

VITA

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PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Date of birth: 22nd June 1978, Citizenship: German

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION:

Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Microeconometrics

DOCTORAL STUDIES:

PhD in Economics Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Dissertation: Economic Causes and Consequences of Motherhood
 Committee Chair Person: Libertad González Luna
 Expected Date of Completion: May 2008
Visiting PhD Student London School of Economics, Summer Term 2007

PREDOCTORAL STUDIES

MSc in Economics Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2004
Grad. Program in Economics Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, 2002-2003
M.A. in Cultural Studies Universität Passau, 2002
B.A. in Economics Universität Passau, 2001

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Graduate Teaching Grant Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2006-2008
Research Fellowship Federación Española de Economía Aplicada and REVISER, 2006
Graduate Research Grant Centre de Referencia en Economía Analítica, 2004-2006
RTN Research Grant European Commission & CEPR, 2003-2004
Tuition Waiver Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2003-2004
Study Grant DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) 1999-2000
Grant for Gifted Students Bavarian Ministry of Culture and Education, 1997-2002

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant Humboldt Universität, Prof. Uhlig, 2002-03
Research Assistant Deutsche Bank Research, Spring 2003
Research Assistant Hypovereinsbank, Winter 2001

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Econometrics I (undergraduate), 2007
Instructor Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Introduction to STATA (graduate), 2006
Teaching Assistant Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Econometrics (graduate), 2006
Teaching Assistant Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Econometrics II (undergraduate), 2007
Teaching Assistant Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Labor Economics (undergraduate), 2004/2007
Teaching Assistant Universität Passau, Production Theory (undergraduate), 2001

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH PAPERS

“Returning to Work – Mothers’ Willingness to Pay for Amenities”, JOB MARKET PAPER,
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, October 2007
“The Child Penalty – A Compensating Wage Differential?”, ENEPRI Research Report No.22,
(updated version October 2007)
“Objective Trends and Perceptions of Health Status in Germany”, ENEPRI Research Report No.
21, August 2006

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Losers and Winners after Divorce?”, work in progress joint with Namkee Ahn

CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2007:

CAM Seminar (University of Copenhagen), EALE Conference, ESPE Conference, International Conference on Panel Data, CEP Labor Workshop (London School of Economics), Student Lunch Seminar (University College London), Labor Workshop (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

2006:

EALE Conference, GSOEP User Conference, Weekly Seminar (Fedea), RTN Meeting, Applied Lunch Seminar (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

2005:

Applied Lunch Seminar (University Pompeu Fabra)

LANGUAGES

German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (fluent), French (very good), Italian (good), Catalan (basic)

THESIS COMMITTEE AND REFERENCES

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RESEARCH PAPERS

“Returning to Work – Mothers’ Willingness to Pay for Amenities”, JOB MARKET PAPER

Are working mothers willing to give up part of their wage in order to avoid adverse job features, such as hazards, physical strains or inflexible working schedules? This study is the first to directly estimate mothers’ marginal willingness to pay (MWP) to reduce these disamenities. The identification strategy relies on German maternal leave length data. Among OECD countries, Germany entitles mothers with the most generous parental leave (36 months). The key aspect of the maternal leave framework is that mothers can decide whether and when to return to their guaranteed job. Thus, in contrast to previous studies that analyze the job search of employed workers, this framework allows us to overcome the limitations of modeling an explicit wage/disamenity offer process. A theoretical model of the leave length decision is derived from a random utility approach. Using data from the German Socio-Economic Panel and the Qualification and Career Survey, the model is estimated by a discrete duration method that assumes a logistic hazard function. The MWP to avoid disamenities can be inferred through the estimated elasticities of the leave length with respect to the disamenities and the wage. The results provide evidence that mothers are willing to sacrifice a significant fraction of their wage to reduce hazardous working conditions (25% for a decrease of one standard deviation) and to enjoy a working schedule compatible with available daycare (more than 50%).

“The Child Penalty – A Compensating Wage Differential?”

Women with children tend to earn lower wages than women without children - a shortfall known as the ‘child penalty’. Despite several hypotheses about its causes, much of this wage gap remains unexplained. This study explores the hypothesis that part of the child penalty might be a compensating wage differential. In other words, mothers might sacrifice income to improve their jobs in different aspects, such as the working schedule, the workload or flexible arrangements. In order to assess the impact of motherhood on the choice between pecuniary and non-pecuniary job features in Germany, I use data from the German Socio-Economic Panel (GSOEP) and apply the following methodology: First, I analyze the changes in women’s jobs around the birth of a first child using an event study. Second, I estimate a hedonic wage regression, which is a standard wage regression including as further control variables the disamenities which are shown to be avoided by mothers. This allows us to test whether mothers trade pecuniary for non-pecuniary job characteristics. The results suggest that a significant fraction (10%) of the child penalty can be interpreted as a compensating wage differential.