Elderly Missing Women in Pakistan

The term Missing Women refers to the excess female mortality in some parts of Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The majority of current research analyzes this problem in the 0-5 age group. Given the changing population structure of developing countries it is imperative to examine the prevalence of this phenomenon in older age groups, especially within the elderly population. My research studies the burden of the elderly Missing Women problem in the context of Pakistan. To achieve this I examine how missed opportunities during the life course affect the survival of women in each age cohort and the cumulative impact of this on women who survive to old age. I analyze this within the changing social milieu of Pakistan (e.g. erosion of joint family system or female labor force participation) and the lack of state facilities to shoulder the burden of the elderly.