

## **"My dad is better than yours": The role of the parents' relative position among peers in educational outcomes**

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Abstract:

Perhaps one of the most central results of the economics of education is the observed correlation between the parents' level of education and that of their children. Motivated by the recent development of the literature on rank effects, we show from the PISA data that the relative position of parents in a cohort in terms of social status significantly impacts their children's performance. According to our estimates, the relative position of the parent plays a significant role in the outcomes obtained by students, with a gain of about 0.05 standard deviation by decile. Our results also suggest a similar intergenerational rank effect on the child's well-being.