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EDUCATION

University of Mannheim

2018 - 2023

PhD Economics

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

2013 - 2015

MA Economics

University of Paris Dauphine

2012 - 2014

MRes Development Economics

2009 - 2012

BS Applied Economics

RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics, Public, Labor, and Development Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Why Don't Poor Families Move? A Spatial Equilibrium Analysis of Parental Decisions with Social Learning

Abstract: In the United States, childhood neighborhood quality shapes adulthood economic opportunities. However, most children raised in bottom-quality neighborhoods still live in low-quality neighborhoods in adulthood. Could childhood neighborhood directly affect adulthood choices? I develop a quantitative spatial model of parental decisions that incorporates a novel mechanism: social learning about the technology of skill formation. Segregation generates information frictions that systematically distort parents' subjective beliefs and behavior. I calibrate the model using several United States representative datasets. The calibrated model matches targeted and non-targeted parental behaviors and generates an endogenous distribution of subjective beliefs. I find a relatively modest level of delusion that increases the income Gini index by 3 % and the intergenerational rank-rank slope by 12 %. A housing voucher policy improves the neighborhood quality of eligible families, raising children's future earnings. When scaling up the policy, long-run and general equilibrium responses in subjective beliefs amplify the policy effects. Inequality reduces, and intergenerational mobility improves.

OTHER RESEARCH

Published Paper

Machine Learning and Mobile Phone Data Can Improve the Targeting of Humanitarian Assistance, with Emily Aiken, Dean Karlan, Christopher R. Udry and Joshua Blumenstock. *Nature* 2022.

Working Papers

The Impact of Cash Transfers in Togo: Digital Data Do Not Recover Treatment Effects Found in Survey Data, with Emily Aiken, Joshua Blumenstock, Dean Karlan and Christopher R. Udry.

Teacher Training Program, Teacher Practices and Student Performance in Science: Evidence from a Randomized Study in French Primary Schools, with Adrien Bouguen, Marc Gurgand, Valerie Munier and André Tricot

Impacts of a multicomponent reading intervention for 6th grade students: Results from a Clustered Randomized Controlled Trial, with Marina Tual, Maryse Bianco, Pascal Bressoux and Marc Gurgand

Work in Progress

Macroeconomic Consequences of Early Education Tracking, with Lukas Mahler

Employment Transitions: Mechanisms For Gender Earnings Gap, with Valentina Melentyeva

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD

Teaching Assistant

STEG Virtual Course

2021, Demographic Transition and Development lecture

J-PAL Europe, Executive Education Programs

2018 - 2019, Randomized Control Trials

Sciences Po Paris

2016 - 2017, Public Economics

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

2014, Macroeconomics

Research Assistant

University of Mannheim

since 2019, Research Assistant to Professor Michèle Tertilt

J-PAL Europe

2015 - 2018, Senior Research Manager

J-PAL Latin America and the Caribbean

2015, Research Associate

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022: XXV Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics 2022 (Vigo) - Summer School in Urban Economics 2022 - UCL - Spring Meeting of Young Economists 2022 - CRC retreat - ENTER Jamboree 2022 - Frankfurt-Mannheim Macro Workshop - CRC TR 224 Family & Gender Economics Workshop - University of Mannheim

2021: The Causes and Consequences of Inequality Workshop (CRC) - Young Researchers Workshop (CRC) - University of Mannheim

SCHOLARSHIP AND AFFILIATION

CRC Member

since 2019

DAAD Scholarship

2019 - 2023

REFERENCES

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