

Ziwei Rao

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CURRENT POSITION

Ph.D. candidate at Faculty of Economics and Business
University of Groningen
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. R.J.M. (Rob) Alessie and Dr. Max Groneck

Sept. 2018 – Spring 2022 (expected)
Groningen, the Netherlands

EDUCATION

Research Master in Economics
University of Groningen
Thesis: Parental marriage transfer and old age support: evidence from China

Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2018
Groningen, The Netherlands

B.A. in Economics
Zhejiang Gongshang University

Sept. 2012 – July 2016
Hangzhou, P.R. China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My primary field of research is applied microeconomics, with an emphasis on labor economics and family studies. I am interested in labor supply, child development, household behavior, social inequality, and healthy aging.

RESEARCH

WORKING PAPERS

- **Ziwei Rao**, Max Groneck and Rob Alessie, “Should I Stay or Should I Go? Intergenerational Transfers and Residential Choice: Evidence from China” (submitted). [[Link](#)]

Q: Do early-life transfers from the parent to the child influence the location decision of the child and, hence, the potential caregiving at older ages?

WORK IN PROGRESS

- **Ziwei Rao**, “Children or work? The impact of fertility on old-age labour supply”.

Q: Does having more children, potentially as old-age security, save elder parents from “working until you drop”?

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Annual Congress of European Economics Association (EEA) (online); New Paper Session of the Royal Dutch Economic Association (online); EEF brownbag seminar, Groningen, the Netherlands. 2020
- Pension Day of Network for Studies on Pensions, Aging and Retirement (Netspar), Utrecht, the Netherlands. 2019
- PhD conference, Groningen, the Netherlands. 2018
- Accepted (canceled due to COVID-19): Symposium of Junior Researchers of Royal Economic Society (RES), Annual Meeting of Society of the Economics of the Household (SEHO), Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research assistant

Oct. 2017 – Aug. 2018

Research project: ethnic capital, immigrant occupational hierarchies, and intergenerational mobility.

Job description: work with US micro-longitudinal data sets National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79 and NLSY97), perform data cleaning, construct variables according to research purposes, construct panel data sets, prepare documentation of data processing, produce descriptive statistics. My work provided reliable data for immediate analyses of the research project.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Master level: Research Methods in Finance, STATA Computer Practical 2018
- Bachelor level: Statistics II for International Business, Tutorial 2018-2020

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Full Scholarship of Research Master, University of Groningen 2016-2018
- Excellent Graduate of Zhejiang province 2016
- Outstanding scholarships, Zhejiang Gongshang University 2013-2016

LANGUAGE

Chinese (native), English (fluent), Dutch (A1).

OTHER SKILLS

STATA, Matlab, SPSS.

REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. R.J.M. (Rob) Alessie

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ABSTRACTS

- **Should I Stay or Should I Go? Intergenerational Transfers and Residential Choice: Evidence from China**

We study the impact of parental transfers to their children in early life on the child's support to the parents at older ages either in time or with money. We conjecture that the type of transfer from the parents has an impact on what kind of help they receive from their children. Using data from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS) we find that transfers in children's education are associated with higher financial help at older ages. In contrast, transfers to support the children's marriage are positively linked with time support, such as more visits, from children to their parents. The children's residential decisions are identified as an important mechanism: transfers into education tend to let children move further away whereas marital transfers are associated with children staying closer to one's parents.

- **Children or work? The impact of fertility on old-age labour supply**

This study provides the first empirical evidence of the causal impact of fertility outcomes on old-age labor supply, by employing population policies in the early 1970s and the sex of the eldest child within families as plausibly exogenous instruments of fertility. The results show strong impact of children on preventing old parents from strenuous works at senior age, e.g. having one more child significantly reduces post-retirement aged rural parents' probability of working by 12.8 percentage points. Such impact is especially strong among the more vulnerable elder parents with worse health and little pension benefits. Furthermore, the results suggest that population policies might jeopardize the elderly well being by reducing family sizes and compelling old parents in bad health to continue working.