

GIORDANO E. PALLONI
University of Maryland
Department of Economics
College Park, MD 20742
Phone: (608) 772 - 1595
Email: palloni@econ.umd.edu
Website: <http://econweb.umd.edu/~palloni/>

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, expected May 2015
B.A. Economics (General Honors), University of Chicago, June 2006

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Development Economics, Labor Economics
Secondary: Applied Microeconometrics, Economic Demography

DISSERTATION

Childhood Events and Long-Term Consequences

Committee: Professor Sebastian Galiani (Chair), Professor Sergio Urzúa,
Professor Jessica Goldberg

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Childhood Health and the Wantedness of Male and Female Children”

Maternal desire for children of a particular sex has important implications for the well-being of individual household members. When a child is born of the mother's preferred sex, economic theory suggests that parents will be more likely to allocate resources towards that child, resulting in bigger, healthier children and lower rates of mortality and morbidity. I test this prediction empirically using a longitudinal data set from Indonesia. Each mother's preferred sex, defined by whether she prefers for future children to be male or female, is matched to the observed sex of her subsequent child. Because this measure of maternal sex preference is established before conception, identification requires only that the sex at birth of the subsequent child is random. I find that, on average, children born of the mother's preferred sex are heavier, have a higher body mass index, and experience fewer illnesses in early childhood. I argue that reductions in subsequent fertility are one mechanism for these effects and provide evidence that they explain roughly half of the total effect.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

“Cost benefit analysis of a micronutrient supplementation and early childhood stimulation program in Nicaragua.” 2014. *Annals of the New York Academy of Science*, 1308: 139-148. (with F. Lopez Boo and S. Urzúa)

“Parental Response to In Utero Shocks,” *Submitted*

“Childhood Housing and Adult Earnings: A Between-Siblings Analysis of Housing Vouchers and Public Housing,” (with Fredrik Andersson, John C. Haltiwanger, Mark J. Kutzbach, Henry O. Pollakowski, and Daniel H. Weinberg), *CES Working paper*

“The Impact of Finance on Willingness to Pay for Low-Cost Latrines in Rural Cambodia: Evidence from a Randomized-Controlled Trial,” (with Ariel BenYishay and Raymond P. Guiteras), *Work in progress*

“Expenditures and Time Preferences in Malawi,” (with Rebecca Thornton), *Work in progress*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Instructor, Development Economics, University of Maryland, Spring 2014

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Economist, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics at the U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 – Present

Research Consultant, Sustainable Development Department, South Asia Region, World Bank, Washington DC, (June 2012 - Aug 2012)

Research Assistant, Prof. Raymond Guiteras, University of Maryland, July 2010 - June 2011

Research Assistant, Prof. Rebecca Thornton, University of Michigan, June 2009 - July 2010

Project Associate, Innovations for Poverty Action, Cusco, Peru, March 2007 - April 2009

Research Assistant, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin, September 2006 - March 2007

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Second Prize Third Year Paper Competition, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, 2013

Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, 2010 – present

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2014 Washington Area Development Economics Symposium

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*

REFERENCES

Prof. Sebastian Galiani	University of Maryland	galiani@econ.umd.edu	(301) 405-3518
Prof. Sergio Urzúa	University of Maryland	urzua@econ.umd.edu	(301) 405-3532
Prof. Jessica Goldberg	University of Maryland	goldberg@econ.umd.edu	(301) 405-3559
Prof. John Haltiwanger	University of Maryland	haltiwanger@econ.umd.edu	(301) 405-3504