Title and Author

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Title: The Impact of Hispanic Last Names and Identity on Labor Market Outcomes

Author

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Abstract

Do individuals with ethnically Hispanic names face labor market discrimination? In this study, I analyze the impact of Hispanic-sounding surnames on wages, considering inter-ethnic children and the distinct traits of native and Hispanic surnames. I examine the earnings of individuals with one White and one Hispanic parent, finding that those with Hispanic surnames often experience wage disparities. My findings reveal a notable wage gap favoring individuals with White surnames. Although males born to Hispanic fathers and White mothers earn 5 percentage points less than those born to White fathers and Hispanic mothers, this difference can be attributed to educational variances. However, this shouldn't imply an absence of discrimination; it may reflect discrimination in human capital accumulation. Furthermore, I investigate the impact of self-identifying as Hispanic on earnings. Men with a Spanish-sounding last name who identify as Hispanic earn notably less than those who do not, largely due to educational differences. JEL: J71; J64; J15

Keywords

Keywords: Economics of Minorities, Race, and Immigrants; Discrimination and Prejudice