

CHITRA JOGANI

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	08/2013-05/2019 (expected)
M.S. Quantitative Economics, Indian Statistical Institute-Kolkata	2011
B.Sc. Economics, Presidency College-Kolkata	2009

FIELDS OF RESEARCH

Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics, Political Economy, Labor Economics

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Title: Essays on Development Economics

Committee: Rebecca Thornton (Chair), Richard Akresh, Tatyana Deryugina, Benjamin M. Marx

WORKING PAPERS

1. *Effect of Political Quotas on Candidate Attributes and the Provision of Public Goods (Job market paper)*

Several countries use political quotas to increase representation of people belonging to a specific identity. This paper studies the effect of such quotas on attributes of political candidates and on the provision of public goods. I use a regression discontinuity design that exploits the assignment of caste quotas in the latest redistricting in India. I find quotas lead to political candidates with lower wealth, lower criminal records, but similar education levels. The difference in attributes is also observed and is more pronounced for the stronger candidates: those affiliated with political parties, and those elected for office. The caste quotas also increased the representation of women in politics. I find no significant difference in the level of public goods currently available in rural India between quota-bound and non-quota-bound areas. The results suggest an increase in political diversity with no negative effects on the provision of basic facilities.

2. *Does More Schooling Infrastructure affect Literacy?*

This paper studies how the expansion in schooling infrastructure affects the female literacy rate using the Education for All program in India. I exploit the variation in the targeting of the program to educationally and not educationally backward subdistricts. Using regression discontinuity and panel data of all schools in India, I find that there was a significant expansion in the total number of schools, number of girls' schools, and residential schools for girls in the educationally backward areas. But being classified as educationally backward did not lead to a significant effect on either the female literacy rate or the gender gap in literacy rate. Alternative cost-effective methods compared to large-scale infrastructure programs can be explored to achieve a quicker solution to low levels of literacy.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. *Long Term Impacts of Rwanda Genocide: A Quantile Regression Analysis (with Ruchi Singh)*

In this paper, we study the long-term impact of the Rwandan Genocide in 1994 on children height, mortality, and years of schooling. We use a difference-in-differences framework to identify the effect for cohorts who were exposed to the genocide and those who were not. Most studies focus on the average effect of a negative shock, but we estimate the effect of the shock on the entire distribution of the outcome variable. Preliminary results suggest that 1) the genocide affected adult height for everyone, but more for adolescents; 2) there was a decrease on average in the completed years of schooling for children exposed to the genocide, but the result was driven by children who had a lower level of education during the genocide, while children with a higher level of education were not affected; and 3) based on survival analysis, kids who were born or in utero in the high war intensity region during the genocide are less likely to survive than those born in high war intensity regions before or after the genocide.

2. *Selection of Candidates and Winners*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, University of Illinois

Fall 2018, Summer 2017*, and Fall 2017

Principles of Microeconomics

*Included in the list of teachers ranked as Excellent

Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois

Aug 2014-May 2017

· Evaluating Economic Development (ECON 490) for Dr. Rebecca Thornton

Fall 2015

· Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 302) for Dr. Isaac Dilanni*

Spring 2017

*Ranked as Excellent Teaching Assistant

· Introduction to Microeconomics (ECON 102) for Dr. Jose Vasquez

Fall (2014, 2016), Spring (2015, 2016)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Tatyana Deryugina

May 2015 - May 2017, May 2018 - Aug 2018

· Provided research support for projects in environmental and public economics

· Processed data, performed econometric analysis, conducted literature reviews, and prepared reports

· Worked with several datasets including the FEMA, PSID, NOAA, US Census data, and DHS

Economic Research Intern, Anheuser-Busch Inbev

Jun 2017- Aug 2017

· Studied consumer demand of alcohol using household expenditure surveys of Nigeria, USA, and Argentina

· Explored internal data to find price elasticity and investigate strategies for price optimization

· Used discrete choice modelling and machine learning algorithms such as logistic regression, random forest, clustering

Business Analyst, ICICI Bank (Mumbai)

Jun 2011- Jun 2013

· Provided analytical solutions to the business team.

· Built attrition scorecard model using decision tree method and performed customer segmentation using the clustering technique

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

· Departmental Conference Grant (2018 and 2016)

· Department Summer Research Grant (2015)

· Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Illinois (2015)

· University of Illinois Fellowship for Graduate Study, UIUC (2013-14)

· Performance Award at ICICI Bank, Mumbai (2012)

· Performance Award (Fall Semesters), Indian Statistical Institute (2009-2011)

· Scholarship for the Masters Program, Indian Statistical Institute (2009-2011)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

· 2018 North East Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), (Ithaca, USA)

· 2018 Development Economics and Policy Conference (ETH Zurich, Switzerland)

· 2018 Midwest Economic Association (MEA) Conference (Chicago, USA)

· 2018 NYU-Center for Experimental Social Sciences Conference (New York, USA)

· 2017 West Bengal Growth Conference, ISI (Kolkata, India)

· 2016 Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies Conference (AERUS), University of Illinois

· 2016 North American Regional Science Conference (NARSC), (Minneapolis, USA)

· 2015 Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI (Delhi, India)

· 2015 Winter School, Delhi School of Economics (Delhi, India)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

· Discussant: NEUDC 2018, Development Economics and Policy Conference 2018, MEA 2018, NARSC 2016

· Graduate Student Coordinator for Applied Micro research group, University of Illinois, 2016

· Speaker for challenges in developing countries, Aahana Speaker Series, University of Illinois, 2016

LANGUAGES AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Proficient	STATA, R, ArcGIS, SQL, Latex, Geoda
Intermediate	SAS, Python
Languages Fluent	English, Hindi, Bengali

REFERENCES

Rebecca Thornton University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of Economics 217-244-2818 rebeccat@illinois.edu	Richard Akresh University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of Economics 217-333-3467 akresh@illinois.edu
Tatyana Deryugina University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of Finance 217-333-9498 deryugin@illinois.edu	Benjamin M. Marx University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of Economics 217-300-1435 benmarx@illinois.edu