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# Gender Diversity on Corporate Boards: Do Women Contribute Unique Skills?

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### Article Information

#### Abstract

We show that gender diversity in corporate boards could improve firm value because of the contributions that women make to the board. Prior studies examine valuation effects of gender-diverse boards and reach mixed conclusions. To help resolve this conundrum, we consider how gender diversity could affect firm value, that is, what mechanisms could explain how female directors benefit corporate board

performance. We hypothesize and provide evidence that women directors contribute

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## Additional Materials

[Author Disclosure Statement\(s\) \(132.14 KB\)](#)

[Replication Package \(180.25 KB\)](#)

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## JEL Classification

**G32** Financing Policy; Financial Risk and Risk Management; Capital and Ownership Structure; Value of Firms; Goodwill

**G34** Mergers; Acquisitions; Restructuring; Voting; Proxy Contests; Corporate Governance

**J16** Economics of Gender; Non-labor Discrimination

**L25** Firm Performance: Size, Diversification, and Scope

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