

Lucienne N.Y. Disch

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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania 2019-25
Ph.D in Economics (expected)
Primary Advisor: Petra Todd
Thesis Title: “*Essays in Economics of Child Development*”
Research Fields: Labor Economics, Education Economics, Spatial Economics

Universities of Bern and Basel 2018
M.Sc. in Economics

University of Zurich 2015
B.A. in Economics

REFERENCES

Professor Petra Todd Department of Economics University of Pennsylvania +1 (215) 898-4084 ptodd@econ.upenn.edu	Professor Francesco Agostinelli Department of Economics University of Pennsylvania +1 (215) 898-5105 fagostin@sas.upenn.edu
Professor Jere Behrman Department of Economics University of Pennsylvania +1 (215) 898-7704 jbehrman@econ.upenn.edu	Professor Margaux Luflade Department of Economics University of Pennsylvania +1 (215) 898-7701 mluflade@sas.upenn.edu

WORKING PAPERS

“People- or Place-Based Policies to Tackle Disadvantage? Evidence from Matched Family-School-Neighborhood Data” ([Job Market Paper](#))
This paper investigates how family, school, and neighborhood heterogeneity jointly impact children’s test score gains. Findings reveal strong family influence and positive interactions in high-gain environments, benefiting lower-scoring children. Policy simulations indicate neighborhood effects surpass school effects, as school value-added depends on location.

“Effects of Family Disruption on Child Development: The Moderating Role of Residential Relocation”
This study exploits variations in family stability that arise from changes in household composition due to the father’s initial presence and subsequent absence. Findings reveal that children who relocate more than a mile due to family disruption suffer significant declines in test scores, while those who stay nearby experience only marginal declines. This suggests that relocation, rather than family disruption itself, primarily contributes to the test score gap. Policies that help newly single mothers and children stay within familiar areas for at least three years post-separation could mitigate the adverse effects of long-distance moves on school performance.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	<i>Recent Conference/Seminar Presentations</i>	
	Dynamic Structural Econometrics Conference of the Econometric Society (Policy Evaluation and Heterogeneity Measurement)	2024
	Institute of Labor Economics (IZA)	2024
	JHU-Penn-NYU Applied Micro Conference	2024
	Global Labor Organization	2024
	Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics	2024
	SEA Meeting	2024
	University of Pennsylvania	2024
	<i>Research Visits and Summer School</i>	
	University of Zurich, Research Visit (sponsored by Prof. Ana Costa-Ramón)	2024
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Norwegian School of Economics, Research Visit (sponsored by Prof. Aline Bütikofer)	2024
	HCEO-briq (Bonn, Germany), Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality	2022
	University of Pennsylvania, Research Assistant for Prof. Petra Todd	2023
	Swiss Central Bank, Research Assistant/Intern	2018-19
	German Central Bank, Research Assistant/Research Visit	2017
	University of Basel, Research Assistant for Prof. Sarah Lein	2016-17
	UBS AG, Intern in Economic Research	2014-15
	University of Zurich, Research Assistant for Prof. Ernst Fehr (Kids Win)	2013-14
	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	
	Strategic Reasoning, TA for Prof. Deniz Selman	2023-24
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Econometric Methods and Models, TA for Prof. Xu Cheng	2022
	Introductory Macroeconomics, TA for Prof. Luca Bossi	2020-22
	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	
FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS	SASGov Travel Grant	2023-24
	Family Grant	2021-24
	Fellowship	2019-24
	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	
PROGRAMMING	R, Geospatial Data Processing, L ^A T _E X, Python, Julia, Matlab	
LANGUAGES	German (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Italian (intermediate)	
CITIZENSHIP	Switzerland	
GENDER	Female	
EXTRA- CURRICULAR	Swiss National Team, Professional Soccer Player	2001-11

Last updated: November 2024