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Zakary Adam Campbell

Placement Chairs: Sandy Black and Suresh Naidu
Placement Administrators: Amy Devine and Rosa Lourentzatos

Education	08/2018–Present	Columbia University || PhD Economics	New York, NY
	09/2011 – 05/2015	Brown University || AB Economics	Providence, RI
	08/2013 – 12/2013	Trinity College Dublin || Semester Abroad	Dublin, Ireland

Honors & Awards	2018-2024	Wueller Fellowship, Columbia University	
	2023-2024	Stewart-Glanz Fellowship, Columbia University	

Fields of Specialization	*Primary Field:* Applied Microeconomics
	Secondary Field: Behavioral Economics

Research Work Experience	06/2015 – 07/2018	Rhode Island Innovative Policy Lab	Providence, RI

Economic Analyst

- Performed econometric analysis for labor projects using Stata and R
- Co-wrote and edited multiple economic papers with Justine Hastings
- Worked with government partners in the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training to understand and address department needs
- Presented working papers at department luncheons and national conferences

Teaching Experience	Fall 2022	*ECON 1105: Principles of Economics (Miguel Urquiola)*	Columbia University
	Spring 2022 & Spring 2020	*ECON 4840: Behavioral Economics (Mark Dean)*	Columbia University
	Fall 2021	*ECON 5211: Master's Microeconomic Analysis I (Wouter Vergote)*	Columbia University
	Spring 2021	*ECON 4860: Behavioral Finance (Harrison Hong)*	Columbia University
	Fall 2019 & Fall 2020	*ECON 3211: Intermediate Microeconomics (Caterina Musatti)*	Columbia University
	Academic Yr 2014-2015	*ECON 0110: Principles of Economics (Rachel Friedberg, Sylvia Kuo)*	Brown University

Job Market Paper	"Happy Birthday, Go to Jail: Age-based Left-digit Bias in Criminal Sentencing" <https://bit.ly/3aJH9o0>

Abstract: Judicial discretion allows judges to make nuanced decisions, taking into account details of legal cases that are not directly covered by law. However, judicial discretion can also expose behavioral biases and lead to irrational decision-making. I test for the existence of a particular behavioral bias: age-based left-digit bias. Specifically, I use a regression discontinuity design to test for changes in sentencing decisions occurring on an offender's 20th birthday using data on sentencing decisions from the state of Pennsylvania. I find that an offender sentenced just after his/her 20th birthday is 3.5 percentage points more likely to be sentenced to incarceration than an offender sentenced just before his/her 20th birthday.

Other Research	"Racially-charged Events, Stress, and Birth Outcomes" *Working Paper*

Abstract: Police killings of Black Americans are increasingly being met with significant media coverage and public response, including civil unrest. Given the frequency with which these events occur, it is vital to understand both their direct and indirect impacts. Using national birth certificate data and an event study design, I test for the impact of high-profile police-involved killings of Black Americans on racial disparities in maternal stress levels and birth outcomes. I find a large, statistically significant, and persistent increase in gestational hypertension of Black mothers relative to White mothers, suggestive of an increase in the racial gap in maternal stress in response to these high-profile killings. I find little evidence of an accompanying effect on the racial gap in birth outcomes. However, many existing papers similarly find no impacts of maternal stress on birth outcomes while simultaneously finding significant impact on later-life outcomes, leaving room for additional future work based on my findings.

"Informing or Signaling? Analyzing the Language of US Congresspersons in the Aftermath of Mass Shootings" *In Progress*

"The Impact of Paid Maternity Leave: Evidence from Temporary Disability Insurance in Rhode Island," with Ian Chin, Eric Chyn and Justine Hastings. *Unpublished*.

Abstract: This paper provides new evidence on the effects of paid maternity leave by exploiting income thresholds that affect program eligibility for Temporary Disability Insurance in Rhode Island. We use comprehensive administrative data and a regression discontinuity design to estimate impacts on a wide range of outcomes for mothers with low-earnings and their children. In the period surrounding childbirth, we find no significant effects on earnings or employment, and the point estimates suggest no reduction in short-run labor market attachment. We also find no detectable impacts on longer-run measures of economic self-sufficiency as measured by earnings, employment or participation in safety-net programs. To study effects of paid leave for high-earning mothers, we rely on machine learning techniques to optimally control for an unprecedented number of characteristics. We find some evidence of positive and significant impacts on a mother's self-sufficiency for high-earning mothers. We caution that these estimates may be sub-ject to selection bias. Finally, our analysis consistently finds no significant impacts on outcomes of children.

"The Impact of Disability Insurance: Evidence from Rhode Island," with Ian Chin, Eric Chyn and Justine Hastings. *Unpublished*.

Abstract: During the past decade, there has been a surge of support from U.S. policymakers for policies to provide paid sick leave. This paper sheds new light on the impact of paid sick leave using novel administrative data to measure economic and health outcomes. We study the case of Rhode Island where workers can access up to 30 weeks of paid leave for temporary illness or injury through the Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) program. Using a regression discontinuity design based on eligibility thresholds for TDI, we find no significant impacts on measures of economic selfsufficiency such as subsequent earnings and social program participation, nor do we find detectable impacts on health expenditures. We do find positive and significant effects on a worker's future TDI program applications. In addition, we find that coworkers are subsequently more likely to receive paid leave through TDI if an initial worker was just across the eligibility threshold. This pattern of results for the use of TDI paid sick leave suggests that receipt of benefits affects beliefs and knowledge about the program.

"Leveraging Machine Learning for Optimal Policy: Evidence from Reemployment Services," with Ian Chin, Eric Chyn and Justine Hastings. *Unpublished.*

Abstract: This paper uses novel administrative data from Rhode Island to estimate effects of re-employment services on recipients of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. Our research design relies on random assignment that occurred as part of the Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) initiative. Individuals treated through REA were required to register for basic job-search services at their local career center. We find that this nudge for services reduced weeks spent on UI and total benefits claimed, while having no impact on employment or earnings. We use a causal forest algorithm to study treatment effect heterogeneity finding

that the average effects (particularly on labor market outcomes) masks important differences in responses across observable characteristics. Using these results, we propose an improved targeting system for optimal improvements in REA's target outcomes using predicted treatment effects from machine learning algorithms.

"Direct Interaction Advertising and Its Effects: A Study of reddit's Ask Me Anything," *Undergraduate Project*. <http://bit.ly/2yddnGT>

Abstract: Direct interaction advertising is my own term for a new form of advertising that has emerged in recent years along with the rise of social media. Using information provided by a number of instances of a reddit feature, "Ask Me Anything," and information from Google Trends, I estimate the impact of this sort of advertising on interest both in the person doing the interaction and the product or service being advertised. There is a large positive effect on interest in the person and a smaller but significant effect on interest in the product or service. These effects do not seem to depend upon the reception of the AMA.

References   Mark Dean   md3405@columbia.edu

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