>	22	22	16	22	22	16	22	22	16
<i>R-squared</i>	0.08	0.13	0.13	0.09	0.14	0.18	0.09	0.16	0.21

Note: OLS, standard errors in parentheses, clustered on country. Year controls not shown. \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$   
World Bank's Women, Business, and the Law 2009 data extended to 2007 and 2008 (see appendix for non-extended version).

## Test 2: Correlations between Women's Preferences (but not Men's) and the Gap

Table 2: Analysis of gender gap components (Pew Global Attitudes Survey, 2002-2017)

Predictor	Gender Gap: M-F Differences in Trade is good for the [country]					
	Female Response Model			Male Response Model		
Female Prop. Answering "Good"	-0.23***	-0.20***	-0.20***			
	-0.08	-0.07	-0.06			
Male Prop. Answering "Good"				0.05	0.05	0.07
				-0.07	-0.07	-0.09
WBL Index Extended	-0.01			-0.12		
	(0.08)			(0.11)		
GGG EPO		-0.08			-0.14**	
		(0.07)			(0.06)	
Prioritize Men's Employment			0.09**			0.15***
			(0.03)			(0.03)
Log Trade/GDP	0.03**	0.03**	0.04***	0.01	0	0
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
GDP Growth	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	-0.01
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Asia	0	0	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02**
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.01)
Constant	0.1	0.14**	0.05	0.11	0.12*	-0.04
	(0.08)	(0.07)	(0.04)	(0.10)	(0.07)	(0.03)
<i>Number of Obs</i>	93	93	77	93	93	77
<i>Number of Clusters</i>	22	22	16	22	22	16
<i>R-squared</i>	0.27	0.29	0.33	0.1	0.16	0.22

Note: OLS, standard errors in parentheses, clustered on country. Year controls not shown. \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ . World Bank's Women, Business, and the Law 2009 data extended to 2007 and 2008 (see appendix for non-extended version).

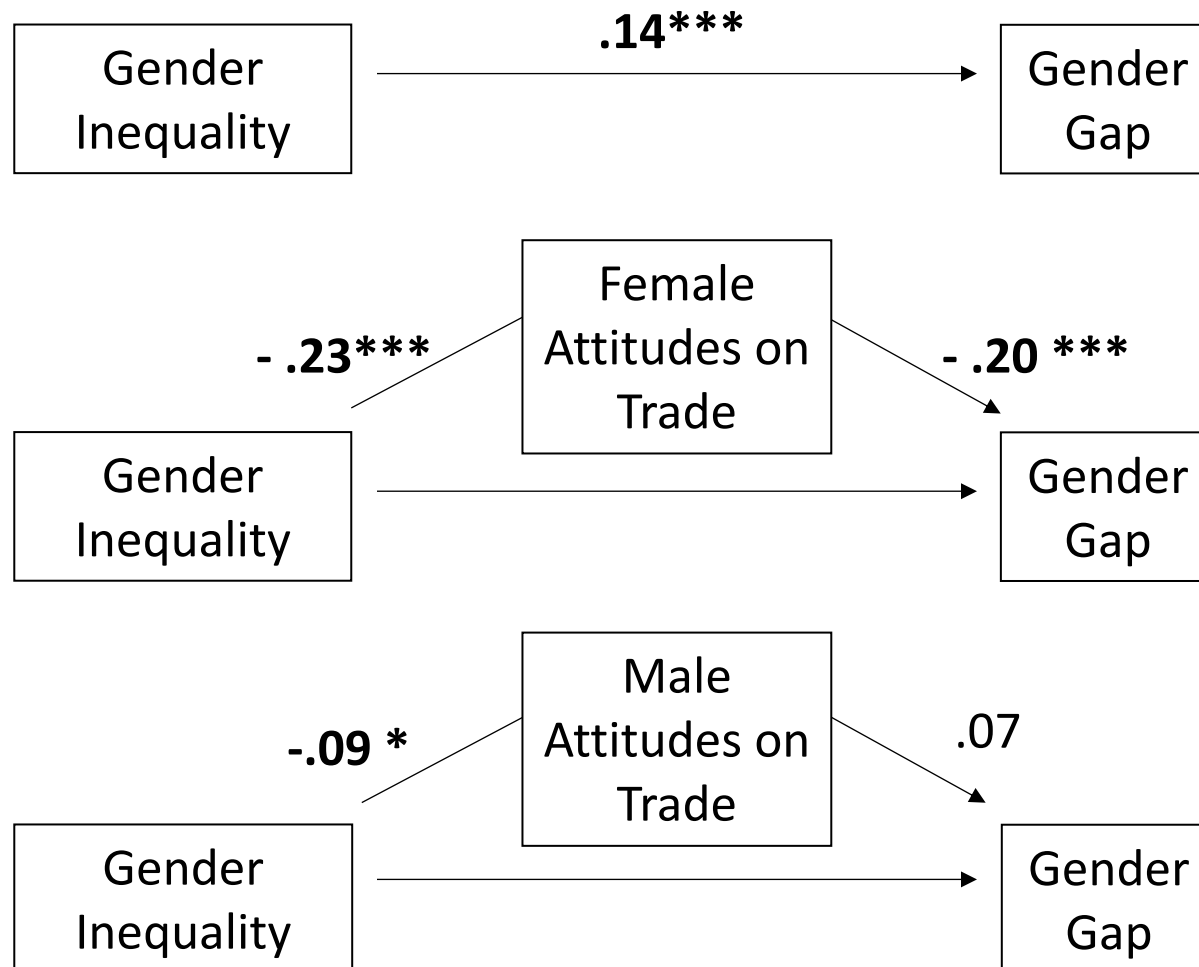
# Test 3: Correlation between Gender Discrimination and Women's Preferences, Men's Less So

Table 3: Analysis of gender inequality measures on proportion of men and women responding that trade is good for the country (Pew Global Attitudes Survey, 2002-2017)

Predictor	Trade is good for the [country]					
	Female Response Prop.			Male Response Prop.		
WBL Index Extended	0.44** (0.19)			0.33** (0.12)		
GGG EPO		0.26** (0.12)			0.13 (0.12)	
Prioritize Men's Employment			-0.23*** (0.06)			-0.09* (0.05)
Log Exports/GDP	0.50** (0.23)	0.46* (0.23)	0.36** (0.15)	0.50** (0.22)	0.47** (0.23)	0.37** (0.13)
Log Trade/GDP	-0.47* (0.26)	-0.38 (0.25)	-0.26 (0.18)	-0.45* (0.23)	-0.39 (0.24)	-0.27* (0.14)
GDP Growth	0.01** 0.00	0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	0.01** 0.00	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.01)
Asia	0.02 (0.03)	0.03 (0.03)	0.03* (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.01 (0.03)	0.01 (0.01)
Constant	0.53 (0.34)	0.57* (0.29)	0.72*** (0.19)	0.63** (0.26)	0.72** (0.28)	0.72*** (0.15)
<i>Number of Obs</i>	93	93	77	93	93	77
<i>Number of Clusters</i>	22	22	16	22	22	16
<i>R-squared</i>	0.53	0.5	0.57	0.55	0.51	0.58

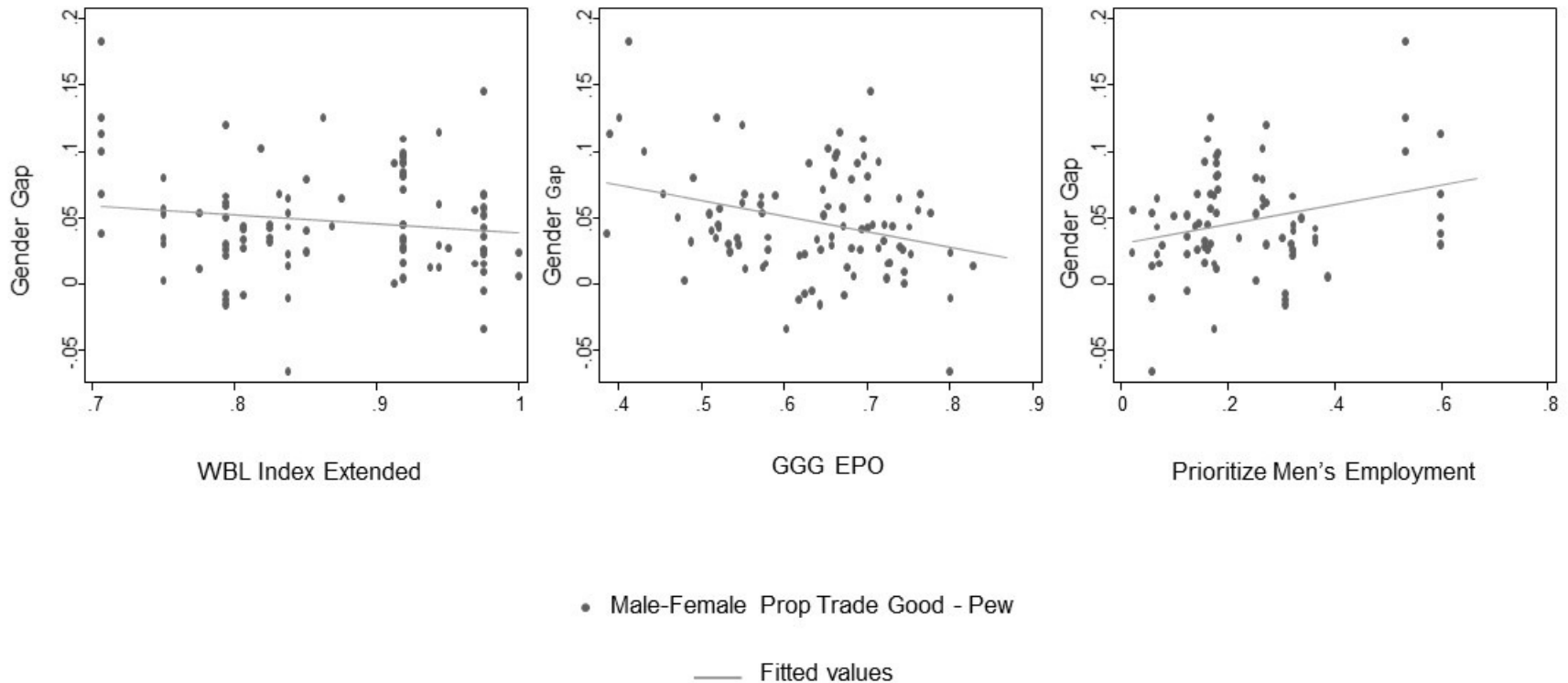
Note: OLS, standard errors in parentheses, clustered on country. Year controls not shown. \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ . World Bank's Women, Business, and the Law 2009 data extended to 2007 and 2008 (see appendix for non-extended version).

# Estimated Direct and Indirect Relationship of “Prioritize Men’s Employment” on Gender Gap



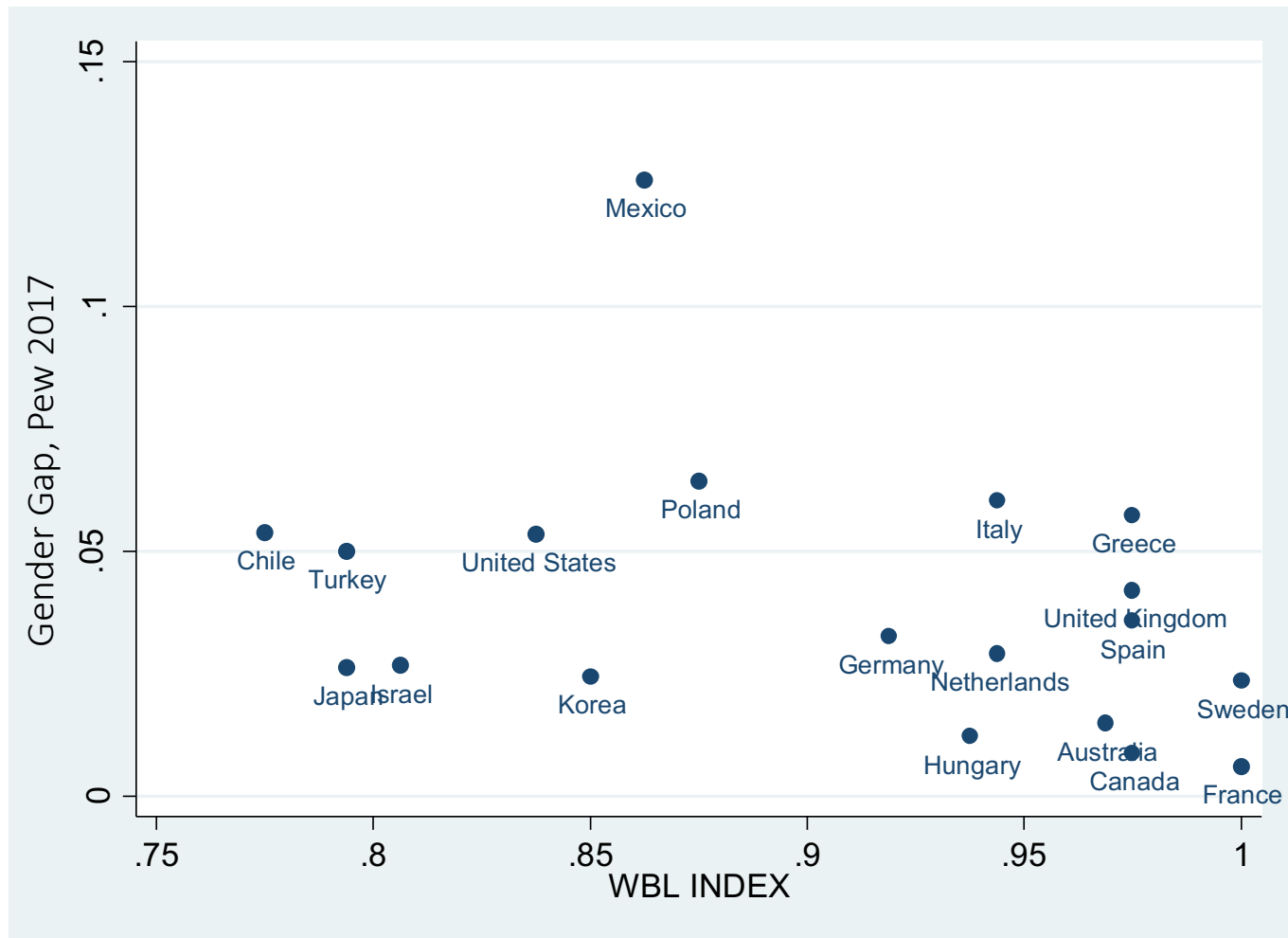
# Gender Gap & Discrimination

Figure 2: Bivariate relationship between discrimination measures and the trade attitude gender gap in 22 OECD countries (Pew Global Attitudes Survey, 2002-2017)



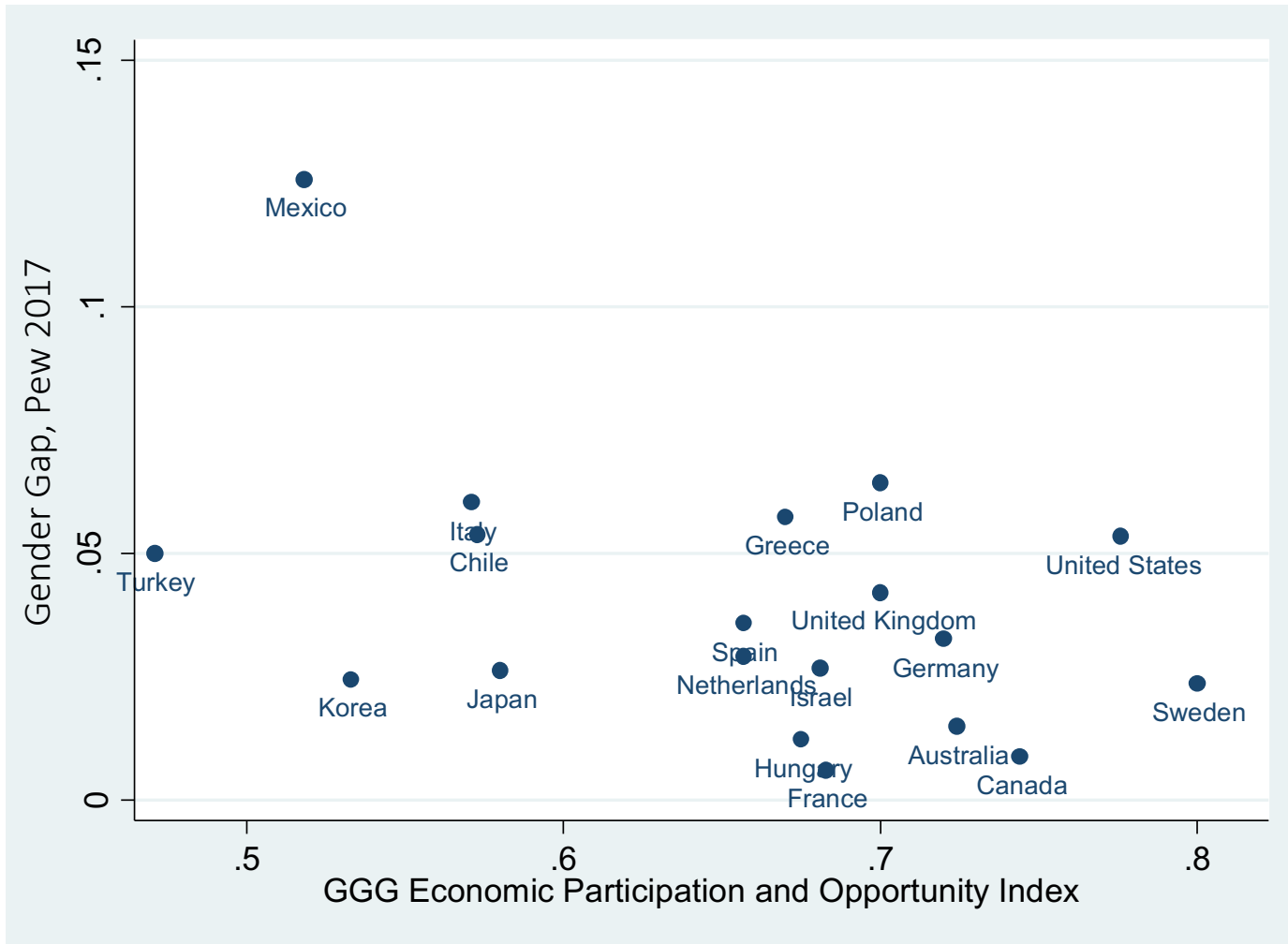
# De Jure Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

Women, Business, and Law Index of Gender Equality (World Bank)



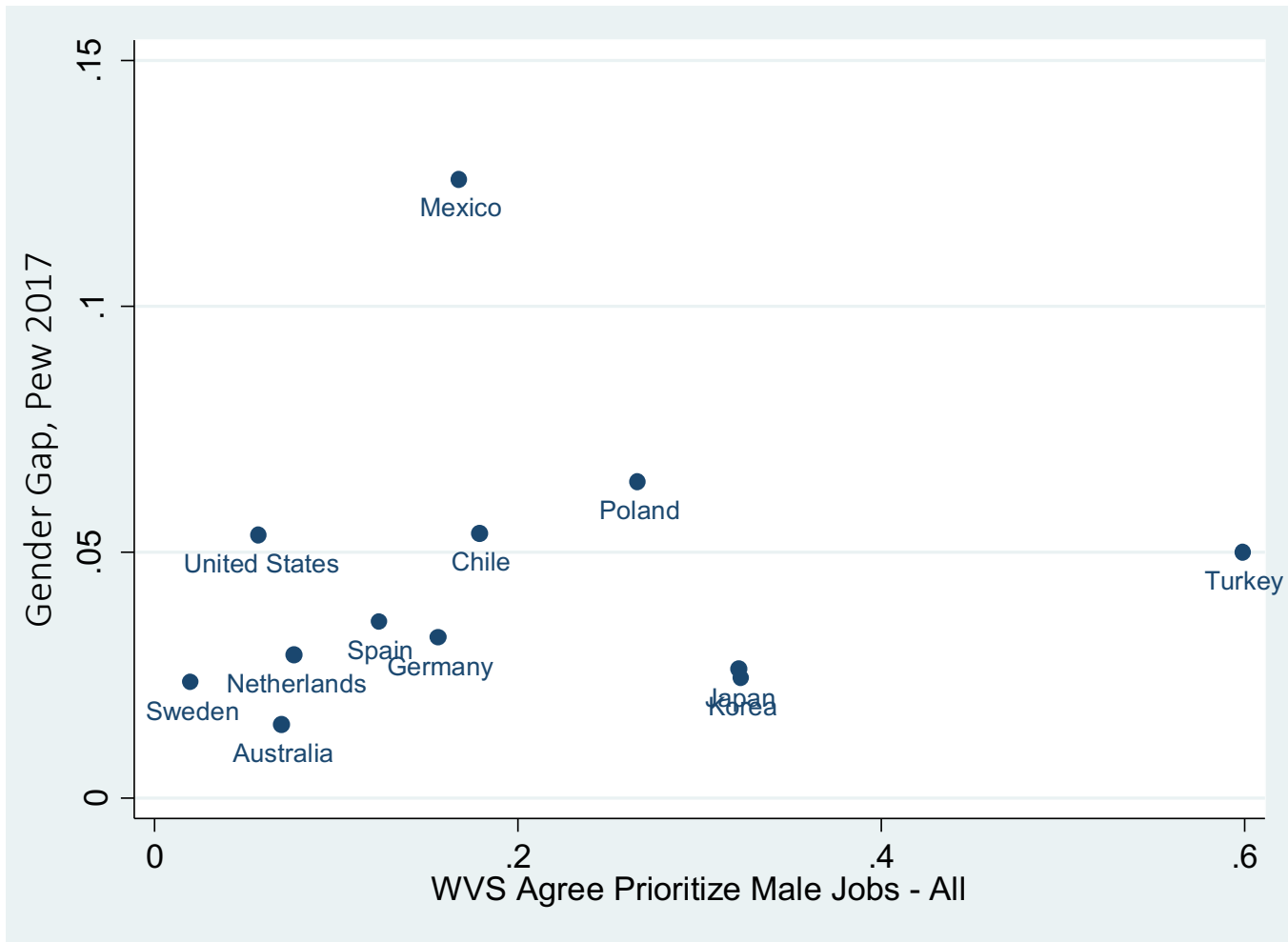
# De Facto Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum)



# De Facto Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

Preference for Male Employment (WVS)





# Appendix

# Appendix:

## Summary Statistics of Primary Variables

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Obs</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>S.D.</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Years Avail.</b>
WBL Index	WBL Index	360	0.91	0.07	0.71	1.00	2009-2018
GGG Eco. P&O	GGG Eco. Participation & Opportunity	468	0.68	0.09	0.39	0.87	2006-2018
Prioritize Male Jobs	% Agreeing Should Prioritize Male Jobs When Scarce	388	0.23	0.14	0.02	0.67	1994-2015 (extended to 2017)
PEW Trade	M-F Difference in Prop. Agreeing Trade Good for Country	106	0.05	0.04	-0.07	0.18	2002, 2008-2011, 2014, 2017
ISSP GSDI	M-F Difference in Prop. Supporting Gov't Sup. Of Declining Ind.	76	-0.10	0.05	-0.23	0.02	1985, 1990, 1996, 2006, 2016
ISSP Limits	M-F Difference in Prop. Supporting Limits on Imports	73	-0.06	0.05	-0.18	0.06	1995, 2003, 2013

# Women, Business, and Law Index (World Bank)

- World Bank Group project collecting data on the laws and regulations that restrict women's economic opportunities
- 8 indicators of 4 or 5 binary questions (35 question total, indicator scores are unweighted averages): going places; starting a job, getting paid, getting married, having children, running a business, managing assets, getting a pension
- For more detail, see <https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/methodology#a>

# Global Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum)

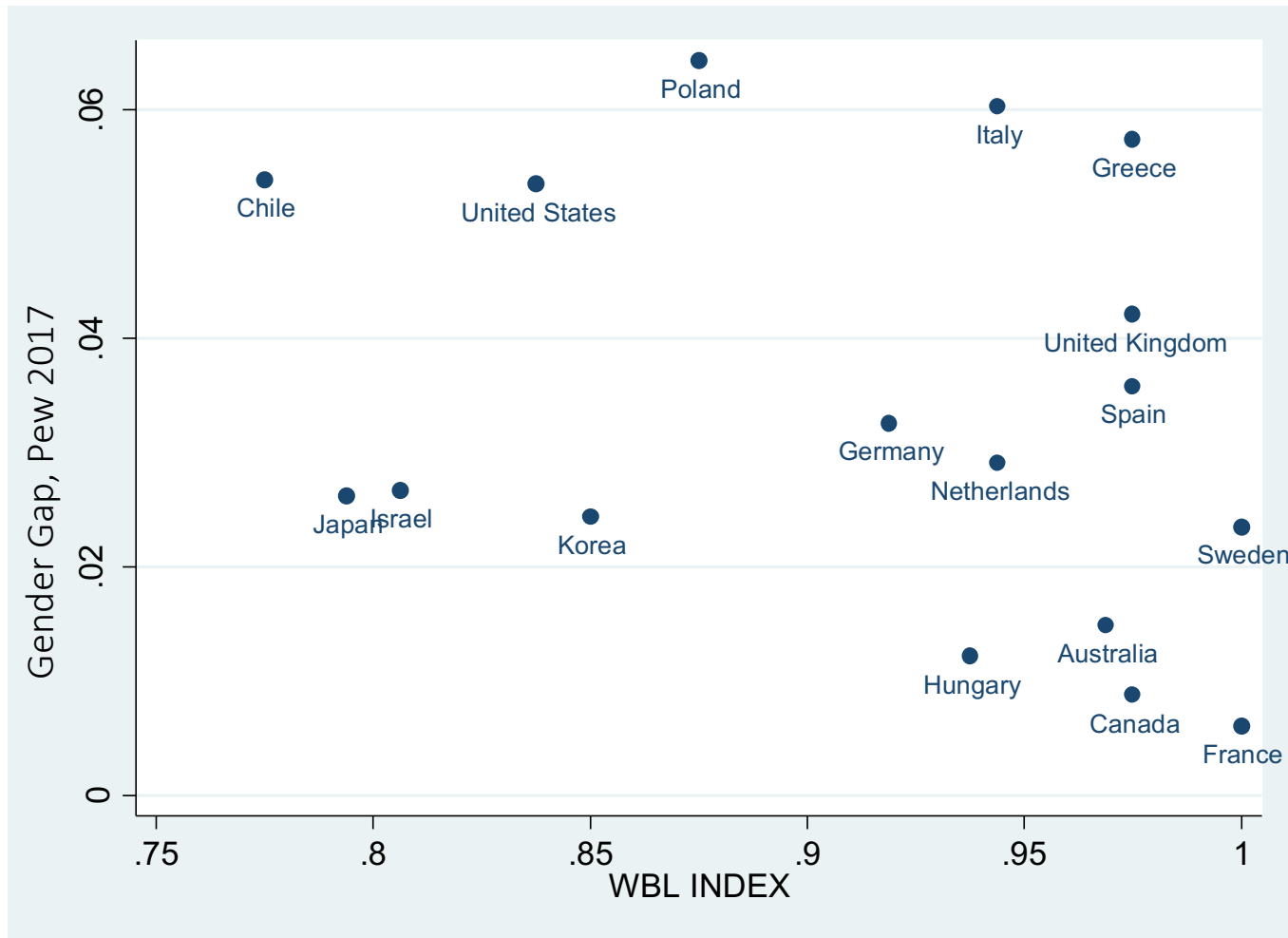
- World Economic Forum index benchmarks 144 countries on gender parity =from 0 (imparity) to 1 (parity) across four thematic dimensions
- We focus on 'Economic Participation and Opportunity' sub-index, consisting of:
  - Participation gap: female/male gap in labor force participation rates
  - Remuneration gap: ratio of estimated female-to-male earned income & wage equality for similar work
  - Advancement gap: ratio of women to men among legislators, senior officials and managers & ratio of women to men among technical and professional workers
- For more detail, see: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017>

# World Values Survey

- Question from World Values Survey national identity module: “Do you agree, disagree or neither agree nor disagree with the following statements? When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women.”
- Asked consistently across the waves, most recently Wave 6 (2010-2014)
- For each country, our measure is the proportion of *all* respondents who agree with this statement

# De Jure Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

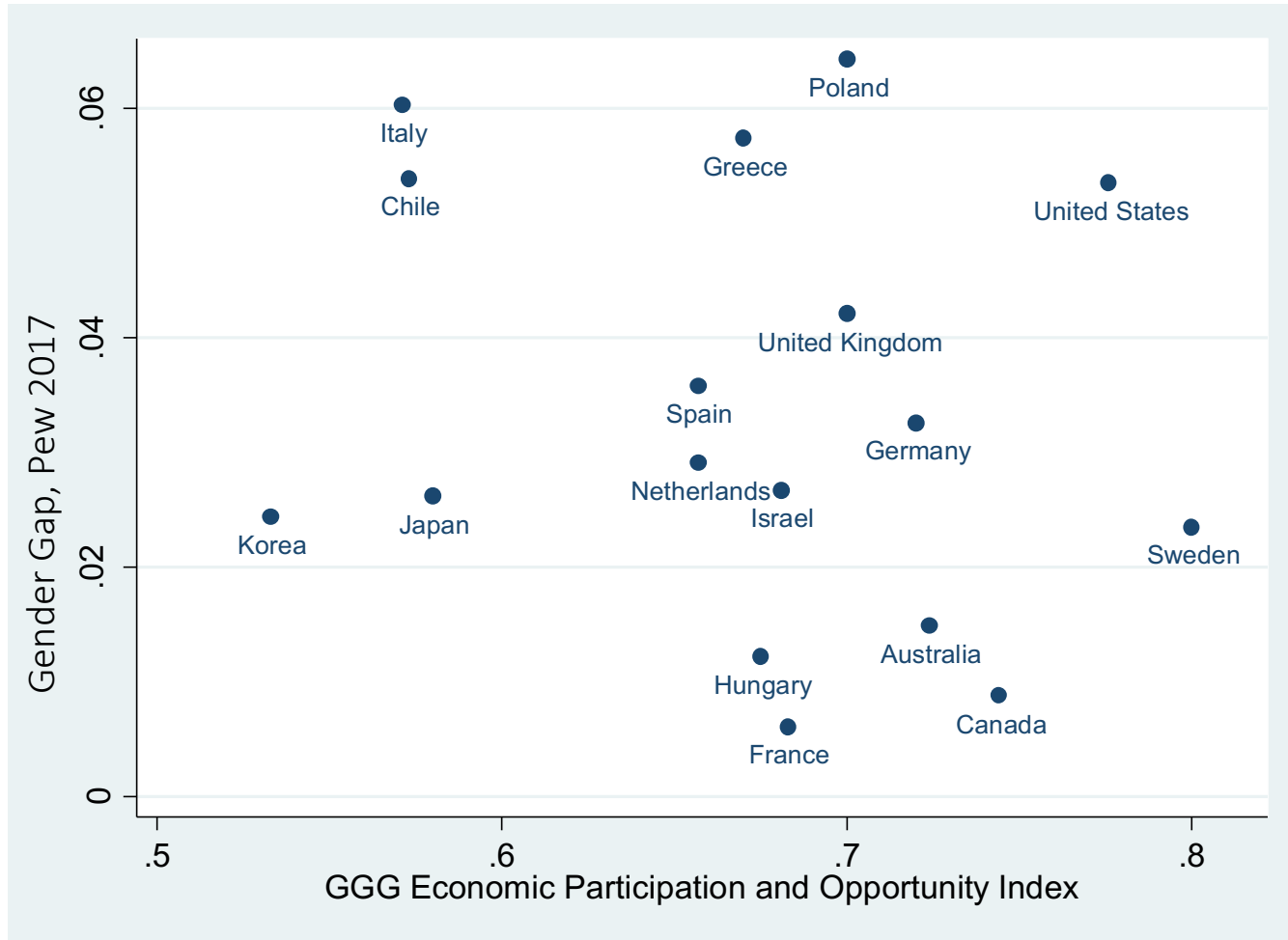
Women, Business, and Law Index of Gender Equality (World Bank)



High-income OECD countries only

# De Facto Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

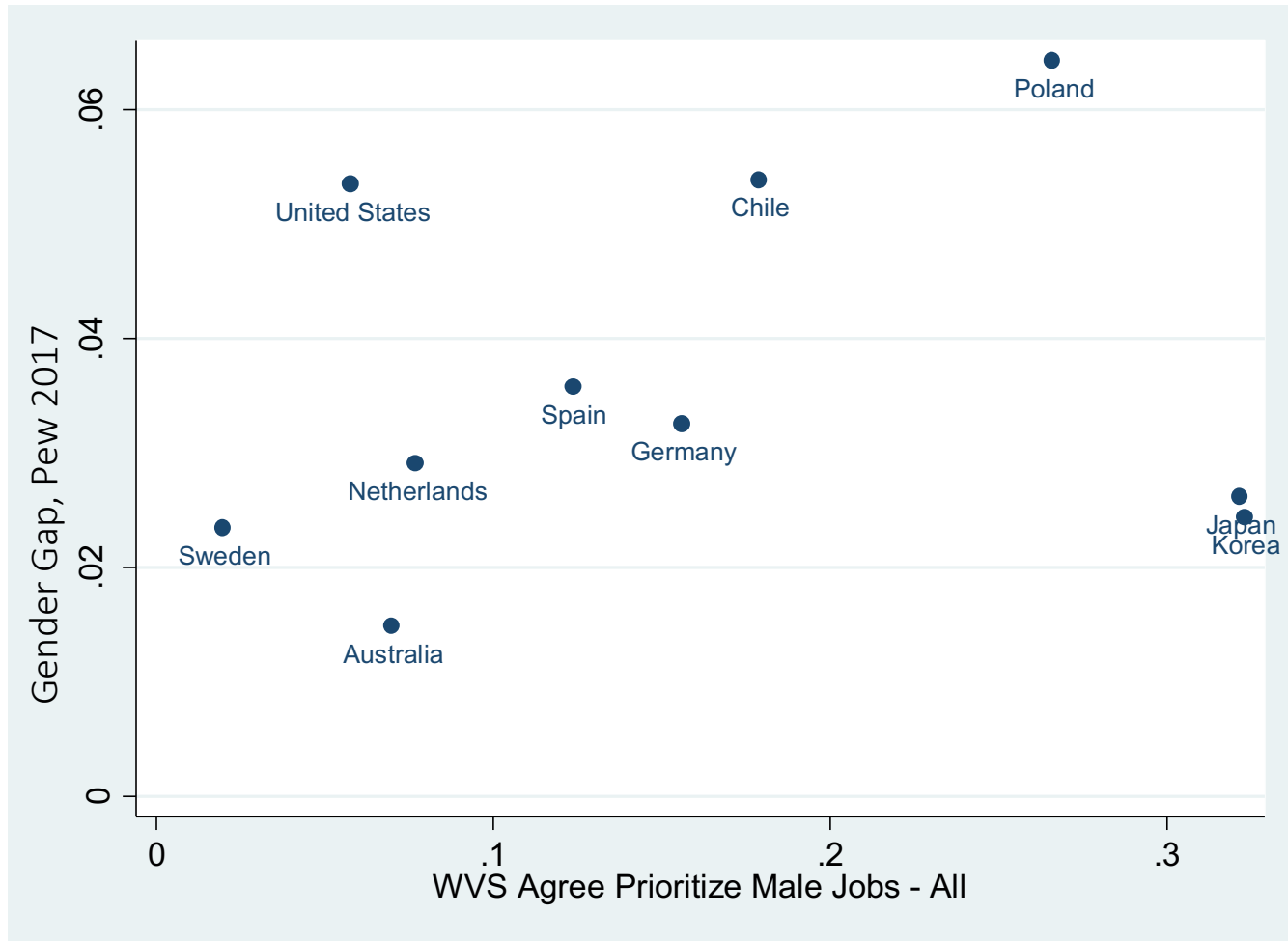
Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum)



High-income OECD countries only

# De Facto Gender Discrimination & Trade Attitudes

Preference for Male Employment (WVS)



High-income OECD countries only