

Pallavi Vyas

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Labor Economics, Human Capital Theory, Public Health, Development Economics

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Ph.D., Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
Dissertation: Labor Market Shifts and their Impact on Adolescent Behavior
Committee: Kerwin Charles (Chair), Damon Jones, Bruce Meyer
Date of Completion: (expected) Spring 2017

PREDOCTORAL STUDIES

Master of Public Policy, University of Chicago, 2010
M.A. Economics, Bowling Green State University, 1997
B.A. Economics, University of Bombay, 1993

JOB MARKET PAPER:

In this paper I investigate whether higher returns to education for women lead to a reduction in teen birth rates. I first estimate the impact of the growth in the female college wage premium on teen birth rates in the U.S. An increase in the college wage premium is a proxy for higher expected earnings after completing college. Higher future earnings create incentives to pursue further education and they decrease the relative returns to having a birth as a teen. Using state variation, I find that an increase in the female college wage premium does lead to a reduction in teen birth rates. To address endogeneity and measurement error issues, I use a shift-share instrumental variable for women's wages to construct the female college wage premium. Results from three supplemental analyses support the main results. First, teen birth rates do respond to the growth in the female high school wage premium but the results are not conclusive. Second, the estimates suggest that growth in the male college wage premium has a lower impact on teen birth rates. Third, the elasticity of fertility with respect to the female college wage premium decreases as women grow older. This research can explain approximately 30% of the fall in teen birth rates that has occurred from the early 1990s up to the present.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Large Scale Industrial Investments in U.S. Counties and their Impact on Teen Birth Rates
- More Educated Mothers: Do They Lower the Probability of Children being Convicted or Being Teen Mothers?
- Do Large Scale Industrial Investments Reduce Crime Rates in U.S. Counties? with Juan Pereira
- Does Improved College Access Reduce Teen Birth Rates?
- Impact of Economic Opportunities on Teen Birth Rates and Crime: An Intergenerational Approach

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Bennett, Dan and Yin Wesley "The Market for High-Quality Medicine: Retail Chain Entry and Drug Quality in India" (Revision Requested: Review of Economic Studies) (RA, 2012-2013)
- Konetzka RT, Brauner DJ, Coca Perrillon M, Werner RM. The Role of Dementia in Nursing Home Report Cards. Medical Care Research and Review 2015 Oct; 72(5):562-79. (RA for Grant Proposal, Summer 2010)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Advanced Microeconomics (Ph.D., University of Chicago, TA for Damon Jones)
- Public Policy and the Labor Market (M.P.P., University of Chicago, TA for Kerwin Charles)
- State and Local Public Finance (M.P.P., University of Chicago, TA for Paula Worthington)
- Math Camp (M.P.P., University of Chicago, Head TA for Calculus)
- Mathematics for Public Policy (M.P.P., University of Chicago, TA)
- International Policy Practicum: Improving the Fight Against Tuberculosis: An Evaluation of and Recommendations for Operation ASHA in India (M.P.P., University of Chicago, TA for Alicia Menendez)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LECG/Economic Analysis LLC, Los Angeles CA: Assisted expert witnesses on antitrust, securities and labor litigation matters. Cases involved claims of monopolization, price fixing, anticompetitive agreements and conspiracies, bundling and tying, predatory pricing, concerted refusal to deal, bid rigging, working “off the clock”, worker and job classifications. Managed large teams of people on high profile and time sensitive cases.

LECG: Managing Economist, 2006 – 2008

LECG: Senior Economist, 2004 – 2006

Economic Analysis LLC: Economist, 1999 – 2004

Economic Analysis LLC: Research Associate, 1998 – 1999

Milken Institute, Santa Monica, CA: Research Analyst, 1997 – 1998

PRESENTATIONS

- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) International, June 2016
- Center for Human Potential, University of Chicago, May 2016
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), November 2015

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Center of Demography and Economics of Aging, NORC Fellowship (2014-2015)
- University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy Fellowship (2010-2014)
- University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy Scholarship (M.P.P) (2008-2010)
- Bowling Green State University, Scholarship (M.A.); Omicron Delta Epsilon Award; Dean’s List All Semesters.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- Computer Skills: STATA, SAS, ArcGIS, Tableau, LaTeX.
- Language Skills: Fluent in English, Hindi, Marathi and Gujarati. Proficient in French. Learning Spanish.
- U.S. Citizen.

REFERENCES

- Dr. Kerwin Charles, Interim Dean and Edwin and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service Professor
Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
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- Dr. Damon Jones
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- Dr. Bruce Meyer, McCormick Foundation Professor
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