

KENNETH WHALEY

Walker Department of Economics
Clemson University
Sirriner Hall 227
Clemson, South Carolina 29634

kdwhale@g.clemson.edu
(803) 413-1579
sites.google.com/view/kdwhale

EDUCATION	Clemson University <i>Ph.D. Candidate in Economics</i>	Anticipated Completion: May 2020
	Florida A&M University <i>Dual BS/MBA, Finance Concentration</i>	December 2008
RESEARCH FIELDS	<i>Primary:</i> Public Economics, Urban Economics <i>Secondary:</i> Industrial Organization	
WORKING PAPERS	“Household Sorting, Local Wealth, and the Market for Homes Near Diverse Schools” (Job Market Paper)	
	“Is Spending on Schools Efficient? A National Study of The Capitalization of School Spending and Local Taxes” (w/ Pat Bayer and Peter Blair)	
	“Property Rights and The Incentives for Subsidized Housing Development on Federal Trust Lands” (Forthcoming, Center for Indian Country Development Working Paper Series)	
CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTA- TIONS	2020: AEA/ASSA Annual Conference (Session #2216)	
	2019: Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank, SREB Institute for Teaching and Mentoring, Clemson Public Economics Work- shop, Clemson IO Workshop	
	2018: North American Regional Science Council, Southern Economic Association An- nual Conference, South Carolina Applied Micro Day	
AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS	Myles Wallace Annual Fellowship In Economics, Clemson University	2019-2020
	AEA Summer Fellowship, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis	2019
	Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, Clemson University	2019
	Graduate Diversity Fellowship, Clemson University	2018-2019
	Dr. Maloney Annual Fellowship In Economics, Clemson University	2018-2019
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Doctoral Scholar, Southern Region Education Board	2015-2017
	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis <i>Research Fellow, Center for Indian Country Development</i>	2019
	Clemson University <i>Research Assistant to Elora Raymond</i>	2018
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Clemson University <i>Teacher of Record, Principles of Macroeconomics</i>	2018-2020
	<i>Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics/Macroeconomics</i>	2017
	<i>Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Microeconomics</i>	2016
INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	Spectra Energy <i>Analyst, Supply Chain Metrics & Reporting</i>	2014-2015
	Constellation Energy <i>Decision Support, Financial Planning & Analysis</i>	2013-2014
	Chevron Corporation <i>Financial Analyst, Various Business Units</i>	2009-2012

**ABSTRACTS OF
SELECTED
WORKING
PAPERS**

Household Sorting, Local Wealth, and the Market for Homes Near Diverse Schools (Job Market Paper)

I analyze mortgage loans and home values from 2000-2014 to study housing markets and household sorting in neighborhoods near racially diverse schools. Using a national sample of over 3,600 middle schools, I construct a measure of school demographic diversity and estimate how home values and mortgage loan amounts change as diversity increases. For identification I isolate variation in school demographics associated with the quasi-random timing of rental housing development under the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. I find that mortgage values rise by nearly 6.7%, holding median home values constant and controlling for changes in local income levels and home buyer socioeconomic characteristics. The magnitude of the effect is consistent for white, black, and Hispanic home buyers, and coincides with a decrease in home values of 2.5% near diversifying schools. The effect is reversed for white home buyers near diverse schools in low-income areas, who borrow less for housing holding home values constant. I present two explanations for these findings, both which shed light on neighborhood wealth, down payment ability, and the consequences of household sorting over local amenities.

Is Spending on Schools Efficient? A National Study of The Capitalization of School Spending and Local Taxes (w/ Pat Bayer and Peter Blair)

We estimate how much parents value school expenditure and their willingness to finance it through higher taxes. Exploiting plausibly exogenous variation in expenditures and taxes from school finance reforms, we find that school expenditures are positively capitalized into house prices ($\epsilon = 0.86$) with larger effects in areas with less elastic housing supply. Our results suggest neighborhood demand increases when spending increases, consistent with the literature on higher school quality that results from exogenous increases in per pupil spending. We then test whether local governments are raising the efficient level of tax revenues, based on changes in revenue sources following the reform shock. We find that a 1 percent increase in taxes to fund education increases house prices by an economically small and statistically insignificant 0.06 percent. Our results support the core prediction of Oates (1969), who claimed that additional dollar raised locally and spent on a local public good should have no effect on property values if the level of public good is near the efficient amount.

Property Rights and The Incentives for Subsidized Housing Development on Federal Trust Lands

In this working paper I examine how land held in trust by the Federal government weakens property rights and leads to under provision of rental housing on Indian reservations and geographies broadly defined as tribal statistical areas. In the application process for Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) construction subsidies, developers must show that gap financing has been secured – meaning working capital outside of LIHTC subsidy revenue must be in place before the project is approved. Developers on trust lands are prohibited by law from using the land parcel for development as collateral for gap financing, a common practice in traditional LIHTC projects. This reduces access to capital which in turn leads to lower levels of investment. I show that on average, LIHTC development in tribal statistical areas has a significantly higher probability of being located on land not held in trust. Given that over 60% of tribal populations live on trust land, the higher costs associated with these areas leads to a substantial reduction in of total supply of subsidized rental housing to Indian populations.

**TECHNICAL
SKILLS**

Programs: Stata, R, LaTeX, ArcGIS, QGIS, SAS
Database : SQL, MS Access

REFERENCES

F. Andrew Hanssen

Department of Economics
Clemson University
Sirrine Hall 220B
Clemson, SC 29634
fhansse@clemson.edu

Peter Q. Blair

Graduate School of Education
Harvard University
Gutman 407
Cambridge, MA 02138
peter_blair@gse.harvard.edu

Christy Zhou

Department of Economics
Clemson University
Sirrine Hall 223
Clemson, SC 29634
yichen2@clemson.edu

Robert Fleck

Department of Economics
Clemson University
Sirrine Hall 228B
Clemson, SC 29634
RFLECK@clemson.edu