

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Department of Economics
Fall 2020

ECON 70604: Labor and Economic Demography
T/R 9:35-10:50, B44 Jenkins-Nanovic

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Virtual Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00-2:45, or by appointment.

In this graduate course, you will develop an understanding of how economic forces contribute to trends in fertility, marriage, and mortality, and how these in turn interact with the labor market and public policy. You will learn to apply the tools of labor economics and applied econometrics to the study of economic demography, including causal inference, data analysis, and measurement. You will have the opportunity to present to the class, and will have research assignments that are complementary with dissertation work. The course assumes a solid background in economic theory and a basic understanding of regression analysis and empirical methods.

Requirements (and grading weight):

A. Participation (10%) Everyone is expected to participate in class discussions. Quality is valued over quantity.

B. Reaction papers to assigned readings (20%) By noon on the day before each class, you will submit a one-page paper (double-spaced) summarizing your thoughts on the reading and identifying any questions you have or items you would like to discuss with the class. Papers should be uploaded via Sakai as a .pdf file. You may skip two reaction papers during the course.

C. In-class paper presentation (30%)

Each student will be assigned one paper to present to the class, in a 25-minute presentation. Roughly, the first 15 minutes should be a summary of the paper, with a format similar to a conference presentation. The last 10 minutes should be a discussion that critiques the paper and/or proposes directions for future research.

D. Paper (40%)

The main assignment for the course is a paper. For the first part of the paper, you will produce 3 tables and/or figures that document a trend in fertility, marriage, migration, or mortality. This may replicate or extend a paper we have seen in class by (for example) using data from another country or time period, or by documenting heterogeneity in the trend across groups. We will share these tables and figures in class on Sept. 15 to get feedback. For the second part of the paper, you will list three research questions that are inspired by your tables/figures, and develop one of them in detail. *The paper is due on the last day of class.*

Sakai: Our website within Sakai (sakai.nd.edu) will have slide shows, assignment information, Zoom recordings of lectures, and more. You will also use it to submit your reaction pieces.

Honor Code Information: In signing the university's honor code, you agreed not to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. I expect you to adhere to this strictly, and any violations will be reported to the Associate Provost.

COVID-related policies: First and foremost, we should keep in mind that we will need to be *flexible and understanding* this semester. This goes both ways—I will be flexible with you if you have health issues or concerns that affect your ability to attend class in person or to complete work on time, and I will understand that we are all working under strange circumstances so your best work might reflect a constrained optimum. Please be understanding with me if the schedule changes, if the technology doesn't work right away, or if I am not able to give you comments on your work as quickly as I normally would.

Beyond this, the expectation is that we will all comply with university guidelines at all times, including by wearing masks indoors and distancing within the classroom. If you are not able to attend class in person, you should be able to participate virtually via Zoom.

Lauren's Promise: I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening or harassing you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year old student at the University of Utah and the daughter of economist Jill McCluskey, was murdered on Oct. 22, 2018 by a man she briefly dated. I am committed to doing what I can to make sure this does not happen again.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you are experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, or harassment you can report it to me. You should be aware that I am a mandatory reporter, which means that I am required to report these instances to the university's Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator to investigate. **You can also learn about your options (on-campus and off-campus, confidential and not) at <http://titleix.nd.edu>.**

If you are in need of support for your mental or emotional health for any reason, you can talk to me. You can also find helpful resources at <http://ucc.nd.edu>.

Schedule

(Subject to change.)

* = Assigned Reading

Dates	Topic for Readings and Lectures	Student Paper Presentation
Aug. 11	Economic Models of Fertility	
Aug. 13	Empirical Studies of Fertility *Kearney & Levine, 2014; *Bailey, 2010 (2 nd years read K&L; 3 rd years read Bailey)	
Aug. 18	Baby Boom and Bust *Albanesi & Olivetti, 2009; Bailey & Collins, 2011	Berman, Iannoccone, & Ragusa, 2012;
Aug. 20	The Recent Fertility Decline Popular press articles; *Buckles, Guldi, & Schmidt, (2020).	Lugauer, 2012
Aug. 25	Children and Women's Labor Force Outcomes *Kleven, Landais, & Sogaard, 2019; Meyer & Rosenbaum, 2001.	Lundborg, Plug, & Rasmussen, 2019

Aug. 27	Family Structure *Black, Devereux, & Salvanes, 2005; Buckles & Munnich, 2012	Bana, Bedard, & Rossin-Slater (forthcoming)
Sept. 1	Human Capital Production: Early Childhood Investments *Cunha & Heckman, 2007; Malamud, Pop-Eleches, & Urquiola, 2016; Barr & Gibbs, 2020	Price 2008
Sept. 3	Economic Models of Marriage *Stevenson & Wolfers, 2007	Bailey, Hoynes, Rossin-Slater, & Walker, 2020
Sept. 8	Assortative Mating, Inequality, and Intergenerational Transmission Cornelson & Siow, 2015; *popular press articles.	Folke & Rickne, 2020
Sept. 10	Assortative Mating, Inequality, and Intergenerational Transmission *Eika, Mogstad, & Zafar, 2019; Chetty et al., 2017.	Chiappori, Salanie, & Weiss, 2017
Sept. 15	In-class discussions of tables & figures	
Sept. 17	Mortality: Deaths of Despair *Case & Deaton, 2015, and comments	Muennig et al., 2018
Sept. 22	Mortality: Deaths of Despair? *Currie & Schwandt, 2016; Buckles, Evans, & Lieber, 2020	Logan & Parman, 2018
Sept. 24	Racial Disparities in Mortality *Phelan & Link, 2015; Gould & Wilson, 2020	Alsan & Wanamaker, 2018

Resources

A. Fertility

Becker, Gary. 1960. "An Economic Analysis of Fertility," in *Demographic and Economic Change in Developed Countries*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1960.

Becker, Gary and H. Gregg Lewis. 1973. "On the Interaction between the Quantity and Quality of Children." *Journal of Political Economy*, 81(2): S279-88.

Kearney, M. S., & Levine, P. B. 2014. "*Media Influences on Social Outcomes: The Impact of MTV's 16 and Pregnant on Teen Childbearing*" (No. w19795). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Bailey, Martha. 2010. "'Momma's Got the Pill': How Comstock and *Griswold v. Connecticut* Shaped U.S. Childbearing," *American Economic Review*, 100(1): 98-129.

Bailey, Martha, & William Collins. 2011. "Did Improvements in Household Technology Cause the Baby Boom? Evidence from Electrification, Appliance Diffusion, and the Amish." *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 3(2): 189-217.

- Albanesi, Stefania and Claudia Olivetti. 2016. "Gender Roles and Medical Progress." *Journal of Political Economy*, 124(3), pp.650-695.
- Lugauer, Steven. 2012. "Estimating the Effect of the Age Distribution on Cyclical Output Volatility across the United States." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94(4): 896-902.
- Berman, Eli, Laurence Iannaccone, and Giuseppe Ragusa. 2012. "From Empty Pews to Empty Cradles: Fertility Decline Among European Catholics." *NBER Working Paper #18350*.
- Buckles, Kasey, Melanie Guldi, and Lucie Schmidt. 2020. "The Great Recession's Baby-less Recovery: The Role of Unintended Births." *Mimeo*, https://www3.nd.edu/~kbuckles/BGS_june2020.pdf. (Previous version: *NBER Working Paper #25521*).
- Angrist, Joshua, Victor Lavy, and Analia Scholoser. 2010. "Multiple Experiments for the Causal Link Between the Quantity and Quality of Children," *Journal of Labor Economics*, 28(4): 773-823.
- Lindo, Jason. 2010. "Are Children Really Inferior Goods?" *Journal of Human Resources*, 45(2): 301.
- Chandra, Amitabh and Stacy Dickert-Conlin. 1999. "Taxes & the Timing of Births." *Journal of Political Economy*, 107(1).
- Buckles, Kasey and Daniel Hungerman. 2013. "Season of Birth: Old Questions, New Answers." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 95(3): 711-724.
- Mulligan, K., 2015. "Contraception Use, Abortions, and Births: The Effect of Insurance Mandates." *Demography*, 52(4), pp.1195-1217.
- Miller, C.C., 2018. The Relentlessness of Modern Parenting. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/25/upshot/the-relentlessness-of-modern-parenting.html>.
- Goldberg, Michelle. 2018. Want More Babies? You Need Less Patriarchy. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/25/opinion/american-birthrate-patriarchy.html?em_pos=small&emc=edit_ty_20180525&nl=opinion-today&nl_art=7&nid=47698275emc%3Dedit_ty_20180525&ref=headline&te=1
- Doepke, M. and F. Zilibotti. 2019. The Parent Trap: How Economic Inequality Gives Rise to Hyper-Parenting. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/posteverything/wp/2019/02/22/feature/how-economic-inequality-gives-rise-to-hyper-parenting/?p9w22b2p=b2p22p9w00098>
- Doepke, M., Sorrenti, G. and Zilibotti, F. 2019. "The economics of parenting." *Annual Review of Economics*, 11, pp. 55-84.
- Bassi, V. and Rasul, I., 2017. "Persuasion: A case study of papal influences on fertility-related beliefs and behavior." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 9(4), pp.250-302.
- Sussman, Annal Louie. 2019. The End of Babies. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/11/16/opinion/sunday/capitalism-children.html>
- Gruber, Jonathan, Phillip Levine, and Douglas Staiger. 1999. "Abortion Legalization and Child Living Circumstances: Who is the 'Marginal Child'?" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114(1): 263-291.

Baughman, Reagan and Stacy Dickert-Conlin. 2003. "Did Expanding the EITC Promote Motherhood?" *The American Economic Review* 93(2): 247.

B. Family and Women's Labor Force Outcomes

Goldin, Claudia. 2004. "The Long Road to the Fast Track: Career and Family," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 596: 20-35.

Meyer, Bruce and Dan Rosenbaum. 2001. "Welfare, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the Labor Supply of Single Mothers," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 116: 1063-1114.

Kleven, H., Landais, C. and Sogaard, J.E., 2019. "Children and gender inequality: Evidence from Denmark." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 11(4), pp.181-209.

Lundborg, P., Plug, E., and Rasumssen, A. W. 2017. "Can Women Have Children and a Career? IV Evidence from IVF Treatments." *American Economic Review*, 107(6), 1611-37.

Angrist, Joshua and William N. Evans. 1998. "Children and Their Parents' Labor Supply: Evidence from Exogenous Variation in Family Size," *American Economic Review*, 88: 450-77.

Cortes, P., and Tessada, J. 2011. "Low-skilled immigration and the labor supply of highly skilled women." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 88-123.

Bana, S., Bedard, K., & Rossin-Slater, M. 2018. "The Impacts of Paid Family Leave Benefits: Regression Kink Evidence from California Administrative Data." (No. w24438). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Balser, C., Hall, C., & Bukowinski, A. 2020. "The Effect of Expanding Paid Maternity Leave on Maternal Health: Evidence from the United States Air Force & Army. *Working paper*, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3601018.

Waldfoegel, J. 1998a. "Understanding the 'Family Gap' in Pay for Women with Children," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 12: 137-156.

Hotz, Joseph, Susan McElroy, and Seth Sanders. 2005. "Teenage Childbearing and Its Life Cycle Consequences: Exploiting a Natural Experiment," *The Journal of Human Resources* 40(3): 682-715.

Herr, Jane and Catherine Wolfram. 2009. "Work Environment and "Opt-Out" Rates at Motherhood Across High-Education Career Paths." *NBER Working Paper #14717*.

Waldfoegel, J. 1998b. "The Family Gap for Young Women in the United States and Britain: Can Maternity Leave Make a Difference?," *Journal of Labor Economics*, 16(3): 505-545.

Greenwood, Jeremy, Ananth Seshadri and Mehmet Yorukoglu. 2005. "Engines of Liberation," *Review of Economic Studies* 72: 109-133.

Gelbach, Jonah. 2002. "Public Schooling for Young Children and Maternal Labor Supply," *American Economic Review*, 92(1): 307.

Lalive, Rafael and Josef Zweimuller. 2009. "How does parental leave affect fertility and return to work? Evidence from two natural experiments," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(3): 1363-1402.

Goldin, Claudia and Lawrence Katz. 2002. "The Power of the Pill: Oral Contraceptives and Women's Career and Marriage Decisions." *Journal of Political Economy*, 110(4).

C. Family Structure

Black, Sandra, Paul Devereux, and Kjell Salvanes. 2005. "The More the Merrier? The Effect of Family Size and Birth Order on Children's Education." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120(2): 669.

Black, Sandra, Paul Devereux, and Kjell Salvanes. 2010. "Small Family, Smart Family? Family Size and the IQ Scores of Young Men." *Journal of Human Resources* 45(1): 33-58.

Buckles, Kasey and Elizabeth Munnich. 2012. "Birth Spacing and Child Outcomes." *Journal of Human Resources*, 47(3): 613-642.

Price, Joseph. 2008. "Parent-Child Quality Time: Does Birth Order Matter?" *Journal of Human Resources*, 43(1): 240.

Kaestner, Robert. 1997. "Are Brothers Really Better? Sibling Sex Composition and Educational Achievement." *Journal of Human Resources*, 32(2): 250-284.

Brenøe, A. 2018. "Origins of gender norms: sibling gender composition and women's choice of occupation and partner." IZA Working Paper #11692.

D. Early Childhood Investments and Human Capital

Cunha, F., & Heckman, J. 2007. "The Technology of Skill Formation." *American Economic Review*, 97(2), 31-47.

Barr, A. & Gibbs, C. 2020. "Breaking the Cycle? Intergenerational Effects of an Anti-Poverty Program in Early Childhood. *Mimeo*, <https://edworkingpapers.com/sites/default/files/ai19-141.pdf>.

Cunha, F., & Heckman, J. 2007. "The Technology of Skill Formation." *American Economic Review*, 97(2), 31-47.

Bailey, M.J., Hoynes, H.W., Rossin-Slater, M. and Walker, R.. 2020. "Is the Social Safety Net a Long-Term Investment? Large-scale Evidence from the Food Stamps Program." (No. w26942). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Malamud, O., Pop-Eleches, C., & Urquiola, M. 2016. "Interactions between Family and School Environments: Evidence on Dynamic Complementarities?" (No. w22112). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Almond, Douglas, Kenneth Chay and David Lee. 2005. "The Costs of Low Birth Weight," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1031-1083.

Walters, Christopher. 2014. "Inputs in the Production of Early Childhood Human Capital: Evidence from Head Start." NBER WP 20639.

Weikart, D.P., J.T. Bond, J.T. McNeil. 1978. *The Ypsilanti Perry Preschool Project: Preschool Years and Longitudinal Results Through Fourth Grade*. High/Scope Educational Research Foundation: Ypsilanti, MI.

Heckman, James, Rodrigo Pinto, and Peter Savelyev. 2012. "Understanding the Mechanisms Through Which an Influential Early Childhood Program Boosted Adult Outcomes." NBER WP 18581.

Conti, Gabriella and James Heckman. 2012. "The Economics of Child Well-Being." NBER WP 18466.

Slide Show on the Heckman Equation, at <http://www.heckmanequation.org/content/resource/presenting-heckman-equation>.

Currie, Janet and Duncan Thomas. 1995. "Does Head Start Make a Difference?" *The American Economic Review*, 85: 341-364.

Belfield, Clive and Inas Kelly. 2010. "The Benefits of Breastfeeding Across the Early Years of Childhood." NBER WP 16496.

E. Marriage and Divorce

Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfers. 2007. "Marriage and Divorce: Changes and Their Driving Forces." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(2).

Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfers. 2008. "Marriage and the Market." *Cato Unbound*. Accessed June 24, 2011.

Becker, Gary. 1981. *A Treatise on the Family*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Bergstrom, Theodore C. 1997. "A Survey of Theories of the Family." In *Handbook of Population and Family Economics*. Edited by M. R. Rosenzweig and O. Stark. Elsevier. Vol. 1A, pp. 21-79

McKinnish, Terra. 2007. "Sexually Integrated Workplaces and Divorce: Another Form of On-the-Job Search." *Journal of Human Resources*, 42(2), pp. 331-352.

Ribar, David. 2004. "What Do Social Scientists Know About the Benefits of Marriage? A Review of Quantitative Methodologies." IZA Discussion Paper No. 998.

Waite, Linda. 1995. "Does Marriage Matter?" *Demography*, 32(14), pp. 438-508.

Finlay, Keith and David Neumark. 2010. "Is Marriage Always Good for Children?" *Journal of Human Resources*, 45(4), 1046.

Korenman, Sanders and David Neumark. 1991. "Does Marriage Really Make Men More Productive?" *Journal of Human Resources*, 26(2) 282-307.

Gray, Jeffrey S. 1997. "The Fall in Men's Return to Marriage: Declining Productivity Effects or Changing Selection?" *The Journal of Human Resources*, 32(3), 481-504.

Dahl, Gordon. 2010. "Early Teen Marriage and Future Poverty." *Demography*, 47(3), 689-718.

Gruber, Jonathan. 2004. "Is Making Divorce Easier Bad for Children? The Long-Run Implications of Unilateral Divorce." *Journal of Labor Economics*, 22(4): 799-833.

Folke, O. and Rickne, J., 2020. "All the single ladies: Job promotions and the durability of marriage." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 12(1), pp.260-87.

Rosenfeld, M.J., Thomas, R.J. and Hausen, S., 2019. "Disintermediating your friends: How online dating in the United States displaces other ways of meeting." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 116(36), pp.17753-17758.

Abramowitz, J., 2016. "Saying, 'I don't': The effect of the Affordable Care Act young adult provision on marriage." *Journal of Human Resources*, 51(4), pp.933-960.

Buckles, Kasey, Melanie Guldi and Joseph Price. 2010. "Changing the Price of Marriage: Evidence from Blood Test Requirements." *Journal of Human Resources*, 46(3): 539.

Brien, Michael, Stacy Dickert-Conlin and David Weaver. 2004. "Widows Waiting to Wed? (Re)Marriage and Economic Incentives in Social Security Widow Benefits." *The Journal of Human Resources*, 39(3): 585-623.

Francis. 2016. Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation. *Amoris Laetitia*, 8.

F. Families, Inequality, and Intergenerational Transmission

Cornelson, K. and Siow, A., 2016. "A Quantitative Review of Marriage Markets: How Inequality is Remaking the American Family by Carbone and Cahn." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 54(1), pp.193-207.

Coile, C.C. and Duggan, M.G., 2019. "When Labor's Lost: Health, Family Life, Incarceration, and Education in a Time of Declining Economic Opportunity for Low-Skilled Men." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33(2), pp.191-210.

Sacerdote, Bruce. 2007. "How Large are the Effects from Changes in Family Environment? A Study of Korean American Adoptees." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(1): 119.

Björklund, A., Lindahl, M., & Plug, E. 2006. "The origins of intergenerational associations: Lessons from Swedish adoption data." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(3), 999-1028.

Eika, L., Mogstad, M., & Zafar, B. 2019. "Educational Assortative Mating and Household Income Inequality." *Journal of Political Economy*, 127(6), 2795-2835.

Chiappori, P. A., Salanié, B., & Weiss, Y. 2017. "Partner Choice, Investment in Children, and the Marital College Premium." *American Economic Review*, 107(8), 2109-67.

Chetty, R., Grusky, D., Hell, M., Hendren, N., Manduca, R., & Narang, J. 2017. "The Fading American Dream: Trends in Absolute Income Mobility Since 1940." *Science*, 356(6336), 398-406.

G. Mortality

Case, A., & Deaton, A. 2015. "Rising Morbidity and Mortality in Midlife among White Non-Hispanic Americans in the 21st Century." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 112(49), 15078-15083.

Muennig, P. A., Reynolds, M., Fink, D. S., Zafari, Z., & Geronimus, A. T. 2018. "America's Declining Well-being, Health, and Life Expectancy: Not Just a White Problem." *American Journal of Public Health*, 108(12), 1626-1631.

Currie, J., & Schwandt, H. 2016. "Mortality Inequality: The Good News from a County-Level Approach." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30(2), 29-52.

Buckles, K., Evans, W., & Lieber, E. 2020. "The Drug Crisis and the Living Arrangements of Children." (No. w27633). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Alsan, M., & Wanamaker, M. 2018. "Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(1), 407-455.

Gould, E., & Wilson, V. 2020. "Black Workers Face Two of the Most Lethal Preexisting Conditions for Coronavirus--Racism and Economic Inequality." *Economic Policy Institute*, 1.

Phelan, J. C., & Link, B. G. 2015. "Is Racism a Fundamental Cause of Inequalities in Health?" *Annual Review of Sociology*, 41, 311-330.

Logan, T. D., & Parman, J. M. 2018. "Segregation and Mortality over Time and Space." *Social Science & Medicine*, 199, 77-86.

Lleras-Muney, A., Price, J., & Yue, D. 2020. "The Association between Educational Attainment and Longevity using Individual Level Data from the 1940 Census." (No. w27514). National Bureau of Economic Research.