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Does it Pay to be a Man? A Study of Pay Differentials between College Graduates

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Oral Presentation 3.1

**DOES IT PAY TO BE A MAN?
A STUDY OF PAY DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN COLLEGE GRADUATES**

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This paper examines whether or not there is a difference in the salaries of recent male and female college graduates. The human capital theory suggests that male and female college graduates, who studied in the same field, have similar education and little work experience, should have similar salaries. However, many studies have shown that men's starting salaries are greater than women's, and that over time the income gap increases.

My model focuses on 1986 college graduates from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth database, and then follows these graduates through 1995. The results for my unique sample of college graduates confirm the general conclusion that men's starting salaries are greater than women's and that over time the income gap does increase.