

Tom Zohar

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EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Stanford University
• Expected Completion June 2021
• Dissertation: *Out of Labor and into the Labor Force: Abortion Access & The Unplanned Child Penalty*

Visiting Student in Economics, UC Berkeley Fall 2012

BA in Economics, Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) - Summa Cum Laude 2013

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Prof. Ran Abramitzky
Economics Department, Stanford University
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Economics Department, Stanford University
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Asst. Prof. Isaac Sorkin
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FIELDS

Public and Labor Economics: Focus on Labor-Market Inequality, Economics of the Household, and Reproductive Health

RESEARCH

JMP: *Out of Labor and into the Labor Force: Abortion Access & The Unplanned Child Penalty* (with Nina Brooks)

How does an increase in abortion access affect labor market outcomes for women? A large body of evidence suggests that expanding access to oral contraceptives allowed women to delay entry into parenthood and invest in their careers. Yet little is known about the effects of improving access to abortion due to data and identification limitations. In this project we turn to the Israeli context to overcome both of these challenges. In 2014 the Israeli government expanded a subsidy that covered the entire monetary cost of an abortion for women between the ages of 20-32. Using a unique administrative dataset linking abortions, births, employment, earnings and education for all women in Israel between 2002-2016, and the policy as a natural experiment, we identify the causal impact of expanding access to abortion on fertility and female labor force participation. We show that the policy increased the abortion rate and this effect is driven by the relaxation of binding social constraints (the combination of credit constraints and society that impose social stigma), rather than a moral hazard

induced increase in conceptions. Furthermore, we find that increasing abortion access delays parenthood, allowing women to shift from low- to high-skill jobs, which translates in turn to an increase in earnings.

Decomposing the Intergenerational Transmission of Income (with Caue Dobbin)

Children of high-income parents are more likely to earn a high income themselves. This pattern can be, in part, attributed to differences in human capital, since early life conditions are essential in building skills. However, in an imperfect labor market, individuals with the same abilities and different family backgrounds might end up with different outcomes, due to wage-setting and hiring policies. In this paper, we quantify the contribution of factors other than skill to the intergenerational persistence of earnings. For this purpose, we decompose the observed correlation between father's and children's earnings into labor market participation, firm-specific wage premium, and skill. We find that differences in labor market participation and access to better-paying firms are responsible for 28% and 22% of the intergenerational elasticity of earnings, respectively.

Reassessing inequality: A revealed preference approach (with Caue Dobbin)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Head-TA of Stanford's Economics Department	2018 - Present
	Labor Economics (Undergrad), Stanford, Prof. John Pencavel	Fall 2017
RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Research Assistant, Prof. Ran Abramitzky (Stanford)	2016-2018
	Field Research Assistant (Tanzania), Prof. Melanie Morten	Summer 2016
	Management Consultant, Deloitte	2014-2015
	Lab Research Assistant, Prof. Tali Regev (IDC)	2012-2013
FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS	Out of Labor and into the Labor Force: Abortion Access & The Unplanned Child Penalty Donor:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leonard W. Ely and Shirley R. Ely Graduate Student Fellowship (\$29,958) • Shultz Fellowship - November 2018 (\$12,500) • Shultz Fellowship - April 2018 (\$8,500) • Graduate Research Opportunity Funds (\$4,500) • FSI GOES large research grant (\$5,700) 	
	Reassessing inequality: A revealed preference approach Donor:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shultz Fellowship - April 2018 (\$18,516) • Shultz Fellowship - Nov 2017 (\$46,840) • Stanford Center for Computational Social Science (\$2,000) 	
	Honors Fellowship, IDC (\$13,500)	
	Berkeley Economics Semester Abroad Program Fellowship (\$2,000)	
	Rotary Fellowship (\$1,200)	

PRESENTATIONS

Out of Labor and into the Labor Force: Abortion Access & The Unplanned Child Penalty

- APPAM Fall Research Conference, November 2020, Washington D.C.
- SEA Annual Meeting, November 2020, New Orleans
- PAA Annual Meeting, April 2020, Virtual
- APPAM International Conference, July 2019, University Pompeu Fabra
- IRES Graduate Workshop, May 2019, Chapman University
- APPAM CA Student Conference, April 2019, UC Irvine

OTHER

Nationalities: Israeli, Portuguese

Languages: Hebrew (native), English (fluent)

Software: Stata, R, Matlab, Python, \LaTeX

LAST UPDATE July 2020