Table S1. Variable coding and data decisions.

Variable names and transformations from the original MCS codes or names.

Variable	Variable name	Original MCS1 Variable name (if different)	Changes made (if any)
Development below 2SD from mean for sum of 12 main caregiver responses	Sum_delay		Sum of delay variables, cut at -2SD to create a binary variable
Smiles		amsmila0	
Sits up		amsitua0	
Stands up holding on		amstana0	
Puts hands together		amhanda0	
Grabs objects		amgraba0	
Holds small objects		ampicka0	
Passes a toy		amptoya0	
Walks a few steps		amwalka0	
Gives a toy		amgivea0	
Waves bye-bye		amwavea0	
Extends arms		amarmsa0	
Nods for yes		amnodsa0	
Frequency mother sees her mother	amsemo00		
Mother has other parents to talk to	ampeta00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Family would help if financial problems	ampefp00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Number of types of financial help from grandparents	Fin_help-n-types		Summed from original variable
Frequency mother reports spending time with friends	amfrti00		
Number of people who attended birth	n_people_at_birth	amwatb0a thru d	Sum of people who attended birth
Family-based infant care in work hours	Allocare_work	amcawmaa	Grandparent or other relatives coded vs all other care
Grandparent lives in household	ADGPAR00		

Table S1 (continued 1)

Variable	Variable name	Original MCS1 variable name (if different)	Changes (if any)
Equivalised household income	advmceqinc		
Age mother left full time education	age_left_ed	amlfte00	
Partner's SES from job	APD07S00		
Partner's employment status	APDACT00		
Mother employed	Work_now	amwksi00	
Winter temperature in room where baby sleeps	amtempa0		
Mother's report of pollution & grime in neighbourhood	amarpg00		
Maternal beliefs: Baby should be picked up when cries	ampcry00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Maternal beliefs: Stimulation is important for infant development	amstim00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Maternal beliefs: Talking to infants is important	amtalk00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Maternal beliefs: cuddling infants is important	amcuddl00		Likert scale: "can't say" recoded to mid-value (neither agree nor disagree)
Bed co-sleeping with a parent was main sleeping arrangement in first 9 months	Bed_coslp	amslbmaa	If parent responded that infant sleeps in the parents' bed, coded as 2, else 1. Variable represents first response for infant sleeping arrangement – secondary sleeping arrangements not included in variable construction.
Breastfed at least 1 week	Breast_1w	ambfeva0, ambfeaa0	Binary variable created representing breastfeeding at least 1 week = 2, else 1.
Main work hours infant care is daycare centre	daycare	amcawmaa	Recoded from original
Main work hours infant care is mother	parents	amcawmaa	Recoded from original

Table S1 (continued 2)

Variable	Variable name	Original MCS1 variable name (if different)	Changes (if any)
Birthweight (kg)	bthwt_kg	ambiwta0, amwtkga0, amwtlba0, amwtoua0	Changed to kg where recorded in lbs and oz
Number of pharmacological pain interventions in labour	n_pain_interventions	amprwm0a thru f	Summed from original variables
Infant conceived using fertility treatment or ART	amfetr00		Recoded from type to yes or no
Duration of labour	amlola00		
Type of delivery	amdewma00		Recoded to 1=normal, C-section, emergency and other=2
Singleton birth	ahnoba00		
Pregnancy related illnesses (e.g., preeclampsia)	amilpr00		Recoded to 1=yes, 2=no
Place of birth	amplbi00		Recoded to hospital versus other
How long mother and infant stayed in hospital after birth	amstho00		
Received full ante-natal care	amanca00		Recoded to 1=yes, 2=no
Infant's sex	ahcsexa0		
Infant has all immunisations	amimmua0		
Infant's age in days when mother was interviewed	ahbage00		
Infant's number of reported illness (by 9 months)	amadmoa0		
Infant's number of reported accidents or injuries	amaccaa0		

Table S1 (continued 3)

Variable	Variable name	Original MCS1 variable name (if different)	Changes (if any)
Mother's birth year	Mums_birth	ampdby00, amcrel00	
Mother reports being tired all the time	amtire00		
Mother reports being depressed	amdepr00		
Average number of cigarettes mother smokes per day	amsmma00		"not applicable" recoded as "0"
Frequency mother drinks alcohol	amaldr00		
Mother has longstanding illness	amloil00		
Number of months pregnant at interview	amarpg00		"not applicable" recoded as "0" (n/a indicates not pregnant)
Ethnicity	AMD08E00		
Father present in household	dad_not_pres	amlibo00	Recoded to yes or no
Father's age when infant was born	part_age	appdby00	
Paternal involvement score: how much help father is	paternal_inv	aploaf00, apnach00, apoffe00, apgetu00	Sum of paternal help variables
Birth interval in months from older sibling	MC_IBI_1		Missing for all 1st borns
Number of siblings in household	ADOTHS00		
Mother reports partner sensitive and aware of her needs	amrese00		

Figure S1. Two way plots showing the direction of effect between each predictor in the full RF model and developmental delay. Lines are Lowess, quadratic or linear, depending on which best visually summarises the observed relationship. The y-axis is the proportion of infants with developmental delay.
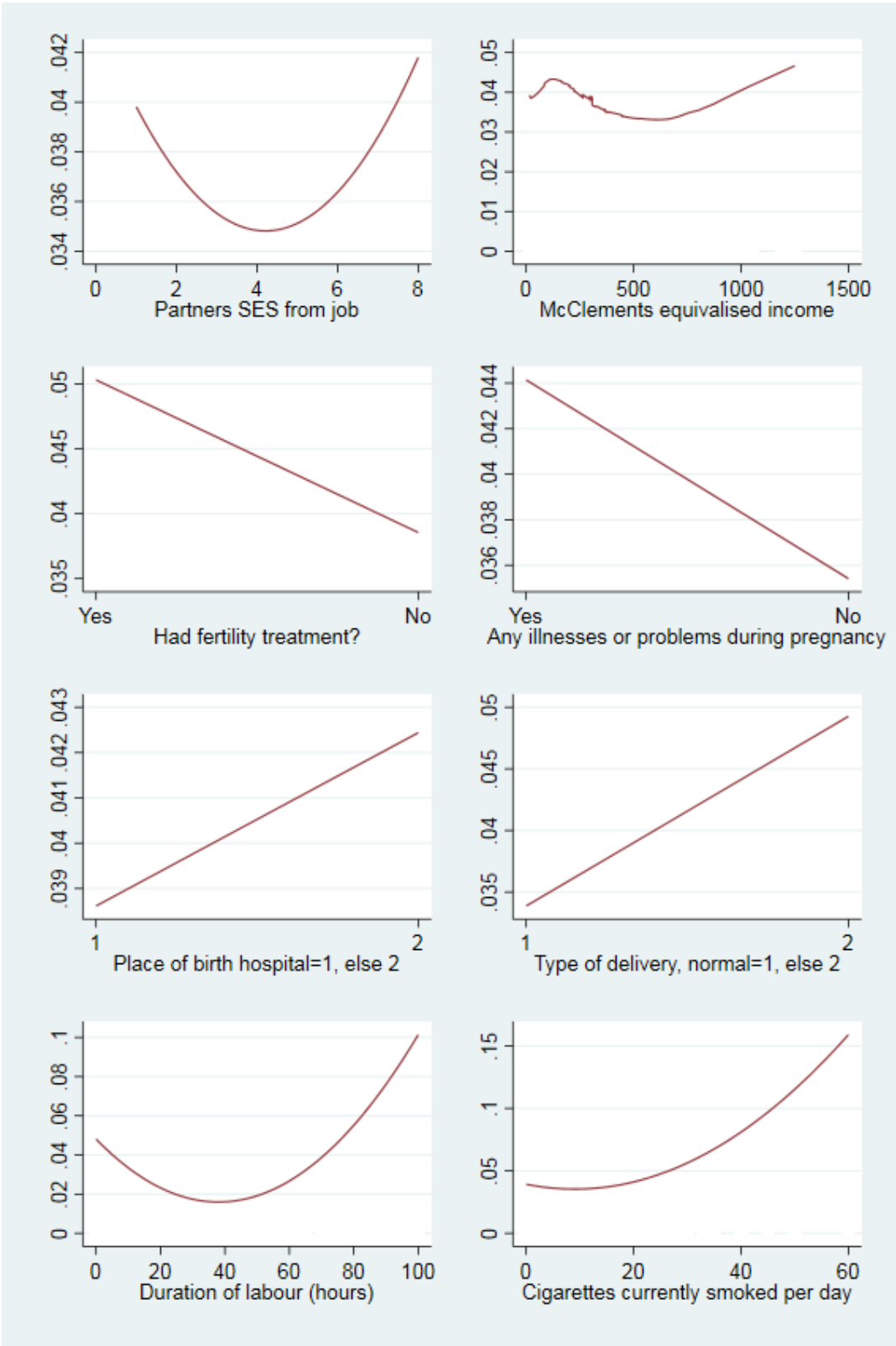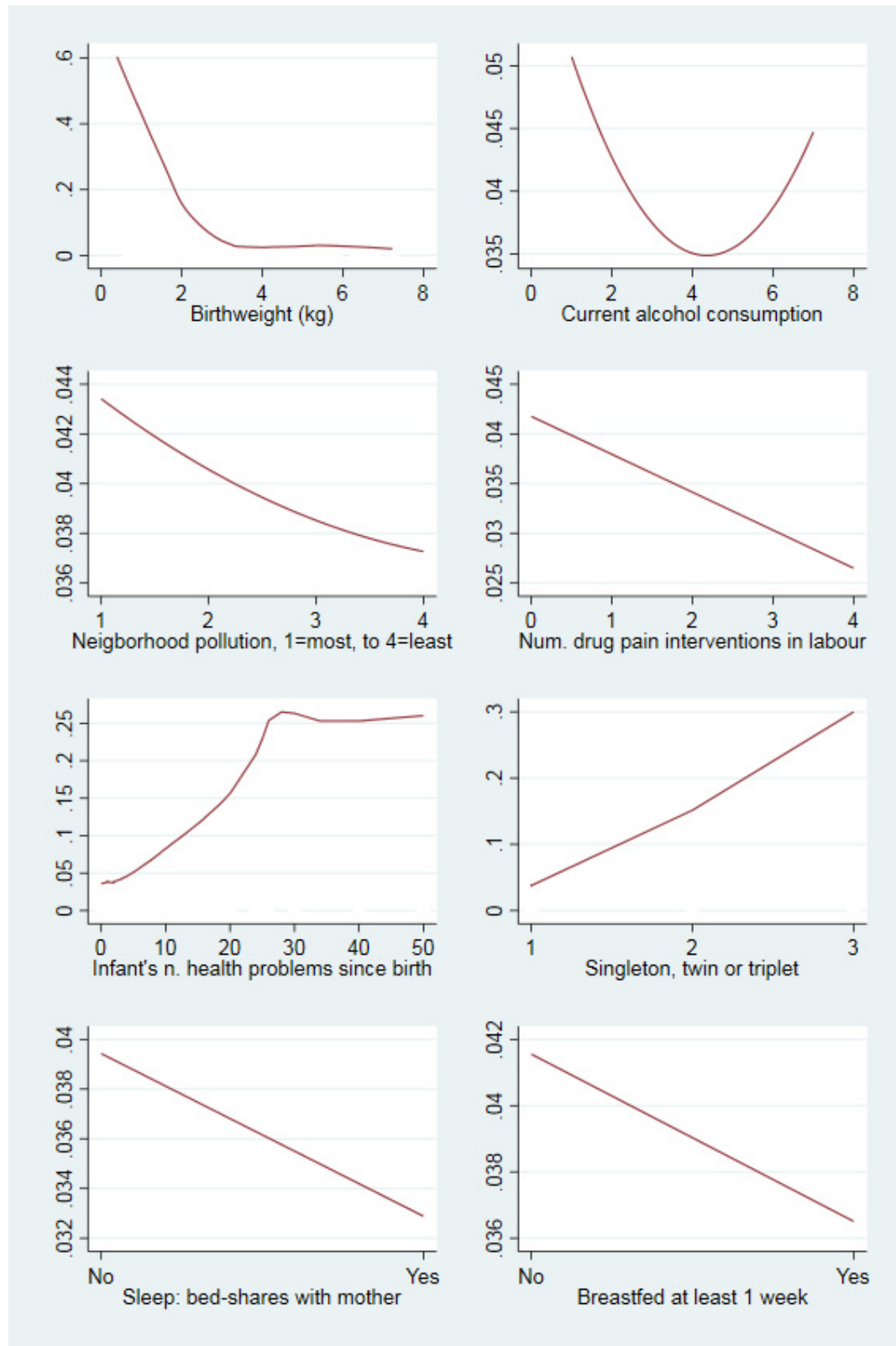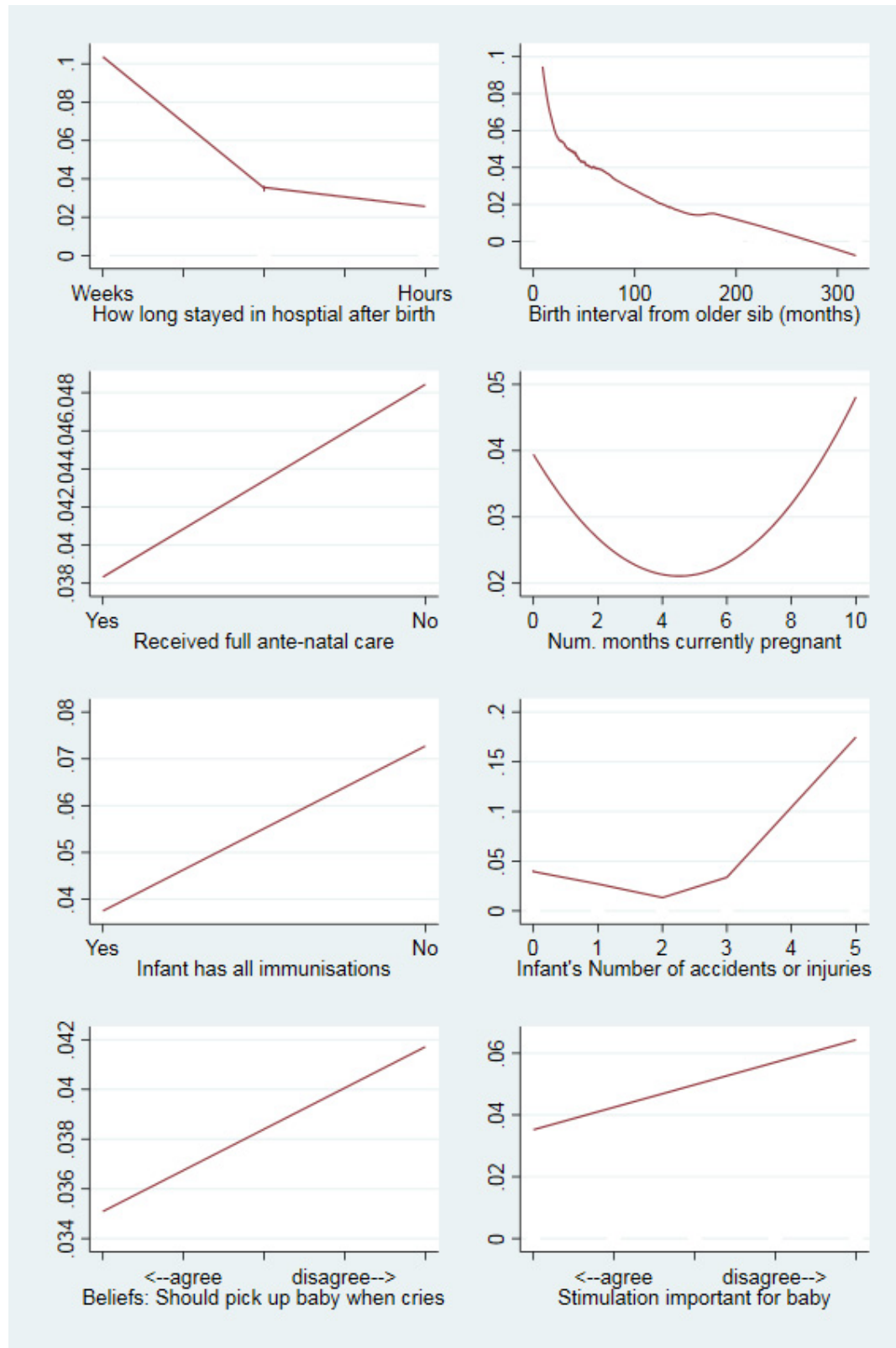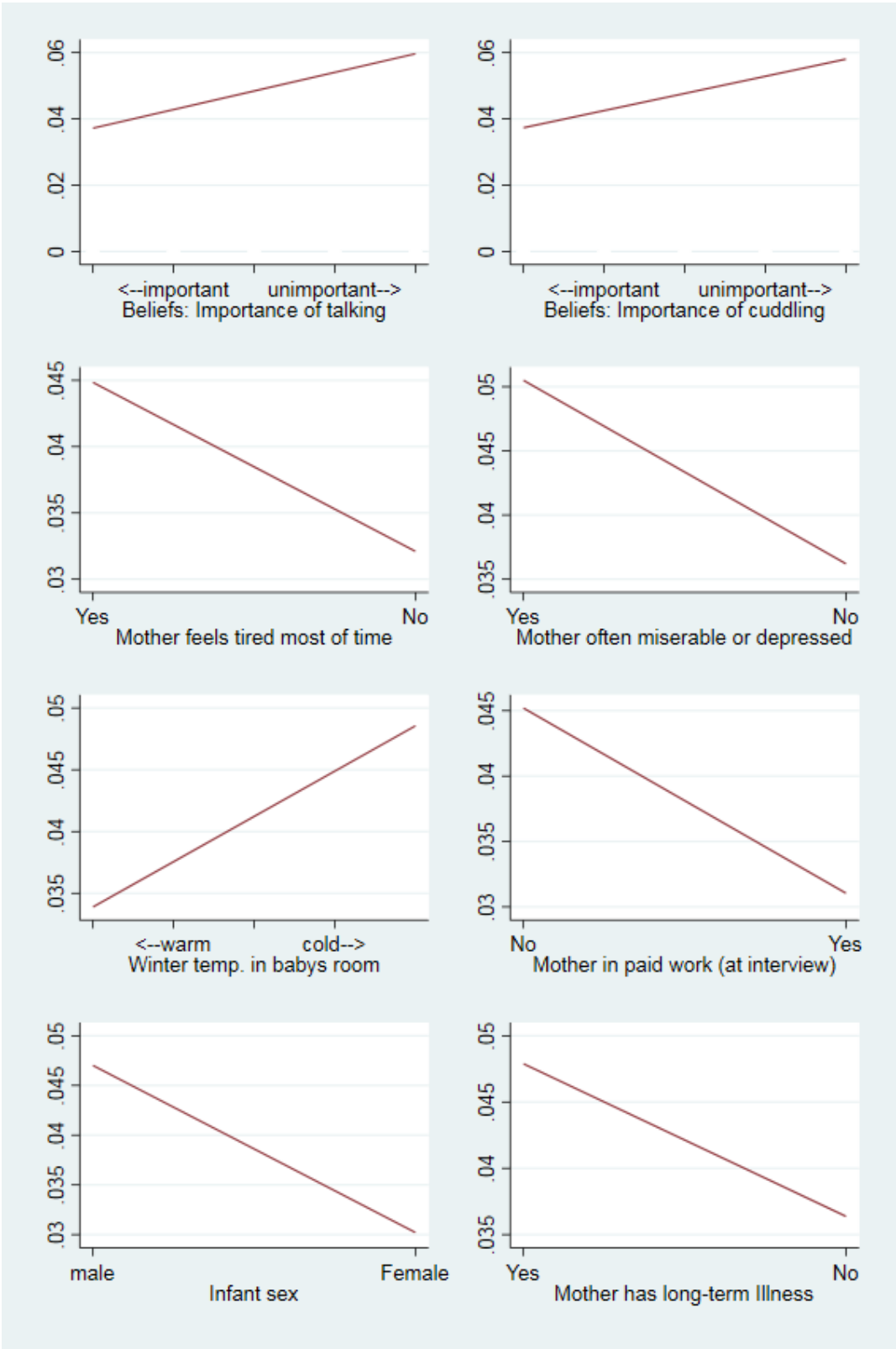
Figure S1 Continued 1:

Figure S1 Continued 2:

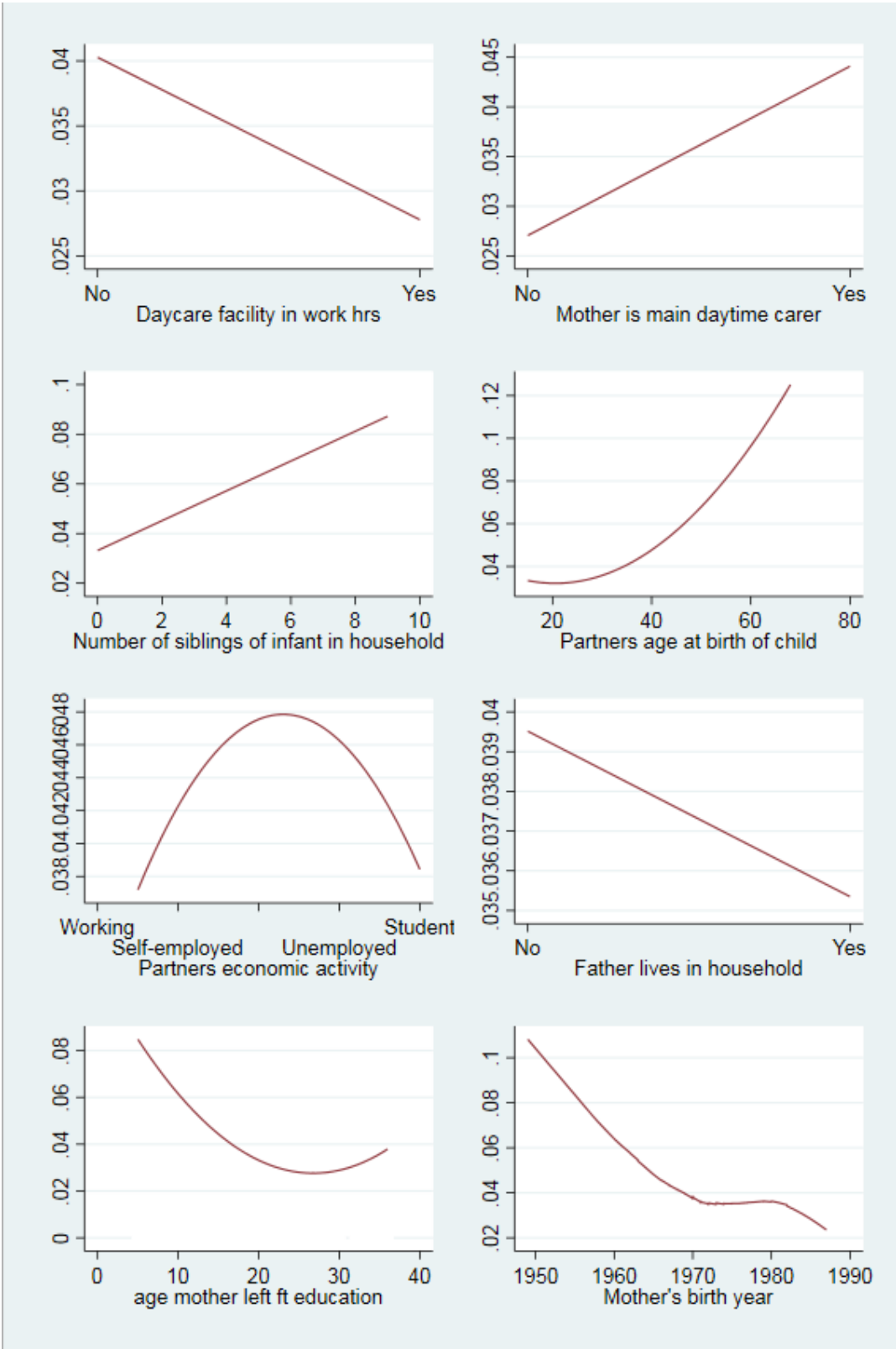Figure S1 Continued 3:

Figure S1 Continued 4:

Figure S1 Continued 5: