

Jacob Bastian

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- APPOINTMENTS** Rutgers University, Department of Economics, Assistant Professor 2019-
University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy, Post-Doctoral Scholar 2017-2019
- EDUCATION** Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan 2017
M.A. Economics, New York University 2012
B.A. Mathematics, Azusa Pacific University 2002
- FIELDS** Public Finance, Labor Economics, Economic Demography, Applied Microeconomics
- TOPICS** Economic opportunity, poverty, female employment, social attitudes, marriage and fertility
- GRANTS AND AWARDS** Smith Richardson Foundation (\$150,000) 2018-2020
National Tax Association Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations in Government Finance and Taxation 2017
Michael J. Moore Dissertation Prize for Best Paper in Applied Microeconomics 2016
- PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS UNDER REVIEW** **“The Long-Term Impact of the Earned Income Tax Credit on Children’s Education and Employment Outcomes”** with Kathy Michelmore
- *Journal of Labor Economics* (2018, vol. 36, no. 4, pp. 1127-1163)
 - Abstract: Using 4 decades of variation in the federal and state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), we estimate the impact of exposure to EITC expansions in childhood on education and employment outcomes in adulthood. Reduced-form results suggest that an additional \$1,000 in EITC exposure when a child is 13–18 years old increases the likelihood of completing high school (1.3%), completing college (4.2%), and being employed as a young adult (1.0%) and earnings by 2.2%. Our analysis reveals that the primary channel through which the EITC improves these outcomes is increases in pretax family earnings.
- “The Rise of Working Mothers and the 1975 Earned Income Tax Credit”**
- *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, Revise and Resubmit
 - Winner of the 2017 Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations in Government Finance and Taxation by the National Tax Association
 - Winner of the 2016 Michael J. Moore Dissertation Prize for Best Paper in Applied Microeconomics
 - Abstract: The rise of working mothers radically changed the U.S. economy and the role of women in society. In one of the first studies of the 1975 introduction of the Earned Income Tax Credit, I find that this program increased maternal employment by 6 percent, representing one million mothers and an elasticity of 0.58. The EITC may help explain why the U.S. has long had such a high fraction of working mothers despite few childcare subsidies or parental-leave policies. I also find evidence that this influx of working mothers affected social attitudes and led to higher approval of working women.
- WORKING PAPERS** **“Do EITC Expansions Pay for Themselves? Effects on Tax Revenue and Public Assistance Spending”** with Maggie R. Jones
- Abstract: The EITC increases labor supply and income, thereby increasing taxes paid by households and reducing public assistance payments to households. These revenue sources reduce the EITC’s net cost. Using linked IRS-CPS data and several EITC policy changes, we find an EITC self-financing rate of 83 percent. The EITC’s net cost is only 17 percent of the (\$70 billion) budgetary cost. Although the EITC is one of the largest and most important public assistance programs in the U.S., the EITC is actually one of the least expensive anti-poverty programs in the U.S., costing less than the school lunch and breakfast programs.
- “Unintended Consequences? More Marriage, More Children, and the EITC”**

- Abstract: The EITC provides a “marriage bonus” to some couples but a “marriage penalty” to others. The EITC also encourages some households to have more children but others to have less. The average incentive is theoretically ambiguous, has changed over time, and existing empirical evidence has been mixed. Using 30 years of household panel data, I find that federal and state EITC expansions increase marriage and fertility, and decrease non-marital cohabitation. These results imply that some estimates in the EITC literature may be biased, since endogenous switching from unmarried to married or increasing fertility would violate the stable-group-composition condition required by difference in differences.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Public Policy and Time Spent Between Mothers and Children” with Lance Lochner

“The Earned Income Tax Credit and Older Workers” with Mark Borgschulte

“Attitudes Towards Working Women and World War II”

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2019: NBER Spring Public Economics; Society of Labor Economists; University of Hawaii at Manoa; University of Delaware; Rutgers University; Montana State; University of Utah; Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

2018: University of Chicago; University of Michigan; University of Wisconsin; University of Texas at Austin; University of Southern California; National Tax Association; Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management; International Institute of Public Finance; Columbia University Tax Colloquium; Society of Labor Economists; IZA Workshop on Gender and Family Economics; Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency; The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund.

2017: New York University; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; National Tax Association; International Institute of Public Finance; U.S. Department of the Treasury; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2016: Society of Labor Economists; National Tax Association; Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management; Cleveland State University; Economic History Association; International Institute of Public Finance; Western Economic Association; Southern Economic Association; University of Michigan.

2015: National Tax Association; Mannheim Tax Conference; Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management; Midwest Economic Association; University of Michigan.

2014: University of Michigan H2D2 Research Conference.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, Program Committee: National Tax Association 2018 Annual Meeting

Member, Scientific Committee: International Institute of Public Finance 2018 Annual Meeting

Conference Discussant: International Institute of Public Finance (2016, 2017, 2018); National Tax Association (2017); Southern Economic Association (2015); Midwest Economic Association (2015).

Conference Session Chair: International Institute of Public Finance (2018); Western Economic Association (2016).

Referee: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Journal of Health Economics*, *Demography*, *International Tax and Public Finance*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *National Tax Journal*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Social Forces*.

INVITED WORKSHOPS

University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Summer School in Price Theory (2016)

Mannheim International Institute of Public Finance Doctoral School (2016)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rutgers University: Economics of Taxation

University of Chicago: Principles of Microeconomics and Public Policy II

University of Michigan: Introduction to Macroeconomics

OTHER

U.S. Citizenship; Special Sworn Status, U.S. Census Bureau (2015-present)

REFERENCES

- **Martha Bailey** • Professor of Economics • Michigan • baileymj@umich.edu • (734) 647-6874
- **Dan Black** • Professor of Economics • Chicago • danblack@uchicago.edu • (773) 702-0623
- **James Hines** • Professor of Economics • Michigan • jrhines@umich.edu • (734) 936-5669