

# Scandinavian PhD Seminar

Fall 2020 Seminar Series

October 5, 2020

## General Information:

Seminars start at 12:15 and end at 13:15 (exception September 8th). Participants on the seminar mailing list will receive a zoom link on Tuesday morning, which they can then use to attend the seminar. Please only share the link with trusted colleagues and not on social media. Questions can usually be asked during the seminar by unmuting yourself.

## September 8th, 12:30 to 13:30 - Demid Getik (Lund University)

**Title:** Gender Peer Composition and Labour Market Outcomes

**Field:** Applied Micro, Labour, Education

**Abstract:** We examine how the gender composition in compulsory school affects gender gaps in subsequent labour-market outcomes. For identification, we rely on Swedish administrative data and cohort variation in peer gender within schools. We find that an increase in the share of girls improves girls' wages and diminishes the gap in both actual and potential earnings. There appear to be no significant effects on boys' labour-market outcomes. We also find robust evidence that part of the results are explained by less gendered choices in occupation and education made by girls with more female peers.

## September 22nd - Mirjam Wentzel (Norwegian School of Economics)

**Title:** Child Care and Later-In-Life Delinquency

**Field:** Applied Micro, Crime

## October 6th - Simone Maria Bonin (Aarhus University)

**Title:** Export Shocks and Firm Competition

**Field:** Trade, Labour

**Abstract:** Are export shocks transmitted between firms competing in the same labour market? In particular, how does labour market competition affect firms and workers that are exposed to successful exporters? To answer these questions, we employ administrative linked employer-employee dataset covering the population of Danish firms and workers, a novel approach to define labour markets through clustered worker transitions between jobs, and an empirical strategy based on shocks to firm-level export stemming from variation in World Import Demand. Overall, we find evidence of positive spillover effects for both workers and firms (indirectly) exposed to positive export shocks in the labour market. Our analysis reveals two distinct mechanisms underlying transmission of export shocks through the labour market: a direct within-market competitive pressure, causing firms to increase wages and reallocation of workers towards firms experiencing an export boost, and a positive employment spillover for firms competing with growing exporters. Positive employment spillovers and

competitive worker reallocations act in different directions. Which effect dominates depends on how permeable the boundaries in a given labour market are. In self-contained labour markets, firms mainly compete for a fixed pool of workers. This generates intense wage competition and reallocation of workers to firms that experience positive export shocks. Conversely, in markets where boundaries are loose, competitors' export shocks trigger the entry of new workers from other labour markets, improving vacancy filling rates and/or match quality.

### October 20th - Kristoffer Berg (University of Oslo)

**Title:** Revealing Equity Principles from Tax Policy

**Field:** Public Economics

**Abstract:** Which equity principles can support current tax policy? This paper shows how vertical and horizontal equity rationalize tax policy choices by governments. While vertical equity provides the standard inequality aversion rationale for redistributive taxation, most tax models ignore horizontal equity. Horizontal equity introduces a restriction against tax discrimination based on certain characteristics, which is necessary to explain current tax policy. The first contribution is to map the government's total marginal priority into the concerns for vertical and horizontal equity. Then I derive a sufficient statistic for the effect of horizontal equity on inequality aversion. The second contribution is to apply the model to the current gender neutral taxation in Norway. The result is that inequality aversion is overestimated if horizontal equity is ignored.

### November 3rd - Bérengère Patault (CREST/Ecole Polytechnique)

**Title:** How valuable are business networks? Evidence from salesmen in international goods markets

**Field:** Empirical International Trade, Labour

**Abstract:** How to gain new buyers and expand one's business? This paper provides a very simple answer to this question: by hiring salesmen. Combining French firm-to-firm trade data with a detailed occupational dataset, we offer new empirical evidence that salesmen play a role for the construction of a firm's portfolio of foreign buyers. We then characterize a specific channel explaining such a role: using an event-study design, we show that a poached salesman brings on average 0.14 buyers of her former firm's buyers to her new firm. Additional results indicate that country and sectoral knowledge can only explain a small fraction of this effect, which suggests that salesmen accumulate buyer-specific knowledge when working for exporting firms, knowledge that they transmit when poached. Finally, we quantify, building on a simple theoretical framework, the importance of business network transmission to understand salesmen's role in buyer acquisition. We find that, on average for a salesman, having interacted with a buyer in the past multiplies the probability to sell to this buyer in the future by 9 times.

### November 17th - Eirik Berger (Norwegian School of Economics)

**Title:** Fertility, Family Formation and Human Capital

**Field:** Applied Micro, Education, History

### December, 15th - Anne Sophie Lassen (Copenhagen Business School)

**Title:** Job Loss and Domestic Violence: Evidence from Denmark

**Field:** Applied Micro, Labour, Crime

**Abstract:** This paper estimates the effect from job loss on intimate partner violence (IPV) towards women. Using Danish administrative data, we exploit exogenous job loss due to unexpected plant closure to test how the risk of IPV changes when Danish men become unemployed. On average, we

find persistent shocks to earnings indicating a strong first-stage. Second, we find that job loss increases the standard errors of the estimate of the risk of IPV dramatically. Interacting job loss with marital status reduce confidence intervals. This indicates that the existing literature might suffer from a bias as changes in family structure seldom are accounted for.