Martti Eino Mikael Kaila

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RESEARCH Interests Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Economics of Crime

EDUCATION

Phd. Student, Economics, University of Helsinki

2017 - Present

Supervisors: Kristiina Huttunen, Roope Uusitalo and Emily Nix

Visiting PhD Student, Princeton University

2019 - 2020

M.A., Economics, University of Helsinki

2017

B.A., Economics, University of Helsinki

2015

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Assistant

Summer 2018

Supervisors: Emily Nix and Kristiina Huttunen

Assistant Researcher

Summer 2017

VATT Institute for Economic Research

Helsinki, Finland

Research Trainee

Summer 2016

VATT Institute for Economic Research

Helsinki, Finland

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant

Advanced Macroeconomics: 2021

Intermediate Macroeconomics: 2019, 2021

Intermediate Microeconomics: 2018

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS "Disparate Impacts of Job Loss by Parental Income and Implications for Intergenerational Mobility" with Emily Nix, and Krista Riukula

Does job loss cause less economic damage if your parents are richer, and what are the implications for intergenerational mobility? We show that following a layoff, adult children born to parents in the bottom 20% of the income distribution have double the unemployment compared with those born to parents in the top 20%, with 118% higher present discounted value losses in earnings. Next, we show that these disparate impacts of job loss increase our version of the S80:S20 income inequality ratio by 8% and increase the rank-rank correlation by 34% for those impacted, implying large reductions in intergenerational mobility. We find that the age 40 rank-rank correlation is 3.9% higher due to the disparate impact and incidence of job loss over the preceding decade. In the last part of the paper we explore mechanisms and show that early education investments play an important role in explaining these differences.

"The Punishment Ladder: Estimating the Impact of Different Punishments on Defendant Outcomes" with Kristiina Huttunen and Emily Nix

Most criminal justice systems use a "ladder of punishments" that starts with less severe punishments and progresses to more severe punishments according to crime severity and criminal history. Using random assignment to judges, we estimate causal impacts of three common punishments on the ladder - fines, probation, and prison - on defendants' criminal and labor market outcomes. We find that fines increase recidivism. However, this increase is concentrated among those committing less severe crimes. Probation decreases recidivism for those committing less severe crimes and first offenders. Neither fines nor probation affect earnings. Prison has a mixed impact, decreasing future charges but also decreasing earnings.

"The Impact of Income Based Speeding Tickets on Reoffending"

I study drivers' reactions to a discontinuity in the fine size that arises from an income-based fine system. In Finland, the size of the speeding ticket becomes income-dependent if the driver's speed exceeds the speeding limit by 20 km/h, leading to a large jump in the size of the ticket. Despite considerable incentives, individuals do not bunch below the fine hike, but instead the speeding distributions are smooth. I utilize a regression discontinuity design to show that drivers who get larger fines due to the income-dependent fine system reduce their re-offending in the short term. Finally, I provide suggestive evidence that high-income individuals who get a larger penalty due to higher income drive the drop in reoffending.

"Inequality in College Applications: Evidence from Three Continents" with Adam Altjmed, Aspacia Bizopoulou, Martti Kaila, Christopher Neilson, Sebastin Otero, and Xiaoyang Ye

References

Kristiina Huttunen

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Aalto University

Roope Uusitalo

Professor +358 40 805 4863

Department of Economics roope.uusitalo@helsinki.fi
University of Helsinki

Emily Nix

Assistant Professor 213-740-3759 USC Marshall School of Business enix@usc.edu

Presentations

2021 NBER Labor Summer Institute (coauthored); Helsinki GSE Lunch Seminar; Helsinki GSE Labor and Public Workshop; ETLA Economic Institute; Turku School of Economics

2020 Helsinki GSE Labor and Public Workshop; Criminological Seminar, University of Helsinki

2019 Princeton university; The 14th Nordic Summer Institute in Labor Economics; European Society for Population Economics Annual Conference; APPAM Fall Research Conference

2018 OECD, France

Grants	Yrio	Jahnssonin	Foundation	Grant

2019 Finnish Cultural Foundation Grant 2018 Yrjo Jahnssonin Foundation Grant 2017

SOFTWARE SKILLS Sata, R, Latex, Java, SQL

PERSONAL DETAILS Citizenship: Finnish

Languages: Finnish (native), English (fluent), Swedish (good)