

# Student Evaluations of Teaching (Mostly) Do Not Measure Teaching Effectiveness

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September 28, 2015

# Motivation

Student evaluations of teachers (SET) are used to

- ▶ Quantify teaching effectiveness
- ▶ Compare instructors across courses
- ▶ Make hiring, firing, and promotion decisions

Are SET a fair and meaningful measure?

- ▶ SET measure “customer satisfaction”
- ▶ Biased against female instructors
- ▶ Biases are inconsistent across universities and disciplines; impossible to “adjust” SET