Network analysis of England's single parent household COVID-19 control policies: a proof-of-concept study

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INTRODUCTION

Policy 1: Children of single parent households (SPHs) were permitted to move between parental homes.

Policy 2: SPHs permitted to form a support bubble with another SPH/other household.

Related work:

Network analyses of social and support bubbles look only at bubble impact and assumed exclusivity – no additional actors entering or leaving homes.

INTRODUCTION

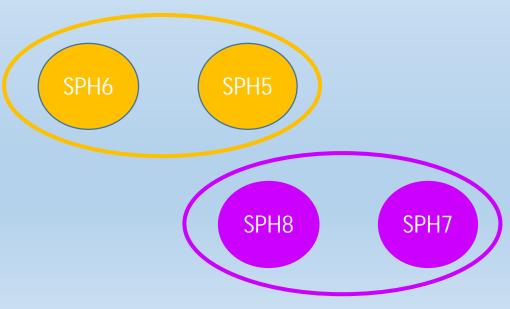
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SPH3 SPH4 SPH2 SPH1

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STUDY AIM

Aim: To explore the putative combined impact of these policies on Covid-19 household transmission dynamics

Percolation theory

- Mathematical approach to understanding connectivity
- Examines network changes from small disconnected clusters to a 'giant component' likely to affect a large number of people

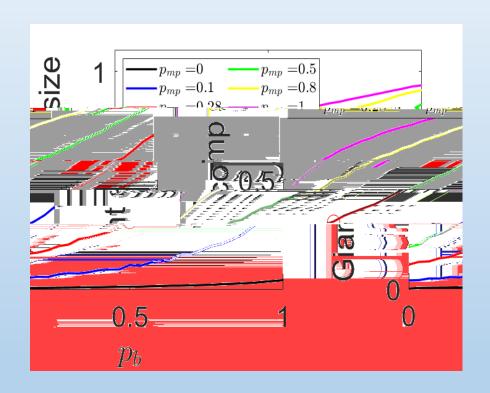
DEFINITIONS

Single parent - a primary care-giver who does not live with the other primary caregiver of their child/children, *irrespective of whether they are living with a new partner or not*

Discordant-Parentage Single Parent Household (DSPH) – a SPH that includes 2+ children

VARYING EXTENT OF BUBBLING & DSPHs





Growth of the giant component is much slower for bubbling without DSPHs than for DSPHs without bubbling.

CONCLUSIONS

 Support bubbles between SPHs have little impact on formation of giant components that may accelerate Covid-19 transmission, even when children are moving between SPHs, except where one or more are DSPHs

LIMITATIONS

• Limited estimates available

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