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Degrees Ph.D. in Economics, Texas A&M University

expected 2020

Committee Chair: Jason M. Lindo

B.S. in Economics, Summa Cum Laude, University of South Dakota

2015

RESEARCH FIELDS

Applied Microeconomics, Public Economics, and Health Economics

WORKING PAPERS

The Power of the IUD: Effects of Expanding Access to Contraception Through Title X Clinics (with Jason M. Lindo and Analisa Packham) NBER Working Paper #25656. Under Review

Abstract: We estimate the effect of Colorado's Family Planning Initiative, the largest program to have focused on long-acting-reversible contraceptives in the United States, which provided funds to Title X clinics so that they could make these contraceptives available to low-income women. We find substantial effects on birth rates, concentrated among women in zip codes within 7 miles of clinics: the initiative reduced births by approximately 20 percent for 15–17 year olds and 18–19 year olds living in such zip codes. We also examine how extensive media coverage of the initiative in 2014 and 2015 altered its reach. After information spread about the availability and benefits of LARCs, we find a substantial increase in LARC insertions, extended effects on births among 15–17 year olds living greater than 7 miles from clinics, and significant reductions in births among 20–24 and 25–29 year olds.

The Effects of Reduced Clinic Capacity on Abortion Access

Abstract: I estimate the effect of reduced clinic capacity for family planning services using a natural experiment setting in Pennsylvania. In 2011, a law was passed requiring any facility that provided abortion services to meet ambulatory surgical facility standards, which caused nine of the 22 existing clinics to close their doors in the 2012 calendar year. Most of these closures occurred in urban settings, leaving distance to the nearest clinic unchanged. However, there were suddenly fewer clinics available to serve the same number of women, so the network of clinics in an area was no longer able to provide the same amount of services as it previously had been. As a result of these clinic closures, abortion rates fell for women overall by approximately 9.4%. Additionally, most likely due to longer wait times for abortion services, at least 28% less abortions occurred early in the pregnancy (\leq 8 weeks gestational age) and 8.2–24.7% more abortions occurred in each of 3 later categories of gestational age (9-11 weeks, 11-12 weeks, and 13-14 weeks). This delay in abortion timing could have serious implications for a few different reasons: the choice set for abortion procedures falls as time goes on, abortion services get more expensive further along in the pregnancy, and abortion is safest early in the pregnancy. My findings show that reduced clinic capacity affects abortion access in similar ways to other obstacles to access, such as increased distance to the nearest clinic or mandatory wait times.

Work in Progress

The Effects of Access to Improved Pre- and Post-Natal Care on Infant and Maternal Outcomes
Seasonality of Fertility Decisions

PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING PLANNED)

2019: Texas A&M Public, Labor, and Industrial Organization Alumni Conference, Western Economic Association International, Southern Economic Association

2018: Symposium in Agricultural and Applied Economics Research, Western Economic Association International, Association fro Public Policy Analysis and Management, Southern Economic Association

Positions	Instructor of Record, Program Evaluation		Spring 2019
	Research Assistant to Jennifer Doleac		Fall 2018
	Teaching Assistant to Craig Schulman, Intro to Economic Data Analy		rsis Spring 2018
	Teaching Assistant to Steve Puller, Energy Economics and Policy Research Assistant to Steve Puller		Fall 2017
			Summer 2017
	Graduate Assistant for Private	e Enterprise Research Center	$\mathrm{Fall}\ 2016 - \mathrm{Spring}\ 2017$
Honors and	ASHEcon Diversity Scholarship		Summer 2019
Awards	Merit Fellowship, Texas A&M University		2015 - 2020
	Vision 2020 Fellowship, Texas A&M University		2015-2019
	University Honors Program Graduate, University of South Dakota		2015
	Outstanding Senior in Economics, University of South Dakota		2014 - 2015
	Phi Beta Kappa		Initiated 2014
	Omicron Delta Epsilon		Initiated 2014
	Presidential Scholarship, University of South Dakota		2011 - 2015
REFERENCES	Jason M. Lindo	Mark Hoekstra	Jennifer Doleac
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