

# Grasping Reality with Both Hands

The weblog  
of Brad DeLong. Since 1999.  
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## Makridis: Impact of COVID-19 on Child Care— Noted

What is happening during the coronavirus plague to work-life balance among those with small children? Some preliminary answers: **Umair Ali, Chris M. Herbst, & Christos A. Makridis**: *The Impact of COVID-19 on the U.S. Child Care Market: Evidence from Stay-at-Home Orders* <https://equitablegrowth.org/working-papers/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-u-s-child-care-market-evidence-from-stay-at-home-orders/>: ‘This paper quantifies the short-run impact of... containment policies on search behavior and labor demand for child care.... Using plausibly exogenous variation from the staggered adoption of SAHOs across states, we find that online job postings for early care and education teachers declined by 13% after enactment... driven exclusively by private-sector services. Indeed, hiring by public programs like Head Start and pre-kindergarten has not been influenced by SAHOs. In addition, we find little evidence that child care search behavior among households has been altered. Because forced supply-side changes appear to be at play, our results suggest that households may not be well-equipped to insure against the rapid transition to the production of child care. We discuss the implications of these results for child development and parental employment decisions... .#noted #2020-08-05

Posted on August 05, 2020 at 10:23 in #noted | [🔗 Permalink](#) | [💬 Comments \(0\)](#)

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