Qianqian Shang

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Education

Ph.D., Economics, CEMFI, Madrid, Spain   2020 - 2023 (expected)
    Committee: Monica Martinez-Bravo (advisor), Jan Stuhler and Tom Zohar

M.A., Economics, CEMFI, Madrid, Spain   2018 - 2020

M.A., Economics, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an, China   2015 - 2018
    Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Kiel, Germany   2017 Summer

B.A., Biology, Shandong University, Jinan, China   2011 - 2015

References

Monica Martinez-Bravo   Jan Stuhler
CEMFI   Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
mmb@cemfi.es   jstuhler@eco.uc3m.es

Tom Zohar   Nancy Qian
CEMFI   Northwestern University
tom.zohar@cemfi.es   nancy.qian@kellogg.northwestern.edu

Placement Officers

Dmitry Arkhangelsky   Tom Zohar
CEMFI   CEMFI
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Research Fields

Primary: Development Economics, Labor Economics
Secondary: Political Economy

Job Market Paper

Internal Migration and Education: The Role of Old-age Support

Abstract: In most developing countries, pension systems are poorly developed and the elderly rely on their children for old-age support. However, with increasing trends in rural-to-urban migration, many elder parents are left alone with limited assistance. This paper investigates whether parents may strategically lower the education investment in children to reduce the probability of their children out-migrating. In particular, I examine whether the Hukou reforms, which greatly relaxed migration restrictions in rural China, had detrimental effects on educational investments. Exploiting the variation in the timing of exposure to Hukou reforms across prefectures and cohorts, I show that the probability of children being enrolled in high school decreases by 0.1 standard deviations if the migration restrictions at high-school entry age are relaxed by one standard deviation. The effect is larger for parents whose ideal living arrangement at old age is to live near their children. Furthermore, the negative effects only exist for parents without pension entitlement. The results suggest that in contexts with weak policies for old-age support, lifting migration restrictions may have detrimental effects on human capital accumulation.

WORKING PAPERS

The Effects of Robots on Labor Markets and Political Attitudes: The Case of China

Abstract: Robots have been increasingly adopted in production processes throughout the world. This paper evaluates the impact of industrial robots on labor markets and political attitudes in China. Based on robot data from Chinese customs, I construct a direct measurement of robot exposure for each prefecture. Exploiting the variation in robot exposure across years and prefectures, I find that robots have no effect on general employment and wages but increase employment and lower wages in the private sector. However, I find important effects on unrest: one more robot per thousand workers leads to 1.6 times more episodes of labor unrest. This indicates the displacement effects of robots on labor could generate substantial discontent among some sectors, even though may not generate aggregate negative employment effects. I also explore the effects on individual attitudes using the China Family Panel Studies. I construct an individual exposure to robots based on occupational vulnerability. I find that exposure to robots negatively affects people's evaluation of the government's performance and trust in the local government.

How Does Children's Sex Affect Parental Sex Preference: Preference Adaptation and Learning (with Quanbao Jiang and Yongkun Yin)

Abstract: This study examines the effects of children's sex on women's sex preferences and investigates the underlying mechanisms. Women's sex preference is measured by the proportion of sons and daughters they would like to have. Based on data from a national representative sample of Peruvian women in the Demographic and Health Survey, we find that if the first child is a daughter, the ideal proportion of sons will be lower by 6.2 percentage points (pp), and the ideal proportion of daughters will be higher by 5.3 pp. Moreover, if the first two children are daughters, the ideal proportion of sons will be lower by 8.9 pp, and the ideal proportion of daughters will be higher by 6.2 pp. Further analysis shows that the effects of the sex of the first child are stronger for women with only one child than for women with multiple children and that the effects of having a daughter depend on her birth order, suggesting that both preference adaptation and learning play important roles in generating the effects of children's sex on parental sex preference.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Gender Differences in Altruism and Occupation Choice: Experimental Evidence (with Tom Zohar)

Abstract: Despite gender convergence in many areas of the labor market, men and women still work in markedly different occupations. In this project, we aim to understand whether gender differences in altruism reflect occupation choice. First, we ask: do women choose more prosocial occupations? We construct a prosocial score for each occupation using text analysis methods, applied to the ONET occupation description data. We match these prosocial occupation scores with the Panel Study of Income Dynamics and document that women indeed sort into prosocial occupations. Second, we ask whether this gender-occupation sorting behavior is due to social preferences or labor market constraints. In order to answer that, we are developing an experiment on a job-hiring platform, where we randomize job postings information on a job's social impact; where the outcome of interest is the share of females applying to the posting.

Political Career Concern and AI Adoption in China (with Monica Martinez-Bravo)

Abstract: AI is rising and widely used as a surveillance and monitoring tool. This project studies whether political career concerns affect AI adoption in China: do political leaders with term limits invest more in AI? The rationale is that AI may help suppress unrest and therefore increase the probability of promotion. We combine the data on government contracts with AI firms during 2013-2019 from Beraja, Yang and Yuchtman (2022) with data on turnover of

prefecture party secretaries. We plan to implement a *Difference-in-Differences* strategy across the years of term and prefectures to evaluate this question.

Land Reform, Migration and Children's Education

Abstract: This project evaluates the impact of land reform on children's education and migration in rural China. The Rural Land Contracting Law (RLCL), implemented in 2003, allows farmers to lease out their land to others legally. There are several potential channels how this land reform affects children's education. First, with land property becoming secure, farmers rely less on children staying in villages to use and keep the land. Second, the household may have a higher income. Third, less child labor is needed if the land is rented out. I exploit the staggered implementation of RLCL across provinces. The main results on education and migration take advantage of a rich household survey. I implement a *Difference-in-Differences* strategy where I compare children's education across cohorts and provinces. It's also interesting to study the interaction of land reforms and Hukou reforms on children's migration.

PRE-PHD PUBLICATIONS

Gender Role Attitudes and Fertility Revisited: Evidence from the United States. *Population Review*, 2020, 59(2), 111-138. (with Yongkun Yin)

FDI Spillovers on Corporate Social Responsibility: The Channel of Labor Mobility. *Sustainability*, 2019, 10(11), 1-22. (with Yi Zhang and Chun Liu)

The Impact of within-Household Relative Income on Happiness: Does Gender Identity Matter? *Journal of Research in Gender Studies*, 2018, 8(2), 55-63. (with Wan-Hsin Liu and Yongkun Yin)

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Economics of Migration, online	2023
EWMES, Humboldt University Berlin	2022
International Young Scholars Forum, Northwest A&F University	2022
EEA-ESEM Congress, Bocconi University	2022
CAGE Summer School in Political Economy, University of Warwick	2022
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, online	2022
Lunch Seminar in International Economics, Kiel Institute for the World Economy	2017

GRANTS AND AWARDS

EEA Travel Grant	2022
PhD Scholarship	2020 - 2023
María de Maeztu Excellence Scholarship	2019
Jing Shuping Scholarship	2017
DAAD Short-term Scholarship for Master's Degree Students	2017
Distinguished Postgraduate Student	2016, 2017
National Scholarship	2016
Graduate Studies Scholarship	2015 - 2017
Kang Dien Scholarship	2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Research Assistant for Stéphane Bonhomme, University of Chicago	Sep. 2022 - present
Research Assistant for Monica Martinez-Bravo, CEMFI	Sep. 2020 - Aug. 2022
Research Assistant for Yarine Fawaz, CEMFI	Jun. 2019 - Aug. 2019
Research Assistant for Wan-Hsin Liu, Kiel Institute for the World Economy	Jun. 2017 - Aug. 2017

Teaching Experiences

Teaching Assistant, *Introductory Mathematics*   2021 Fall
Teaching Assistant, *Universiy Economics*   2017 Spring
Teaching Assistant, *Universiy Economics*   2016 Fall

Other

Software: Stata, R, Python, Matlab, Latex, QGIS
Language: Chinese (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic)

Last update: March 2, 2023