

Giulia Olivero

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EDUCATION

Cornell University PhD, Public Policy	2018 - Present 2025 (Expected)
Bocconi University MSc in Economics and Social Sciences BSc in International Economics (BIEMF)	2011 - 2017 2014 - 2017 2011 - 2014
University of British Columbia Exchange program	2014 Jan 2014 - May 2014

RESEARCH FIELDS

Labor Economics, Economics of the Family, Gender Economics, Economics of Migration

WORKING PAPERS

“The Gender Wage Gap and the Child Penalty” **Job Market Paper**

Child penalties account for most of the remaining gender inequality in the labor market. Yet, we still do not know much about why they remain so large and persistent. I start by documenting a novel fact, which is the presence of heterogeneity in child penalties in the US by measures of intra-household comparative advantage. Then, I investigate the effect of the closing of the gender wage gap on employment penalties for mothers over the years 1980-2010. To do so, I leverage gender differences in occupational choices and combine gender-specific local labor market shocks with pseudo-event studies around childbirth. I find evidence of a greater fall in child penalties in local labor markets with a faster convergence in the wage rate of women and men. I explore possible mechanisms and find evidence of an increase in education of women, relative to men, delayed childbirth, and suggestive evidence of a shift in gender norms.

“Child Penalties and Parental Role Models: Classroom Exposure Effects” with Henrik Kleven and Eleonora Patacchini. *NBER Working Paper, September 2024*

This paper investigates whether the effects of children on the labor market outcomes of women relative to men - child penalties - are shaped by the work behavior of peers’ parents during adolescence. Leveraging quasi-random variation in the fraction of peers with working parents across cohorts within schools, we find that greater exposure to working mothers during adolescence substantially reduces the child penalty in employment later in life. Conversely, we find that greater exposure to working fathers increases the penalty. Our findings suggest that parental role models during adolescence are critical for shaping child-related gender gaps in the labor market.

“The Impact of Undocumented Status in the U.S.: Empirical Challenges and New Frontiers” with Matthew Hall and Shannon Gleeson. *Accepted, Annual Review of Sociology, November 2024*

Immigrant legal status is a defining factor in the socio-economic trajectories of millions of individuals and families in the U.S. Unauthorized immigrants, in particular, face a complex set of challenges that influence nearly every aspect of their lives, from access to education and healthcare to labor market opportunities and community integration. Legal status affects not only those who lack documentation but also their children and extended family members, creating intergenerational patterns of disadvantage that shape social mobility and economic outcomes. Scholars have increasingly examined how legal precarity leads to economic marginalization, social exclusion, and psychological stress, as well as how legal protections can mitigate these adverse effects. This review delves into the trends and patterns of unauthorized immigration in the U.S., explores the methodologies used to measure unauthorized populations, and examines the economic, social, and intergenerational impacts of legal status. Understanding these dynamics is crucial to developing policies that address the deep-rooted inequalities faced by unauthorized migrants and their families.

“Origin Ties and Destination Experiences: Quantifying Online Transnationalism among U.S. Immigrant Groups” with Linda Zhao and Matthew Hall. *Submitted October 2024*

While scholars have long acknowledged the importance of understanding immigrants’ connections to their countries of origin, large-scale, cross-group analyses remain limited. This research note addresses this gap by introducing a novel measure of online transnationalism, which captures digital ties between 41 U.S. immigrant groups and their homelands - representing 75% of the U.S. adult immigrant population. Our work offers the first comprehensive analysis of how online

transnationalism varies both across immigrant groups and across destination contexts. Findings demonstrate that immigrant groups with higher online transnationalism tend to be less established and more recent arrivals. At the same time, we do not find evidence that increased connectivity is associated with worse economic outcomes.

“Event Studies: Choice of Reference Period” with Doug Miller

In almost all current empirical practice, event study coefficients are estimated relative to the -1 period. This is accomplished by dropping the -1 event time dummy variable from the model. In this paper we propose an alternative normalization based on a wider pre-event reference period. We demonstrate that expanding the reference period beyond the conventional -1 event time can substantially improve statistical precision, with a reduction in standard errors. This approach offers greater scope for averaging pre-treatment periods, resulting in a more reliable counterfactual baseline. However, we also find that under certain data structures—specifically those with imbalanced event timing—expanding the reference period may lead to higher standard errors. These findings underscore the importance of tailoring normalization choices to the data structure, and we propose a novel method, based on Greene and Seaks (1991), to identify the optimal reference period without introducing p-hacking risks.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Occupational Segregation, Gender and Career Choices” with Angela Cools, Eleonora Patacchini and Nichole Szembrot

“Like Mothers, Like Daughters? The impact of mothers’ work experience on daughters’ aspirations” with Natasha Jha, Meredith Welch and Revathy Suryanarayana

“Local Governors as tax Enforcers” with Chiara Lacava

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Cornell University	
RA Matt Hall	2021 - Present
RA Doug Miller, Eleonora Patacchini	2020-2021
RA Doug Miller	Summer 2019, 2020, 2021

Bocconi University	
RA Massimo Anelli	2017 - 2018
RA Fernando Vega-Redondo	2016 - 2018

Other	
Field work for Adansonina, Kampala (Uganda)	April 2017 - August 2017
RA United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok (Thailand)	August 2015 - November 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND AWARDS

Cornell University	
TA Population Controversies in Europe (M.Hall,L.Tach,S.Sassler)	Summer 2022, 2023, 2024
TA Applied Multivariate Statistics in Public Affairs (D.Miller)	Spring 2021
TA Behavioral Economics and Public Policy (B.Tripp)	Fall 2020
TA Applied Multivariate Statistics in Public Affairs (D.Miller)	Spring 2020
<i>Brooks School of Public Policy Outstanding TA Award</i>	Spring 2020
<i>Brooks School of Public Policy Outstanding TA Award</i>	Summer 2022

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Population Association of America	April 2025 (Expected)
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management	November 2025
Population Association of America	April 2024
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management	November 2023

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Cornell University	
Cornell Population Center small grant	2020

Canon, Helen and Smith, Anna Cora Scholarship

2018 - 2019

Bocconi University

Pre-doctoral research fellowship

2017 - 2018

SERVICE

Cornell University

Co-organizer of PIERS (Presentation in Emerging Research Seminar Series)

2019 - 2020

Refereeing: *Journal of Human Resources*, *Demographic Research*, *Review of Economics of the Household*

COMPUTER SKILLS

Stata, R, LaTeX, Microsoft Office

PERSONAL

Italian Citizen

Italian (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (conversational)

I have Special Sworn Status (SSS)

REFERENCES

Doug L. Miller (Committee Chair)

Cornell University

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Eleonora Patacchini (Committee Member)

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Matt Hall (Committee Member)

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Seth Sanders (Committee Member)

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