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Subject: Gender of the first born child

Posted by [Sufian](#) on Tue, 12 Jan 2021 17:06:03 GMT

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Hi!

I want to construct a categorical variable for the gender of first born child using Pdhs in order to identify the effect of gender of first born on the fertility of women. I would highly appreciate any help in this matter. I used bord\_01 to generate a dummy that is one if the first born is a son but it appears I making a mistake and the results are rather weird. My guess is the way I construct the variable is wrong.

I would appreciate any help.

Best,  
S.

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Subject: Re: Gender of the first born child

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 13 Jan 2021 13:36:14 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The following lines will do what you want. You can run this on any IR file. I assign code "0" to women who have not had a first birth but of course that's optional.

use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\ALIR71FL.DTA" , clear

```
rename b*_0* b*_*
```

```
gen sex_of_first_child=.
```

```
local li=1
while `li'<=20 {
  replace sex_of_first_child=b4_`li' if bord_`li'==1
  local li=`li'+1
}
```

```
replace sex_of_first_child=0 if sex_of_first_child==.
```

```
label define first_child 0 "No children" 1 "Boy" 2 "Girl"
```

```
label values sex_of_first_child first_child
```

```
tab sex_of_first_child
```

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Subject: Re: Gender of the first born child

Posted by [Sufian](#) on Wed, 13 Jan 2021 13:52:37 GMT

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Dear Tom Pullum!

Thank you so much for the help, you are wonderful.

Kind Regards and a happy new year!

S.

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