Caylee O'Connor

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EDUCATION Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University 2020-

B.S. in Mathematics, University of Alabama

2018

B.A. in Economics

RESEARCH FIELDS

Public, Labor, Development

WORKING PAPERS

SKILLS

Effectiveness of modern-day school integration efforts: Evidence from Charlotte-Mecklenburg

After the end of court-mandated desegregation plans, many school districts in the U.S. have become re-segregated on race and economic status. In 2018, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools piloted a new voluntary integration plan in an attempt to curtail high rates of re-segregation within the district. This paper studies whether the new integration plan 1) was successful at reducing economic segregation within neighborhood schools, and/or 2) had an effect on students' educational outcomes.

Housing market spillovers of modern-day school integration efforts

It is well-documented that the implementation of historical desegregation plans often led to "white flight," where white parents affected by integration plans either moved their children to private schools or relocated to avoid integration. However, the extent to which white or "rich" flight continues in response to modern school integration efforts is unclear. This paper examines the persistence of this phenomenon by studying a recent elementary school integration policy implemented by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) in 2018. Using data on house characteristics, house sales, and CMS attendance boundaries before and after the policy change, I compare properties on either side of the affected attendance boundaries to determine whether the policy influenced the likelihood of a house being sold or the sale price of houses.

Can unconditional teacher salary increases improve education quality? Evidence from the Dominican

Within low-and-middle-income countries, there is a large and growing body of literature which shows that teacher performance pay is effective at improving student outcomes; however, evidence on the effects of unconditional teacher pay raises is scarce and mixed. Using a recent increase in the salaries of teachers in the Dominican Republic, I study whether unconditional pay raises can change 1) the composition of individuals in the teaching profession, and/or 2) the quality of education in a country.

TEACHING	Stanford University	
EXPERIENCE	TA for Caroline Hoxby, ECON 146 (Economics of Education)	2024
	TA for John Taylor, ECON 1 (Principles of Economics)	2023
	TA for Melanie Morten, ECON 118 (Development Economics)	2023
AWARDS AND	Stanford King Center on Global Development Graduate Student Fellowship	2024
FELLOWSHIPS	Outstanding TA Award	2023, 2024
	The University of Alabama Murray Havens Award (top senior in economics)	2018
	The University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship	2014-2018
	Carol Sloan and Ernest Adams Fite Endowed Scholarship in Mathematics	2015
RELEVANT	Stanford University	
POSITIONS	Research Assistant for Prof. Melanie Morten	2023, 2024
	Research Assistant for Prof. Pascaline Dupas	2021 - 2022
	Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research	
	Predoctoral Research Fellow	2018 - 2020

Software: R, LATEX, QGIS, MATLAB, Stata, SurveyCTO

Languages: English (native), Spanish (basic), Swahili (basic)