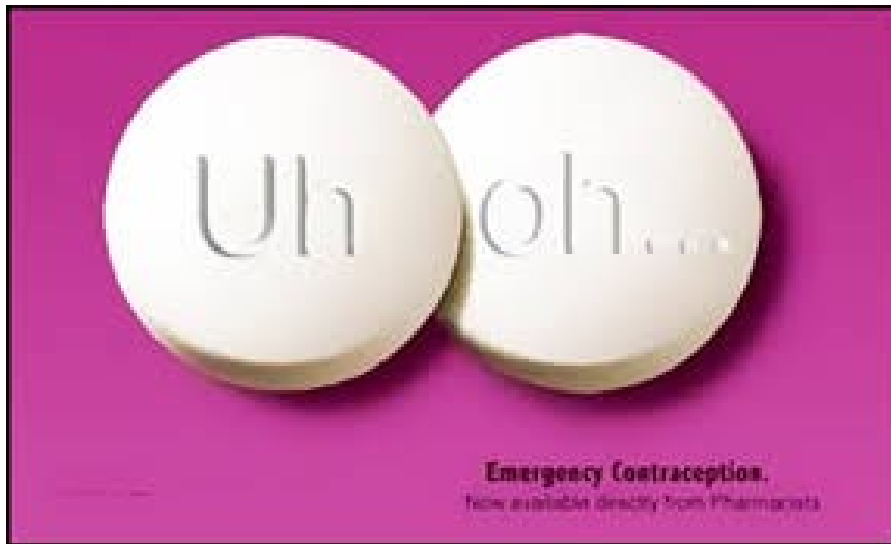




Assessing Plan B: The Effects of the Morning After Pill on Children and Women

by Andrea Bentancor and
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Comments by Laura Ripani
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IEN
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Summary

- ✓ The authors look at the effect of quasi-experimental variation in the availability of the emergency contraceptive (“morning after”) pill in Chile.
- ✓ Data: censal data on all births and fetal deaths over the period 2005-2011.
- ✓ Results: the availability of the pill **reduces pregnancy and early gestation fetal death** (proxy for illegal abortion).
- ✓ Stronger effects for teenagers and young women
- ✓ First paper of its kind

Mini-comments

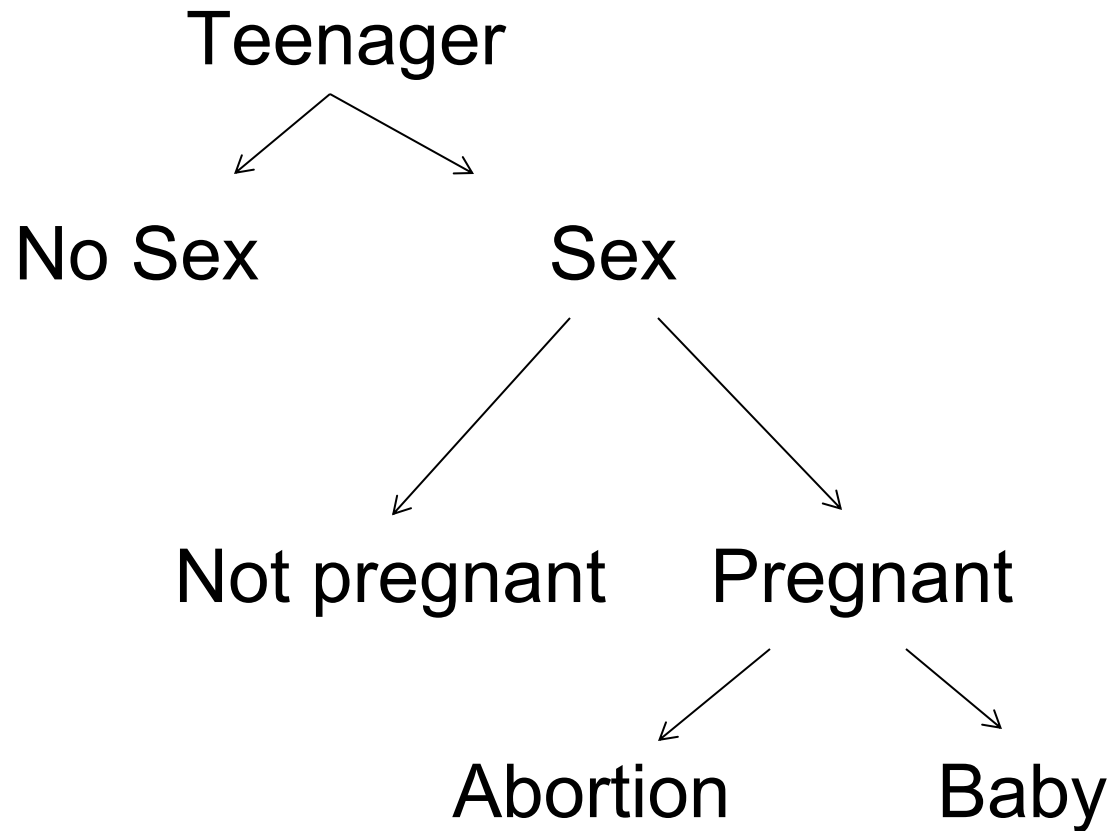
- Little to comment
 - Nicely identified impacts
 - Clear and significant results
 - Original

What to add?

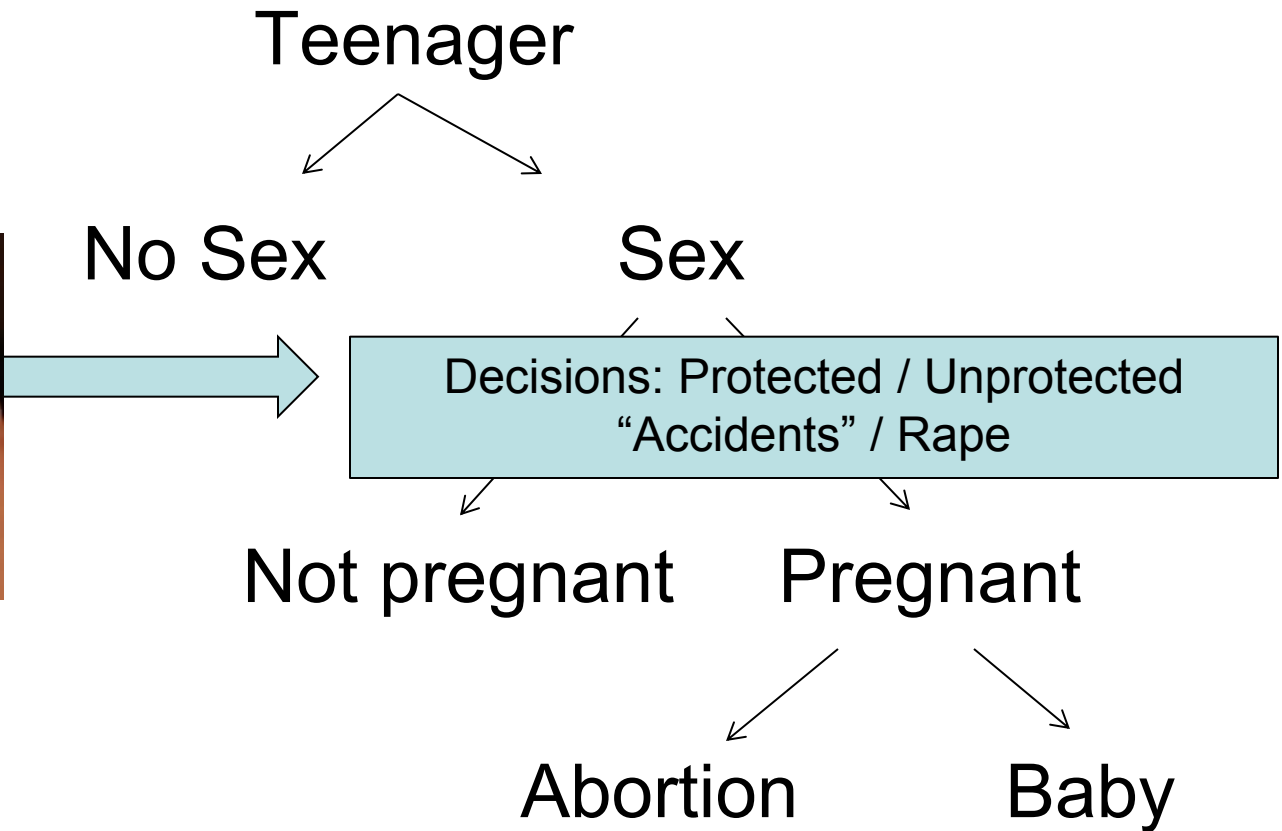
Three comments

1. Adding a little bit more on decisions made by teenagers and potential “side effects” of the policy
2. Adding some comments on how mayors decided to introduce the pill in their municipality
3. Of course, external validity ;)

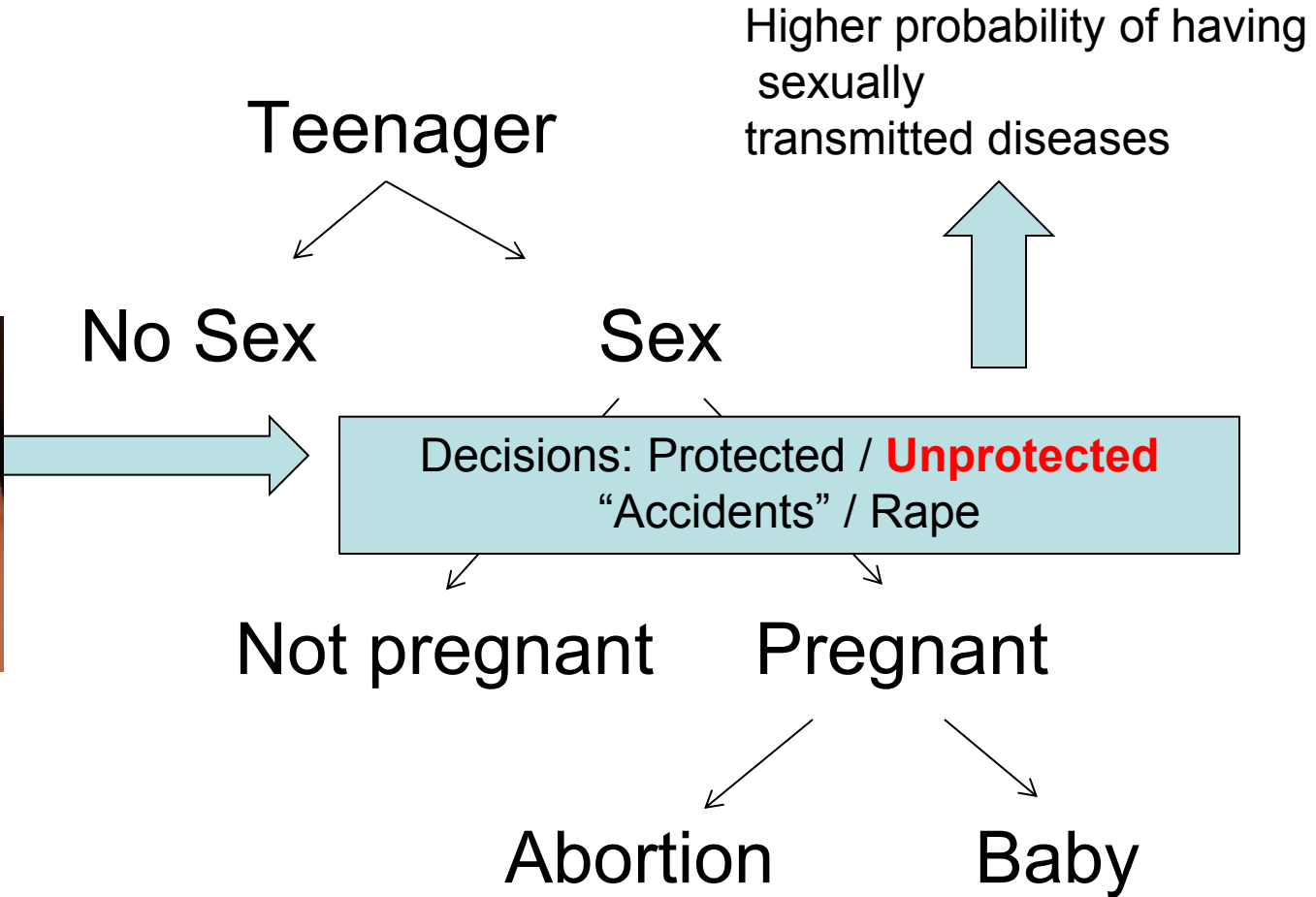
Possibilities



Morning Pill Place



Morning Pill Place



Why majors decided to have the pill available?

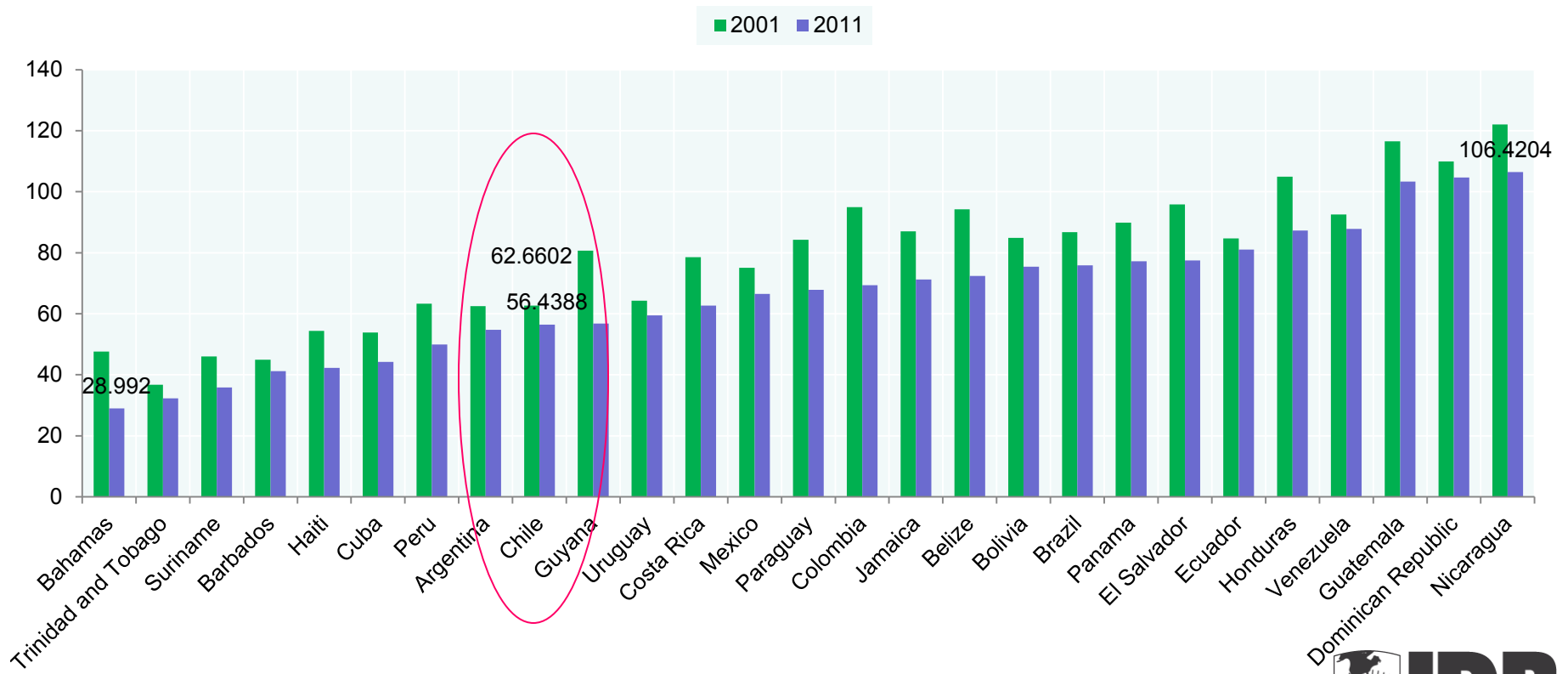
- Conservatism (paper shows not significant differences though)
- Socioeconomic characteristics of the municipality? Levels of education?
- Other political constraints or opportunities to gain votes from introducing the pill or not?

External validity

- How does this paper extend to other countries in the Region and even outside of the Region?
- What is different about Chile?

Teenage Pregnancy in Chile: 56 births every 1,000 teenagers

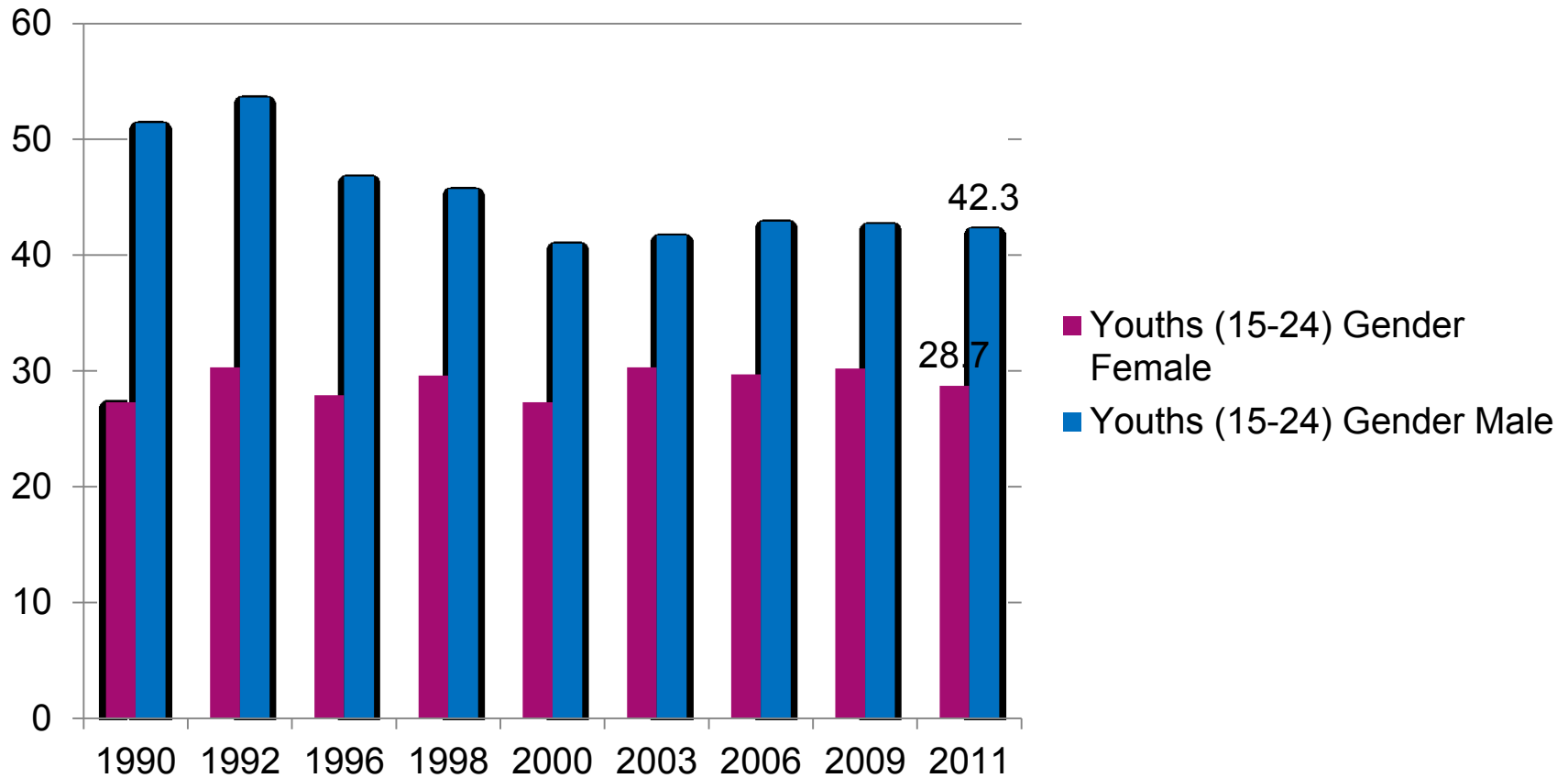
Adolescent fertility rate in Latin America and the Caribbean (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19)



Source: World Development Indicators 2001 y 2011.



Labor Force Participation



Source: CEDLAS