Equality or equity? Divisions of work and partnership dissolution in the UK

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This communication analyzes the effect of the division of paid and unpaid work on the risk of dissolution of married and cohabiting couples in the UK, using 16 waves of the BHPS. In the literature, the division of work is usually categorized in terms of equality or traditionalism, depending on whether housework is done mostly by women or not. We propose an exploratory measure to include equity in our operationalization of the division of work, taking into account that partners might consider the division fair if none of them is doing a double shift.

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