

# Claire Chi-Hung Kang

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EDUCATION	University of Houston, Ph.D., Economics, 2020 Dissertation Title: <i>Essays on Entrepreneurship and Development</i> Dissertation Committee: Chinhui Juhn, Aimee Chin, Elaine Liu, Yona Rubinstein  National Taiwan University, M.A., Economics, 2011 National Taiwan University, B.A., Economics, 2009
FIELDS OF INTEREST	Labor Economics, Development Economics, Entrepreneurship, Health Economics
PRE-DOCTORAL PUBLICATION	Kang, Chi-Hung, Nan-Kuang Chen and Hung-Jen Wang. 2017. "The Communication Effect of the Central Bank of Taiwan on Interest Rates and Exchange Rates." (In Chinese) <i>Taiwan Economic Review</i> , 45(3): 421-452.
WORKING PAPERS	"Entrepreneurship and Self-employment in Developing Countries: Evidence From Indonesia" <b>[Job Market Paper]</b> ( <a href="#">Click here for the latest version</a> )  <i>Abstract:</i> I use the Indonesia Family Life Survey to study selection into entrepreneurship as well as the returns to such activity. I first distinguish between entrepreneurs—those who are entrepreneurs of permanent workers—and other self-employed. I find that both entrepreneurs and wage workers are positively selected in terms of education and cognitive skills relative to the self-employed. I also find that entrepreneurs score higher on "openness" and "extraversion" on the Big Five Personality Traits when compared to wage workers. The panel data also allows me to focus on the transition into entrepreneurship. Those who enter entrepreneurship are more likely to be open, and interestingly, less likely to be conscientious than wage workers. For each percentile of the earning distribution, entrepreneurs always earn more than wage workers and the self-employed, and the self-employed earn the least beyond the first quintile. My research shows that individual traits are important factors in explaining entrepreneurship even in developing economies where liquidity and institutional barriers are presumed to play a large role.
WORKS IN PROGRESS	"Risk Attitudes and Entrepreneurship"  <i>Abstract:</i> Risk preferences are often considered as an individual-specific permanent trait which determines the occupational choice. However, recent studies have shown that risk attitudes can be affected by environmental factors and life events, implying that risk preferences may endogenously respond to the choice of employment type. Using data from the Indonesia Family Life Survey, I distinguish entrepreneurship from necessity self-employment. I examine how current risk attitudes are associated with employment type 7 years ago. For men, I continue to find distinct differences in risk preferences: the necessity self-employed are less risk averse than wage workers, and the entrepreneurs are even less risk averse than the necessity self-employed. However, the distinctions are less clear for women. I then examine how the transition from wage work to other employment types is correlated with changes in risk attitudes. For my preferred measure I find a significant decrease in risk aversion for men who switch from wage work to entrepreneurship. Overall, I find suggestive evidence that men's entrepreneurial experiences may affect the risk attitudes, but no such relationship for women.

“School’s out, Lunch’s out? The Effect of Summer Break on Student’s Body Size.” (with Shreya Bhattacharya)

*Abstract:* School meal programs in the US have been shown to improve nutritional intake and test scores. The onset of summer break reduces the operative scale of these programs, which may mitigate some of the positive effects of these programs. We use data from National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) to examine the effect of the short-term unavailability of school meal program on the height and weight of students aged 12-17 from low socio-economic status (SES) families. Exploiting the random timing of survey month, we employ the difference-in-difference strategy to identify the summer effect on students who are eligible to school meal program. We show that summer break, July and August, has significantly positive effect on the probability of being overweight for low-SES students, while post summer break, September and October, does not have a similar effect. Moreover, most low-SES students aged 13 to 17 are less likely to skip meals. The results suggest the increase in becoming overweight during summer break may be driven by the difference in nutrition and calories of meal content when the school meal program is absent.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

### Professional Experience

- **Research Assistant, Institute for Research on Women, Gender & Sexuality,** University of Houston, 2020
  - Cleaning and coding the qualitative survey data for the use of quantitative analysis.
  - Reviewing and summarizing academic papers regarding the gender differences in the impact of working-from-home due to the Covid-19 lock-down.
- Research Assistant for Professor Ming-Ching Luoh, National Taiwan University, 2012
- Research Assistant for Professor Nan-Kuang Chen, National Taiwan University, 2011-2012
- Intern, Manulife Asset Management (Taiwan), 2009 - 2010

### Teaching Experience

- *Lecturer*, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, University of Houston, Summer 2018
- *Lecturer*, Principles of Microeconomics, University of Houston, Fall 2017 & 2018
- *Teaching Assistant*, Econometrics (Master’s level, lead the lab session for Stata), University of Houston, Fall 2016 & 2019

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Scholarship, University of Houston, 2015 - 2020  
 Honorable Mention for Master Thesis, Taiwan Economic Association, 2011  
 Scholarship for students in Economics and Finance, Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank, 2011  
 Jia-Fan Lin Memorial Scholarship, National Taiwan University, 2008

## PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

Missouri Valley Economic Association, October 2019  
 Poster Session at Stata Texas Conference, September 2019  
 NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, July 2019

## COMPUTER SKILLS

Stata, R, Matlab, ArcGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

**ELIV International Service in Myanmar, 2013**  
 Volunteer Program: Promoted health education in local schools, and surveyed students’ families regarding the household economy and health characteristics  
**Amnesty International of Taiwan, Translator 2012**  
 Volunteer Translator: Participated in the translation workshop, and translated English documents and articles into Chinese

LANGUAGES            English (Proficient), Mandarin (Native), French (Basic)

CITIZENSHIP /      Taiwan / Green card pending  
VISA

REFERENCES

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