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BROWN UNIVERSITY

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Undergraduate Studies:

BSc, Physics, Hebrew University, 2012
MA, Economics, Hebrew University, Magna Cum Lauda, 2017

Graduate Studies:

Brown University, 2017 to present
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Thesis Title: “Essays in Investments in Children”
Expected Completion Date: May 2023

References:

Professor Anna Aizer
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Brown University
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Professor Jesse M Shapiro
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Professor Peter Hull
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Professor Jesse Bruhn
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Publications:

“Does Remedial Education at Late Childhood Pay Off After All? Long-Run Consequences for University Schooling, Labor Market Outcomes and Inter-Generational Mobility” (with Victor Lavy and Genia Rachkovski), Journal of Labor Economics. Volume 40, Number 1, January 2022, pp. 239–282

Research Papers:

“Income Shocks, School Choice, and Long-Term Outcomes: Lessons from Child Allowances in Israel” (Job Market Paper)

I study how a shock to resources during childhood affects educational decisions and long-term outcomes. I take advantage of a birthday cutoff rule in a reform to Child Allowances in Israel, which resulted in similar families receiving substantially different amounts of income. I find a high heterogeneity in the effect of a negative income shock. A shock of 1,000 USD to child allowances reduces Jewish boys' probability of matriculating high school by a statistically significant 2.3 percentage points (10%). I find smaller and indistinguishable than zero effects for other demographic groups. This pattern is persistent across different educational outcomes. I show evidence that this heterogeneity is explained by Jewish boys sorting into lower-quality Jewish ultra-orthodox schools that are unavailable for the other demographic groups. Transitioning to these ultra-orthodox schools could appeal to parents facing an income shock since they provide additional amenities and services. My findings suggest that following an income shock, parents might make educational decisions that have short-term benefits but will negatively impact their children in the long run.

The Long-Run Effects of Public Universal Pre-K

I estimate the effect of attending public pre-K at age three on matriculating high school at age eighteen. My setting is municipalities with an Arab majority in Israel which experienced a universal public pre-K expansion in 2000-2004. I leverage the staggered rollout of the reform in Israel to identify the causal effect. I find that attending pre-K positively affects performance in high-school matriculation exams in the Hebrew and Arabic languages. A marginal treatment effect (MTE) analysis reveals a reverse selection on gains: children who benefit the most from pre-K are less likely to enroll in public pre-K.

Research Papers in Progress

The Income Effects of Reducing Unconditional Cash transfers on Families in Israel (With Hani Mansour, Naomi Gershoni, Rania Gihleb, and Yannay Shannan)

This paper estimates the income effect of reducing child allowances on fertility and labor market outcomes. In 2003, Israel reformed its child allowance program by linearizing the payment schedule and removing its dependence on birth order. The reform generated a significantly larger decline in the monthly allowance for large-sized families giving birth after June 1, 2003 compared to the monthly allowance in similarly sized families giving birth before June 1, 2003. Using a regression discontinuity design (RDD), we find that the decline in child allowances decreased completed fertility among Arab mothers but had little effect on the labor supply of mothers or fathers. In contrast, we find that Jewish families impacted by the reform compensate for the decline in child allowance by enrolling their children in Ultra-Orthodox schools. Consequently, we find that the reform has little impact on the completed fertility of Jewish women and the labor supply of either parent.

Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Economics of Education, Labor Economics

Secondary fields: Public Economics, Inequality, Demography

Teaching Experience:

Fall, 2022 & Fall, 2020	Intermediate Microeconomics, TA for Professor Pedro Dal Bo
Summer, 2019	Economania, Brown University Pre-College Program, Instructor
Fall, 2018	Intermediate Microeconomics, TA for Professor Fahri Ulusoy
Summer, 2018	Economania, Brown University Pre-College Program, Instructor
Summer, 2018	Econometrics, Brown University Pre-College Program, Instructor

Research Experience:

2021	Brown University, Research Assistant for Professors Jesse Bruhn
2019-2020	Brown University, Research Assistant for President Christina Paxson
2018-2019	Brown University, Research Assistant for Professor Jesse Shapiro
2016-2017	Hebrew University, Research Assistant for Professor Victor Lavy
2016-2017	Hebrew University, Research Assistant for Professor Ori Heffetz

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

Spring, 2022	Inequality Project Fellowship, Brown University
2022	Bravo Center Research Grant, Brown University
2017	Zalman Shiffer Award for a Graduate Student, Hebrew University

Professional Activities:

2022	<i>Presentations:</i> PAA conference, PSTC colloquia, Brown Applied Micro Lunch Seminar, APPAM (scheduled)
2021, 2020	<i>Presentations:</i> Brown Applied Micro Lunch Seminar
2019-2020	Co-organizer of Brown Applied Micro Lunch Seminar
2021-present	Trainee, PSTC, Brown University

Other Information

Languages:	Hebrew (native), English (fluent), Arabic (intermediate)
Programming:	STATA, Python, R