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A Middle Ground: The Gendered Division of Housework in Heterosexual Mixed-Nativity Couples

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My project explores the gendered division of housework in heterosexual mixed-nativity unions within the United States. Although the gendered division of housework is well-studied, little is known about it within mixed-nativity marriages and cohabitations. With a growing number of intermarriages across America, understanding the division of housework within these relationships is key.

Using data from the American Time-Use Survey and quantitative methods, I address the following questions: (1) How does the division of housework for heterosexual mixed-nativity couples, both married and cohabiting, compare to that of their same-nativity counterparts? (2) How does the gendered division of housework for heterosexual cohabiting mixed-nativity couples differ from that of married mixed-nativity couples? My findings indicate that within both marriages and cohabitations, mixed-nativity unions operate as a middle ground between same nativity native-born couples and same nativity foreign-born couples in terms of women's time spent on housework, with few notable differences amongst men.