ANUAR ASSAMIDANOV

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EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University 2019 - Present
Ph.D. in Economics *Claremont, CA*
Dissertation: "Essays on Crime and Discrimination"
Committee: Gregory DeAngelo (chair), Fernando Lozano, Scott Cunningham

Nazarbayev University 2011 - 2015
B.S. in Mechanical Engineering *Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Causal Inference, and Machine Learning

RESEARCH

Discrimination and Constraints: Evidence from The Voice (Job Market Paper)

Gender discrimination in the hiring process is one significant factor contributing to labor market disparities. However, there is little evidence on the extent to which gender bias by hiring managers is responsible for these disparities. In this paper, I exploit a unique dataset of blind auditions of *The Voice* television show as an experiment to identify own gender bias in the selection process. The first televised stage audition, in which four noteworthy recording artists are coaches, listens to the contestants "blindly" (chairs facing away from the stage) to avoid seeing the contestant. Using a difference-in-differences estimation strategy, a coach (hiring person) is demonstrably exogenous with respect to the artist's gender, I find that artists are 4.5 percentage points (11 percent) more likely to be selected when they are the recipients of an opposite-gender coach. I also utilize the machine-learning approach in Athey et al. (2018) to include heterogeneity from team gender composition, order of performance, and failure rates of the coaches. The findings offer a new perspective to enrich past research on gender discrimination, shedding light on the instances of gender bias variation by the gender of the decision maker and team gender composition.

Pandemic Safeguards and Household Safety
(with Scott Cunningham, Greg DeAngelo, Uyen Le, and Rebecca Thornton)

A flurry of research has examined the effect of COVID-19-related policies on family violence with considerable variation in approach, often producing conflicting results. In this paper, we provide four main contributions to the existing literature. First, we utilize up-to-date estimation methods developed by Goodman-Bacon (2021) and Callaway and Sant'Anna (2020) to account for the differential timing in implementing COVID-19 policies and compare our estimates with traditional two-way fixed effects. Second, we use the most comprehensive data from the United States from 30 jurisdictions across 18 states to ensure that our conclusions are not reached due to data selection issues. Third, we evaluate three COVID policies: shelter-in-place, school closures, and daycare closures. Fourth, we use two measures of family violence: adult domestic violence and child violence. We find that school closure significantly doubled the number of child abuse calls per day from the mean. However, daycare closure significantly reduced 1.2 calls of child abuse calls per day. We detect no effect for shelter-in-place or daycare closure orders and document a reversal of our estimates' direction when using Callaway and Sant'Anna (2020). to measure the impact of daycare closure relative to a two-way fixed effect.

Revisiting Unilateral Divorce, Health, and Crime
(with Muhammad Salman Khalid and Morgan Stockham)

Stevenson and Wolfers (2006) theorized that unilateral divorce laws shifted power from one party to a distribution of power across both parties in the marriage, effectively providing an application of Coasian Bargaining. Utilizing a two-way fixed effects (TWFE) difference-in-difference estimator, they found that unilateral divorce had significantly reduced suicide rates, domestic violence, and intimate homicide. Innovations in econometric theory have raised concerns regarding using TWFE with differential timing in the treatment variable, leading to biased estimation. We revisit Stevenson and Wolfers (2006) with more modern estimators for suicide and intimate homicide rates and utilize appropriate estimators to examine the effect of unilateral divorce laws on suicides and intimate partner homicide rates. In contrast to the original research, we do not find significant effects of unilateral divorce on suicide and intimate homicide rates. This indicates that, on the net, these laws were not beneficial to women's outcomes.

WORKING PAPERS AND PROJECTS

Effect of AI-driven Recommendation System on Worker Productivity and Service Quality
with Josie Xiao

- Utilized a field experiment to answer the question of how machine learning-driven integration into call center operations impacts organizational productivity and work performance.
- Developed recommendation system using cutting-edge Deep Learning and Machine Learning models
- Analyzed the effect of implementing a smart recommendation system on the quality of work for an organization that relies on memorization, experience, and on-spot decision-making.

Recidivism Forecasting Challenge
with Muhammed Selman

- Predicted recidivism using person and place-based variables with the goal of improving outcomes for those serving a community supervision sentence.
- Utilised Xgboost, Adaboost, LightGBM, CatBoost, Autoencoder, and Logistic Regression algorithms using Python libraries

Online Advertisement and Human Trafficking
with Beata Luczywek

- Built a Deep Learning model to identify human trafficking occurrences from online advertisements
- Examined the effect of the criminalization of prostitution on human trafficking

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

- Computational Tools for Economists (Master's), *California State University, Fullerton* Spring 2023
- Python Programming (Undergraduate), *Cal Poly Pomona* Spring 2023
- Introduction to Statistics (Undergraduate), *Pitzer College* Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Machine Learning in Economics (Master's), *California State University, Fullerton* Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant

- Machine Learning in Asset Pricing (Master's), *Claremont Graduate University* Fall 2021
- Causal Inference and Research Design, *Remote Student Exchange Course* Fall 2021

HONORS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Prize Winner in "Recidivism Forecasting Challenge" ($19,500) Summer 2021
Machine Learning Contest hosted by National Institute of Justice

NBER Grant on Women, Victimization, and COVID-19 Fall 2020
with S. Cunningham, R. Thorton, G. DeAngelo, and Y.Le

Criminal Justice Reform Fellowship Spring 2020
Claremont Graduate University

Blaisdell Economics Fellowship 2019-2021
Claremont Graduate University

CGU Fellowship - Economics 2019-2021
Claremont Graduate University

MISCELLANEOUS

Technical Skills:	Python, Stata, R, SQL, LaTeX, Tableau, Github, Git, Web Scraping, GIS
Language	English (fluent), Kazakh (native), Russian(fluent) and Turkish (fluent)
Citizenship	Kazakhstan (US Visa Status: F-1; with an option for STEM OPT Extension)

REFERENCES

Professor Gregory DeAngelo
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California State University, Fullerton
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