

# Literature Review Notes: Research Papers by Theme

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## Table of contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Gender Differences in Education and Labor Markets</b>	<b>2</b>
Mathematics and STEM Performance . . . . .	2
Teacher Influence and Bias . . . . .	3
Gender and Labor Market Outcomes . . . . .	4
<b>Family Structure and Child Development</b>	<b>7</b>
Parental Influence . . . . .	7
Family Structure Effects . . . . .	9
<b>Cognitive Development and Brain Science</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Socioeconomic Status and Educational Achievement</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Non-Cognitive Skills and Academic Success</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Economic Models of Human Capital</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Cultural and Environmental Influences</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Theme Connections and Research Questions</b>	<b>26</b>
Key Cross-Theme Questions . . . . .	26
Connections Between Themes . . . . .	26
<b>Reading Priority Plan</b>	<b>26</b>

## Introduction

This document organizes 72 papers into thematic categories and provides space for recording highlights, methodology notes, and personal insights for each paper.

# Gender Differences in Education and Labor Markets

## Mathematics and STEM Performance

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Card, D., & Payne, A. A. (2021). High School Choices And The Gender Gap In STEM. <i>Economic Inquiry</i> , 59(1), 9–28.	Course selection in high school contributes to gender gaps in STEM		
Cimpian, J. R., et al. (2016). Have Gender Gaps in Math Closed? <i>AERA Open</i> , 2(4), 1–19.	Comparison of gender gaps across ECLS-K cohorts		
Fryer, R. G., & Levitt, S. D. (2010). An Empirical Analysis of the Gender Gap in Mathematics. <i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics</i> , 2(2), 210–240.	No gender gap at school entry; develops in early elementary school		
Hyde, J. S., & Mertz, J. E. (2009). Gender, Culture, and Mathematics Performance. <i>PNAS</i> , 106(22), 8801–8807.	Gender gaps in math related to cultural and social factors		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Lindberg, S. M., et al. (2010). New Trends in Gender and Mathematics Performance: A Meta-Analysis. <i>Psychological Bulletin</i> , 136(6), 1123–1135.	Meta-analysis of gender differences in mathematics performance		

### Teacher Influence and Bias

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Carlana, M. (2019). Implicit Stereotypes: Evidence from Teachers' Gender Bias. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 134(3), 1163–1224.	Teachers' implicit biases affect students' performance and choices		
Lavy, V., & Sand, E. (2018). On the Origins of Gender Gaps in Human Capital: Short and Long-Term Consequences of Teachers' Biases. <i>Journal of Public Economics</i> , 167, 263–279.	Long-term effects of teacher gender bias on educational attainment		

## Gender and Labor Market Outcomes

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Autor, D., et al. (2019). Family Disadvantage and the Gender Gap in Behavioral and Educational Outcomes. <i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics</i> , 11(3), 338–381.	Boys are more adversely affected by family disadvantage than girls		
Bertrand, M., & Pan, J. (2013). The Trouble with Boys: Social Influences and the Gender Gap in Disruptive Behavior. <i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics</i> , 5(1), 32–64.	Boys' behavior problems more influenced by family environment than girls'		
Blau, F. D., & Kahn, L. M. (2000). Gender Differences in Pay. <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> , 14(4), 75–99.	Overview of factors explaining gender wage differentials		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Blinder, A. S. (1973). Wage Discrimination: Reduced Form and Structural Estimates. <i>Journal of Human Resources</i> , 8(4), 436–455.	Introduced decomposition method for analyzing wage discrimination		
Ceci, S. J., & Williams, W. M. (2014). Women’s Underrepresentation in Science: Sociocultural and Biological Considerations. <i>Psychological Bulletin</i> , 140(5), 1120–1168.	Reviews evidence on biological and sociocultural factors in STEM gender gaps		
Mincer, J., & Polachek, S. (1974). Family Investments in Human Capital: Earnings of Women. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 82(2), S76–S108.	Family investment patterns help explain gender earnings differences		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Oaxaca, R. (1973). Male-Female Wage Differentials in Urban Labor Markets. <i>International Economic Review</i> , 14(3), 693–709.	Introduced methodology for analyzing wage discrimination by gender		
Whitcomb, K. M., et al. (2020). A Mismatch Between Self-efficacy and Performance: Undergraduate Women in Engineering. arXiv preprint.	Women in engineering have lower self-efficacy despite higher grades		
Xie, Y., & Shauman, K. A. (2003). Women in Science: Career Processes and Outcomes. Harvard University Press.	Examines women’s career trajectories in science		
Zajac, T., et al. (2025). Gender Pay Gaps Across STEM Fields of Study. <i>Studies in Higher Education</i> , 50(1), 126–139.	Analysis of gender pay gaps across STEM disciplines		

# Family Structure and Child Development

## Parental Influence

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Baker, M., & Milligan, K. (2016). Boy-Girl Differences in Parental Time Investments: Evidence from Three Countries. <i>Journal of Human Capital</i> , 10(4), 399–441.	Parents invest differently in boys vs. girls across different countries		
Bowlby, J. (2008). A Secure Base: Parent-Child Attachment and Healthy Human Development. Basic Books.	Parent-child attachment is foundation for healthy development		
Brenøe, A. A., & Lundberg, S. (2018). Gender Gaps in the Effects of Childhood Family Environment: Do They Persist into Adulthood? <i>European Economic Review</i> , 109, 42–62.	Childhood environment effects on gender gaps persist into adulthood		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Downey, D. B. (1995). When bigger is not better: Family size, parental resources, and children's educational performance. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 60(5), 746–761.	Resource dilution in larger families affects children's educational outcomes		
Endendijk, J. J., et al. (2016). Gender-Differentiated Parenting Revisited: Meta-Analysis Reveals Very Few Differences in Parental Control of Boys and Girls. <i>PLoS One</i> , 11(7), e0159193.	Few differences in parenting of boys vs. girls despite stereotypes		
Sarkadi, A., et al. (2008). Fathers' Involvement and Children's Developmental Outcomes: A Systematic Review of Longitudinal Studies. <i>Acta Paediatrica</i> , 97(2), 153–158.	Father involvement positively affects children's development		



Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Yeung, W. J., et al. (2002). How Money Matters for Young Children's Development: Parental Investment and Family Processes. <i>Child development</i> , 73(6), 1861–1879.	Economic resources affect child development through parenting and materials		

### Family Structure Effects

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Amato, P. R. (2005). The Impact of Family Formation Change on the Cognitive, Social, and Emotional Well-Being of the Next Generation. <i>The Future of Children</i> , 75–96.	Changes in family structure affect children's well-being through multiple pathways		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Augustine, J. M. (2014). Maternal Education and the Unequal Significance of Family Structure for Children's Early Achievement. <i>Social Forces</i> , 93(2), 687–718.	Maternal education moderates the effects of family structure on child achievement		
Carlson, M. J., & Corcoran, M. E. (2001). Family Structure and Children's Behavioral and Cognitive Outcomes. <i>Journal of Marriage and Family</i> , 63(3), 779–792.	Family structure affects behavioral and cognitive outcomes through multiple pathways		
Fomby, P., & Cherlin, A. J. (2007). Family Instability and Child Well-Being. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 72(2), 181–204.	Family instability negatively affects child well-being		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Lee, D., & McLanahan, S. (2015). Family Structure Transitions and Child Development: Instability, Selection, and Population Heterogeneity. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 80(4), 738–763.	Family transitions affect child development through multiple mechanisms		
Lundberg, S. (2017). Father Absence and the Educational Gender Gap. <i>IZA Discussion Paper No. 10814</i> .	Father absence contributes to educational gender gap		
McLanahan, S., & Sandefur, G. (2009). Growing up with a single parent: What hurts, what helps. Harvard University Press.	Single parenthood affects children through economic and parenting pathways		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
McLanahan, S., Tach, L., & Schneider, D. (2013). The Causal Effects of Father Absence. <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> , 39, 399–427.	Father absence has causal negative effects on multiple child outcomes		

## Cognitive Development and Brain Science

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Ansari, D. (2008). Effects of Development and Enculturation on Number Representation in the Brain. <i>Nature Reviews Neuroscience</i> , 9(4), 278–291.	Cultural learning shapes neural representation of numbers		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Blair, C., & Razza, R. P. (2007). Relating effortful control, executive function, and false belief understanding to emerging math and literacy ability in kindergarten. <i>Child Development</i> , 78(2), 647–663.	Executive function related to early academic abilities in kindergarten		
Casey, B. J., et al. (2005). Imaging the Developing Brain: What Have We Learned About Cognitive Development? <i>Trends in Cognitive Sciences</i> , 9(3), 104–110.	Brain development continues through adolescence with implications for behavior		
Deary, I. J., et al. (2007). Intelligence and Educational Achievement. <i>Intelligence</i> , 35(1), 13–21.	Intelligence strongly predicts educational achievement		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Dehaene, S. (2011). <i>The Number Sense: How the Mind Creates Mathematics</i> . Oxford University Press.	Mathematical cognition has evolutionary and neural bases		
Duncan, G. J., et al. (2007). <i>School Readiness and Later Achievement. Developmental Psychology</i> , 43(6), 1428–1446.	Early academic skills predict later achievement		
Knudsen, E. I., et al. (2006). <i>Economic, Neurobiological, and Behavioral Perspectives on Building America's Future Workforce. PNAS</i> , 103(27), 10155–10162.	Early investments in human capital most effective		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Luna, B., et al. (2010). What Has fMRI Told Us About the Development of Cognitive Control Through Adolescence? <i>Brain and Cognition</i> , 72(1), 101–113.	Cognitive control develops into early adulthood		
Lupien, S. J., et al. (2009). Effects of Stress Throughout the Lifespan on the Brain, Behaviour and Cognition. <i>Nature Reviews Neuroscience</i> , 10(6), 434–445.	Stress affects brain development with timing-specific effects		
Shonkoff, J. P., et al. (2012). The Lifelong Effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress. <i>Pediatrics</i> , 129(1), e232–e246.	Toxic stress disrupts brain architecture with lifelong consequences		

## Socioeconomic Status and Educational Achievement

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Bradley, R. H., & Corwyn, R. F. (2002). Socioeconomic Status and Child Development. <i>Annual Review of Psychology</i> , 53(1), 371–399.	SES affects child development through multiple direct and indirect pathways		
Caro, D. H., et al. (2009). Socio-Economic Status and Academic Achievement Trajectories from Childhood to Adolescence. <i>Canadian Journal of Education</i> , 32(3), 558–590.	SES affects academic trajectories from childhood through adolescence		
Chetty, R., et al. (2020). Income Segregation And Intergenerational Mobility Across Colleges In The United States. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 135(3), 1567–1633.	Family income affects college attendance and upward mobility		



Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Evans, G. W., & Schamberg, M. A. (2009). Childhood poverty, chronic stress, and adult working memory. <i>PNAS</i> , 106(16), 6545–6549.	Childhood poverty affects adult working memory through stress pathways		
Sirin, S. R. (2005). Socioeconomic Status and Academic Achievement: A Meta-Analytic Review of Research. <i>Review of Educational Research</i> , 75(3), 417–453.	Meta-analysis of socioeconomic effects on academic achievement		
Watts, T. W., et al. (2014). Achievement Gaps in the United States: Race, Poverty, and Interactions Over Ten Years. <i>The Journal of Educational Research</i> , 108(1), 17–26.	Achievement gaps by race and SES persist over time		

## Non-Cognitive Skills and Academic Success

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Alan, S., & Ertac, S. (2018). Fostering Patience in the Classroom: Results from a Randomized Educational Intervention. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 126(5), 1865–1911.	Educational intervention improves patience in children with effects on academic outcomes		
Bandura, A., et al. (1996). Multifaceted Impact of Self-Efficacy Beliefs on Academic Functioning. <i>Child Development</i> , 67(3), 1206–1222.	Self-efficacy beliefs affect academic motivation, interest, and achievement		
Duckworth, A. L., & Seligman, M. E. (2005). Self-Discipline Outdoes IQ in Predicting Academic Performance of Adolescents. <i>Psychological Science</i> , 16(12), 939–944.	Self-discipline predicts academic performance better than IQ		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Durlak, J. A., et al. (2011). The impact of enhancing students' social and emotional learning: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions. <i>Child Development</i> , 82(1), 405–432.	SEL interventions improve academic outcomes and social-emotional skills		
Masten, A. S., et al. (2005). Developmental Cascades: Linking Academic Achievement and Externalizing and Internalizing Symptoms Over 20 Years. <i>Developmental Psychology</i> , 41(5), 733–746.	Academic and behavioral problems linked in developmental cascades		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
McClelland, M. M., et al. (2007). Links between behavioral regulation and preschoolers' literacy, vocabulary, and math skills. <i>Developmental Psychology</i> , 43(4), 947–959.	Behavioral regulation linked to early academic skills		
Raver, C. C. (2002). Emotions matter: Making the case for the role of young children's emotional development for early schooling success. <i>Social Policy Report</i> , 16(3), 1–20.	Emotional development fundamental to early academic success		
Yeager, D. S., et al. (2019). A National Experiment Reveals Where a Growth Mindset Improves Achievement. <i>Nature</i> , 573(7774), 364–369.	Growth mindset intervention improves academic achievement		

## Economic Models of Human Capital

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Becker, G. S. (1964). Human Capital: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis, with Special Reference to Education. University of Chicago Press.	Framework for analyzing education as investment in human capital		
Black, S. E., & Devereux, P. J. (2011). Recent developments in intergenerational mobility. <i>Handbook of Labor Economics, Economics</i> , 4B, 1487–1541.	Review of recent research on intergenerational educational and income mobility		
Card, D. (1999). The Causal Effect of Education on Earnings. <i>Handbook of Labor Economics, Economics</i> , 3, 1801–1863.	Reviews causal evidence on returns to education		
Cunha, F., & Heckman, J. (2007). The Technology of Skill Formation. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 97(2), 31–47.	Skill formation model with dynamic complementarities and critical periods		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
DiNardo, J., et al. (1996). Labor Market Institutions and the Distribution of Wages, 1973-1992: A Semiparamet- ric Approach. <i>Econometrica</i> , 64(5), 1001–1044.	Semi-parametric approach to wage decomposition		
Heckman, J. J. (2006). Skill Formation and the Economics of Investing in Disadvantaged Children. <i>Science</i> , 312(5782), 1900–1902.	Early childhood is critical period for skill development interventions		
Heckman, J. J., et al. (2006). The Effects of Cognitive and Noncognitive Abilities on Labor Market Outcomes and Social Behavior. <i>Journal of Labor Economics</i> , 24(3), 411–482.	Non-cognitive skills affect labor market and social outcomes		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Hsieh, C.-T., et al. (2019). The Allocation Of Talent And U.S. Economic Growth. <i>Econometrica</i> , 87(5), 1439–1474.	Reduced discrimination and improved talent allocation increases growth		

## Cultural and Environmental Influences

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Eccles, J. S., et al. (1990). Gender role stereotypes, expectancy effects, and parents’ socialization of gender differences. <i>Journal of Social Issues</i> , 46(2), 183–201.	Parents’ gender stereotypes affect children’s skill development		
Eccles, J. S., & Roeser, R. W. (2011). Schools as De- velopmental Contexts During Adolescence. <i>Journal of Research on Adolescence</i> , 21(1), 225–241.	Schools provide important developmental context during adolescence		

Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Guiso, L., et al. (2008). Culture, Gender, and Math. <i>Science</i> , 320(5880), 1164–1165.	Cross-country variation in math gender gaps related to gender equality		
Legewie, J., & DiPrete, T. A. (2014). The High School Environment and the Gender Gap in Science and Engineering. <i>Sociology of Education</i> , 87(4), 259–280.	School environment affects gender gap in science and engineering		
Nollenberger, N., et al. (2016). The Math Gender Gap: The Role of Culture. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 106(5), 257–61.	Cross-country evidence on cultural influences on math gender gaps		



Paper	Key Findings	Methodology	My Notes
Penner, A. M. (2008). Gender Differences in Extreme Mathematical Achievement: An International Perspective on Biological and Social Factors. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 114(S1), S138–S170.	Gender differences in math achievement vary internationally		
Pianta, R. C., & Stuhlman, M. W. (2004). Teacher–child relationships and children’s success in the first years of school. <i>School Psychology Review</i> , 33(3), 444–458.	Teacher-child relationships predict academic success		
Spencer, S. J., et al. (1999). Stereotype Threat and Women’s Math Performance. <i>Journal of Experimental Social Psychology</i> , 35(1), 4–28.	Stereotype threat negatively affects women’s math performance		

## Theme Connections and Research Questions

Use this section to document emerging research questions and connections between papers across different categories.

### Key Cross-Theme Questions

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### Connections Between Themes

Connection	Related Papers	Notes
SES and gender interactions		
Cognitive and non-cognitive skills		
Family structure and educational outcomes		
Cultural influences on development		

## Reading Priority Plan

Use this table to organize your reading schedule and priorities.

Priority	Paper	Theme	Deadline	Status
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				