

Anjali P. Verma

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin Ph.D. in Economics	May 2022 (Expected)
The University of Texas at Austin M.Sc. in Economics	May 2018
Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi M.A. in Economics	May 2014
Miranda House College, University of Delhi B.A. in Economics	May 2012

REFERENCES

Stephen J. Trejo (Co-chair)
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University of Texas at Austin
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Richard Murphy (Co-chair)
Department of Economics
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University of Connecticut
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RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary: Labor Economics, Development Economics
Secondary: Economics of Education, Economics of Gender

JOB MARKET PAPER

Disruptive Interactions: Long-run Peer Effects of Disciplinary Schools (Job Market Paper)
Joint with A. Yonah Meiselman

This paper studies peer effects in a disciplinary school setting, and estimates its impact on long-run educational and labor market outcomes of students sent to these schools. The existing literature suggests that students removed to disciplinary schools have worse future outcomes. We provide evidence that the composition of peers at these institutions plays an important role in explaining this link. Using restricted administrative records of all high school students in Texas public schools, we exploit the idiosyncratic variation in peer composition within a disciplinary school, within a school year to estimate the effect of peers' disruptiveness on student outcomes. We show that exposure to the most disruptive peers during placement at these schools increases students' subsequent disciplinary removals(5-8% per year), lowers high-school graduation(6%), college enrollment(7%), and college graduation(17%) and worsens labor market outcomes – lower annual employment(2.5%) and earnings(6.5%) at ages 23-27. These results show significant and lasting negative effects of temporary exposure to disruptive peers, thus highlighting an unintended consequence of exclusionary disciplinary policies.

Clean Energy Access: Gender Disparity, Health and Labor SupplyJoint with Imelda, Conditionally Accepted, **Economic Journal**

Women bear a disproportionate share of health and time burden associated with lack of access to modern energy. In this paper, we study the impact of clean energy access on adult health and labor supply outcomes by exploiting a nationwide rollout of clean cooking fuel program in Indonesia. This program led to a large-scale fuel switching, from kerosene, a dirty fuel, to liquid petroleum gas, a cleaner one. Using longitudinal survey data from the Indonesia Family Life Survey and exploiting the staggered structure of the program rollout, we find that access to clean cooking fuel led to a significant improvement in women's health, particularly among those who spend most of their time indoors doing housework. We also find an increase in women's work hours, suggesting that access to cleaner fuel can improve women's health and plausibly their productivity, allowing them to supply more market labor. For men, we find an increase in the work hours and propensity to have an additional job, mainly in households where women accrued the largest health and labor benefits from the program. These results highlight the role of clean energy in reducing gender disparity in health and point to the existence of positive externalities from the improved health of women on other members of the household.

Female Labor Supply Response to Alimony: Evidence from Massachusetts – Under Review

This paper studies the labor supply response of women to changes in expected alimony. Using an alimony law change in the US that significantly reduced the post-divorce alimony support among women, I first show that this led to an increase in divorce probability. Second, consistent with the theoretical prediction from a simple model of labor supply, the reform led to an increase in the female labor force participation, with a larger increase among ever-married and more educated samples of women. As a result, the average female wage income increased after the reform. While labor supply increased, I show that most of this increase was concentrated in part-time employment, which may not be sufficient to compensate for the expected loss in alimony income. I estimate a net loss of \$40,621 in PDV of lifetime income due to the reform. In light of the recent movement in the US to reform alimony laws, these findings are pertinent to understand its implications on women's labor supply and economic well-being.

Can Technology Mitigate the Impact of Heat on Labor Productivity? Evidence from India

Joint with Anna Custers, Bhavani P. Kasina and Deepak Saraswat, Under Review

This paper analyses the role of technology in reducing heat-induced labor productivity losses. For this, we use a field experiment in India which randomized the use of productivity-augmenting digital mode versus classic paper-and-pen mode for conducting 2000 household surveys. Combining this experimentally induced variation in survey mode with day-to-day variation in temperature, we estimate the impact of survey mode on surveyor productivity as temperature rises. We find that as temperature rises and working conditions start to deteriorate, using digital-mode results in 5 percent higher surveyor-productivity compared to paper surveys. These relative productivity gains are mainly concentrated on extremely hot days - where the adverse impact of heat is likely at its peak. We show that these impacts are not driven by differences in characteristics of surveyor or respondents, thereby pointing to the role of technology in reducing the adverse effects of heat.

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS**Exclusionary Discipline: Impact of Student Removal to Disciplinary Alternative Programs**

Joint with A. Yonah Meiselman

To Apply or Not to Apply: Impact of Class Rank on College Application Choices**In The Dark: Impact of Streetlight Outages on Crimes**

Joint with Alberto Chong, Michele Baggio, Vinayak Iyer, and Nishith Prakash

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, University of Delhi

Intermediate Microeconomics, Development Economics, Business Economics	2015-2016
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Teaching Assistant, The University of Texas at Austin

Introduction to Econometrics ($\times 4$)	2019-2021
Microeconomic Theory($\times 3$)	2017-2019
Introduction to Macroeconomics	2017
Introduction to Microeconomics	2016

Research Assistant, The University of Texas at Austin

Research Assistant, Prof. Sandra E. Black	2017-2018
Reserach Assistant, Prof. Kishore Gawande	2019

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee

Indian Growth and Development Review, Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Journal of Institutional Economics

Conference Presentations

Southern Economic Association	2021, 2020
APPAM Seminar Series	2021
Population Association of America, Washington DC (event canceled)	2020
15th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI Delhi	2019
NEUDC, Northwestern University	2019

SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Professional Development Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin	2021, 2020
Summer Research Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin	2019
Professional Development Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin	2019
Departmental Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin	2016
Pradeep Gupta Memorial Scholarship, University of Delhi	2012-13

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages/Software: Stata, Python, R, LaTeX, GitHub

Tools: Panel Data Econometrics, Causal Inference, Machine Learning, Applied Statistics

Last updated on: October 26, 2021