

Ludovica CIASULLO

PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH: Rome | 05 November 1994
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EDUCATION

AUG 2019 - Ph.D in ECONOMICS
New York University
Fields: Labor Economics, Gender Economics
Advisors: Petra Moser, Debraj Ray (main), Martin Rotemberg

SEP 2016 - DEC 2018 Master of Science in ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Università Bocconi
Master Thesis: “Modelling learning under flexible rationality assumption”

SEP 2013 - JUL 2016 Undergraduate Degree in ECONOMICS
Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata

TEACHING

FALL 2023 Development Economics (Undergraduate), NYU
Class Assistant for Professor Debraj Ray

FALL 2023 Applied Micro (Masters), NYU
Teaching Assistant for Professor Petra Moser

FALL 2022 Research Practicum, Applied Micro (Masters), NYU
Teaching Assistant for Professor Petra Moser

SUMMER 2022 Research Practicum (Masters), NYU
Teaching Assistant for Professor Petra Moser

SPRING 2022 Microeconomics II (PhD), NYU
Teaching Assistant for Professor David Pearce and Prof. Ennio Stacchetti

SPRING 2019 Statistics (Undergraduate), Università Statale di Milano
Teaching Assistant for Professor Samantha Leorato

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PRESENTATIONS Annual Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA)/American Economic Association (AEA) Meetings (CSWEP-sponsored session) 2024

Society of Economics of the Household (SEHO), Harvard Business School (Business, Government & the International Economy)*, Carlson School of Management (Department of Work and Organizations)*, Collegio Carlo Alberto*, Centre for Studies in Economics and Finance & Department of Economics and Statistics (DISES) of the University of Naples Federico II*, University of Nottingham*, Bank of Italy*, Department of Economics at IESE business school*, Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz College*, Bank of Spain*, Fed Board*, University of York*, WU Vienna University of Economics and Business*, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE)*

*coauthor presenting

SERVICE NYU Applied Micro Student Lunch organizer 2021-2022
NYU Micro Theory Student Lunch organizer 2021-2022

FELLOWSHIPS

SEPT 2019 -	MacCracken Fellowship
MAR 2017 - JUL 2018	IGIER Visiting Student
	Mentor: Massimo Marinacci
JULY 2017	Summer School on Statistical Causal Learning
	Lake Como School of Advanced Studies
JULY 2015	Summer School in Public Finance
	London School of Economics
2017	Merit Award from Università di Roma Tor Vergata (awarded to top 5% students each year)

RELEVANT POSITIONS

JAN 2022	Research Assistant for Professor David Cesarini
MAY - SEPT 2021	Research Assistant for Professor Dilip Abreu
JULY 2018 - JULY 2019	Research Assistant for Professor Marco Tabellini (Harvard Business School)
JULY 2018 - JULY 2019	Research Assistant for Professor Satoshi Fukuda (Bocconi University)

What Works for Working Couples? Work arrangements, Maternal Labor Supply and the Division of Home Production*, joint with Martina Ucciolì (2024)

Do work arrangements matter for the child penalty? Does an increase in maternal labor supply lead to a more equal division of home production between mothers and fathers? The Australian 2009 Fair Work Act explicitly entitled parents of young children to request a (reasonable) change in work arrangements. Leveraging variation in the timing of the law, timing of childbirth, and the bite of the law across different occupations and industries, we establish three main results. First, the Fair Work Act was used by new mothers to reduce their weekly working hours without renouncing their permanent contract, hence maintaining a regular schedule. Second, with this work arrangement, working mothers' child penalty declined from a 47 percent drop in hours worked to a 38 percent drop. For the most exposed mothers, the Fair Work Act led to both a 51% increase in the probability of staying in permanent contracts after childbirth, and a 38% decrease in the child penalty in hours of work. Third, while this implies a significant shift towards equality in the female- and male-shares of household income, we don't observe any changes in the female (disproportionate) share of home production.

The gendered effects of changes to returns to overtime

How does the convexity of the wage schedule (higher hourly wage for long-hours jobs) relate to the gender wage gap? First, this paper relies on admin data that records hours and overtime hours separately to quantify returns to long hours. Next, it exploits the Portuguese Law 23/2012, which lowered the minimum overtime pay rate, by a different amount for different industries, to understand how workers and firms react to exogenous changes in the wage schedule. Preliminary results indicate a positive effect of the law on overtime hours post 2012 for more exposed individuals, with a bigger effect among men than among women. Next steps include further analysis of the mechanisms behind the result, and merging with marriage/birth records to perform household-level analysis.

Full time mothers, part time workers, joint with Martina Ucciolì and Valeria Zurla

We study indivisibility of labor as key determinant of the choice of mothers to return to work after giving birth. In Italy, new mothers have to take five months of mandatory leave. In addition, parents are allowed up to 10 more months of leave. A 2015 law (i) gives parents the possibility of taking the voluntary leave on an hourly rather than a daily basis, and (ii) allows parents to turn a full-time contract into a part-time contract for any remaining months of voluntary leave. By comparing new parents before and after the law, we can study whether these provisions change leave length. We can then assess the effect of leave length and part-time work on the child penalty. This could go in either direction, depending on whether the compliers are mothers that in absence of the law would have worked full time or not worked. In order to disentangle the net effect into the two different treatment margins, we rely on an instrumental variable approach: the fraction of co-workers who chose different arrangements after childbirth in the previous years can be used as an instrument for individual choice, separately for the three possible choices (not working, working full-time, working part-time), and hence for the difference in utility cost of any two options.

Rosie the Riveter in Science: Effects of Female Hires During WWII on the Scientific Productivity of US Firms, joint with Petra Moser and Kazimierz Smith

Estimates of aggregate productivity imply that 20-40 percent of productivity gains since the 1960s stem from an improved "allocation of talent", as women and Black men entered high-skilled occupations that used to be reserved almost exclusively for White men. There is, however, little empirical evidence on the causal effects of hiring women on productivity. Our research quantifies the impact of hiring women into firms' research department on the creative output of those firms: leveraging men's enlistment during World War II as an instrument for firms' decisions to hire women, we study whether firms in which women scientist were hired between 1939 and 1945 produce more patents/publications in the subsequent years, until 1956. Preliminary IV estimates indicate that female hires had a large and persistent effect on the performance of younger generations of women in the same firms.