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## Educational Effects of Sibling Deaths on Surviving Siblings\*

Dhanushka Thamarapani,<sup>†</sup> Marc Rockmore,<sup>‡</sup> and Willa Friedman<sup>§</sup>

### Abstract

We study childhood exposure to sibling deaths on subsequent adult outcomes in Indonesia. Using a 21-year panel, we present educational outcomes of surviving siblings relative to children in other households (inter-household) and their siblings (intra-household). Sibling loss reduces educational attainment at all ages, with 12- to 17-year-olds being the most negatively affected. They lose about 0.74 years (9 months) of schooling and are about nine percentage points less likely to complete secondary school compared to their younger siblings of the *same* mother. Our findings suggest that the effectiveness of targeting childhood mortality may not be truly captured until decades afterwards.

Keywords: Child mortality, Siblings, Education, Drop Out, Household Reallocation

JEL Codes: I10, J13, J16, O53

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