FOOD INSECURITY: BOLIVIAN HOUSEHOLDS' VULNERABILITY IN 2015 Alejandra Delgado y Hernán Naranjo Mejía

ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the vulnerability of Bolivian household's food insecurity in 2015. Since food insecurity is a very complex concept, this research focuses its attention to the diversity and quality of the Bolivian family diet (according to the data taken from the national Household Survey 2015), understanding that a deficient diet is a proxy to home vulnerability. On the other hand, three dimensions of the food security concept (availability, access and use of food) were the basis to find variables that could explain this situation at a home level. A binary choice model (Probit) was used to determine the probability that a household becomes vulnerable; and the results show the importance of women, education, marital status and age of the family head, income generation and housing conditions to reduce vulnerability to food insecurity at household level. Likewise, this research has found an interesting relation between vulnerability to food insecurity and the location of the household and the ethnic status of the family head which could be explained in terms of the nature of family farming in Bolivia.

Keywords: Food Insecurity, Households, Nutrition, Diet Diversity, Bolivia.

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