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CITIZENSHIP	Italy, Albania (F1 Visa Status)	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Public Economics, Labor, Education, Health	
EDUCATION	University of California, Davis Ph.D., Economics, Expected June 2015 <i>Dissertation:</i> “The Protective Power of the U.S. Safety Net” <i>Advisors:</i> Hilary Hoynes (chair), Ann Stevens, Marianne Page, Scott Carrell M.S., Economics, 2010 Wellesley College B.A., Economics, 2009	
JOB MARKET PAPER	Quantifying the Benefits of Social Insurance: Unemployment Insurance and Health Although the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program was the largest safety net during the Great Recession, research on its benefits has been limited. Given that job loss has been associated with decreased health status and increased mortality, this paper uses the 1993–2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) to empirically estimate whether UI generosity mitigates any of these negative health effects. The empirical strategy relies on exploiting variation in the generosity of UI benefits caused by exogenous changes in state UI laws, similar to Gruber (1997). The results show higher UI generosity increases health insurance coverage and health utilization and improves self-reported health. Moreover, I find that these effects are stronger during periods of high unemployment rates. Finally, I find no effects on healthy or risky behaviors, nor on health conditions such as diabetes and blood pressure.	
PAPERS UNDER REVIEW	Reexamining the Consumption Smoothing Benefits of Unemployment Insurance: Why Have These Effects Declined? , <i>(with Chloe East)</i> , Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Public Economics The Great Recession spurred renewed interest in the moral hazard effects of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program, however little research has focused on determining its benefits. This paper extends Gruber’s (1997) pioneering work on the consumption smoothing benefits of UI by adding data for the last two decades, a period during which the economy and the safety net underwent many changes. Our results show that, while the consumption smoothing effects of UI are strong in the 1970s and the 1980s, these effects decline in the last two decades. We find evidence that the decrease in average UI program generosity combined with fewer recessions in the 1990s and early 2000s can explain between 50 and 70 percent of this overall decline. Do In-Work Tax Credits Serve as a Safety Net? , <i>(with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes)</i> , Submitted at Journal of Human Resources The U.S. safety net has undergone a dramatic transformation in the past fifteen years, with a substantial increase in “in-work” assistance through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). In this paper, we explore how EITC participation and expenditures change with the business cycle, which is theoretically ambiguous since the EITC requires positive earned income. We use administrative IRS data from 1996–2008, and our results show that higher unemployment rates lead to higher EITC caseloads for married couples, but not for single individuals. These patterns are consistent with static labor supply theory, and how economic shocks are likely to affect one versus two-earner households.	

PUBLICATIONS	<p>EITC and the Self-Employed: Real or Reported Effects?, Public Finance Review, Vol. 42(6): 691-719, 2014</p> <p>Saez (2010) finds that the budget constraint nonlinearities caused by the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) lead to bunching behavior for the self-employed but not for salaried workers. Possible explanations for these findings are both differences in flexibility of hours worked and differences in tax noncompliance opportunities among these two groups. By comparing estimates of labor supply effects of the EITC from two different data sets, where individuals have different incentives to misreport income, my article suggests that the bunching behavior found in Saez is mainly driven by tax noncompliance. Moreover, I find that real labor supply responses of the self-employed are similar to those of salaried workers.</p>
WORKING PAPERS	<p>Child Poverty and the Great Recession in the United States, (<i>with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes</i>)</p> <p>During the Great Recession, employment in the United States fell by more than 8 million between January 2008 and December 2009 and unemployment rose to a peak of 15.6 million persons in October 2009. The recovery has been very slow and the unemployment rate remains high at 6.3 per cent as of May 2014. At the same time significant changes in the safety net both before and during this most recent downturn make it important to explore the role of the safety net in providing protection during the Great Recession. We focus on child poverty, as children experience some of the highest poverty rates of any group in the United States. We explore the role of the social safety net in buffering families against economic shocks, and test whether this relationship has changed significantly during this most recent downturn. Two child poverty measures are considered ? private income (PI) poverty and after-tax and after-transfer income (ATTI) poverty.</p> <p>The Long-run Effects From Being Exposed to Troubled Peers, (<i>with Scott Carrell and Mark Hoekstra</i>)</p> <p>While a large and growing literature has documented the existence of peer effects in lower and higher education, there is relatively little evidence on whether these effects persist years after-ward. We examine the persistence of peer effects by linking administrative data on elementary school students to subsequent test scores, high school completion, college attendance, and earnings. To distinguish the effect of the disruptive peers from confounding factors, we include school-by-grade fixed effects to exploit the population variation in the proportion of children with as-yet-unreported domestic violence, as in Carrell and Hoekstra (2010, 2012). Results indicate that exposure to disruptive peers during elementary school significantly reduces high school completion, college enrollment, and earnings at age 24 to 27.</p>
WORK IN PROGRESS	<p>The Long-Term Effects of Women’s Suffrage on Children’s Education, (<i>with Esra Kose and Na’ama Shenhav</i>)</p>
EXTRAMURAL GRANTS	<p>UNICEF, “Child Poverty and the Great Recession in the United States”, Co-Investigator, with Marianne Bitler and Hilary Hoynes. 12/1/13 – 7/1/14, \$22,000</p>
HONORS AND AWARDS	<p>Provost’s Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2014–2015 , \$41,000</p> <p>UCD & Humanities Graduate Research Award, 2014–2015</p> <p>All-UC Group in Economic History Research Grant, 2014</p> <p>Graduate Student Dissertation Workshop Invited Participant, Western Economic Association International, 2014</p> <p>Ray Beaumont Graduate Student Award for Departmental Improvement, UC Davis, 2014</p> <p>UC Davis Graduate Travel Fellowship, 2013</p> <p>Non-Resident Tuition Fellowship, 2009–2013</p>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	University of California, Davis
	Research Assistant for Professor Scott Carrell (Winter and Summer 2014)
	Research Assistant for Professor Hilary Hoynes (September 2012 – July 2013)
	Research Assistant for Professor Steven Sheffrin (Summer 2010)
	Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, Italy
	Research Assistant for Professor Elsa Fornero (CERP) (Summer 2007)
	Wellesley College, Wellesley
	Research Assistant for Professor Eric D. Hilt (January 2006 – May 2006)
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	University of California, Davis
	<i>Instructor</i>
	Public Finance (taxes), Fall 2013
	<i>Teaching Assistant</i>
	Intermediate Microeconomics, Winter 2011 and Summer 2012
	Analysis of Economic Data, Spring 2014
	Public Finance (taxes), Fall 2010, Winter 2012, Summer 2013
	Public Finance (expenditures), Fall 2011 and Spring 2013
	Labor Economics, Spring 2012
	Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2009, Winter 2010, Spring 2010, Spring 2011
	Principles of Macroeconomics, Summer 2011
	<i>Teaching Interests</i>
	Public Economics, Labor Economics, Health Economics, Economics of Education, Analysis of Economic Data, Econometrics, Microeconomics (Principles and Intermediate)
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	<i>Presentations</i>
	“Quantifying the Benefits of Social Insurance: Unemployment Insurance and Health”
	All-California Labor Economics Workshop (Poster), 2014, UC Berkeley, CA
	Western Economic Association International, Denver, 2014
	Applied Micro Brown Bag, 2014, UC Davis, CA
	“Reexamining the Consumption Smoothing Benefits of Unemployment Insurance: Why Have These Effects Declined?”
	Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics (SoCCAM), 2014, Lowe Institute of Political Economy, Claremont McKenna College, CA
	Applied Micro Brown Bag, 2013, UC Davis, CA
	“Do In-Work Tax Credits Serve as a Safety Net?”
	War on Poverty Conference (Poster), 2014, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis, CA
	All-California Labor Economics Workshop (Poster), 2012, San Francisco, CA
	Applied Micro Brown Bag, 2013, UC Davis, CA
	“The Long-run Effects From Being Exposed to Troubled Peers”
	Applied Micro Brown Bag, 2013, UC Davis, CA
	<i>Conferences Attended</i>
	NBER Labor Studies, Feb. 2014, San Francisco, CA
	The Affordable Care Act Low Income Populations: Lessons from and Challenges for Research, 2013, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis, CA
	Poverty and the Long Term Effects of Early Life Experiences, 2013, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis, CA
	All-California Labor Economics Workshop, 2013, UC San Diego, CA
	NBER Universities Research Conference, 2013, Cambridge, MA [Coauthor Presentation]
	NBER Labor Studies, Feb. 2013, San Francisco, CA
	The Role of Community Colleges in Workforce Development for Low-Skilled Workers, 2013, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis, CA

AEA Annual Meeting, 2013, San Diego CA
NBER Summer Institute, 2012, Cambridge, MA
NBER Labor Studies, Feb. 2012, San Francisco, CA
UC Davis Immigration Conference, 2012, UC Davis, CA
NBER Public Economics, 2011, Palo Alto, CA

Referee

American Economic Review (2)

LANGUAGES Italian (native fluent), English (fluent), Albanian (fluent), Spanish (basic)

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