

Family Economics

David Koll

Department of Economics, University of Konstanz

MSc Seminar - Summer term 2020

Seminar description

In this seminar we will discuss (recent) frontier research in family economics. The range of topics includes taxation of households/families, divorce, child well-being, childcare, effects of parenthood on labour market outcomes, fertility, and transmission of disease. We will study several research papers that utilize empirical techniques and economic modelling to provide evidence on recent significant changes in household choices and family structure and to understand the forces behind those changes. Studying the economic determinants of families is important for at least two reasons: first, decisions within the family can have long-run effects on aggregate economic outcomes such as growth and inequality in an economy. Second, it is crucial to understand the effects of and (optimal) design of policies related to e.g. parenthood, childbearing, divorce, taxation of families and households.

Basic information

Requirements: The registered participants in the seminar are expected to give a presentation of around 50 minutes on one of the topics listed below. They could use as a base for the presentation a paper listed under the topic and summarize, critically evaluate, and compare it to the related literature. In addition to that, they need to submit a 10-15 pages term paper. The final grade is based on the seminar paper (50 %), the presentation (40%), and active participation in class (10 %) where students present their work.

Selection of topic/paper: Students who have received a slot in the seminar should send me a list of at least 3 papers ranked by their preferences (david.koll@uni-konstanz.de). Based on that, I will then assign topics/papers to all participants.

Orientation meeting: The introductory meeting will take place on April 15th 2020, 10:00am - 11:30am, Room: tbd (mandatory participation).

Presentations: The presentations will take place on Friday May 15th and Saturday May 16th 2020, 9:00am - 6:00pm, Room tbd (mandatory participation)

Deadline to hand in seminar paper: June 12th 2020, 6:00pm.

Contact and Office Hours:

- Office: F212, david.koll@uni-konstanz.de
- Office Hours: If you would like to talk to me in person, please send me an email in advance.

Topics

Introductory (background) papers on the overall topic are Greenwood, Guner, and Vandenbergue 2017 and Doepke and Tertilt 2016. They cannot be chosen for presentation though. Possible topics/papers are:

Taxes and families

- Guner, Kaygusuz, and Ventura 2011

Divorce

- Voena 2015
- Low et al. 2018
- Foerster 2019

Marriage

- Persson 2020
- Aiyagari, Greenwood, and Guner 2000

Child well-being

- Del Boca, Flinn, and Wiswall 2013
- Agostinelli and Sorrenti 2018

Childcare & Child-related transfers

- Guner, Kaygusuz, and Ventura 2019
- Bick 2016
- Bauernschuster and Schlotter 2015

Effect of motherhood on labor market outcomes

- Kleven, Landais, and Søgaaard 2019 & Angelov, Johansson, and Lindahl 2016
- Kuziemko et al. 2018
- Adda, Dustmann, and Stevens 2017

Fertility

- Becker and Barro 1988
- Greenwood, Seshadri, and Vandenbroucke 2005
- Doepke and Kindermann 2019

Disease transmission / HIV

- Greenwood, Kircher, et al. 2019

References

- Adda, J., C. Dustmann, and K. Stevens (2017). “The Career Costs of Children”. *Journal of Political Economy* 125.2, 293–337. URL: <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/690952?mobileUi=0>.
- Agostinelli, F. and G. Sorrenti (2018). “Money vs. Time: Family Income, Maternal Labor Supply, and Child Development”. URL: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jzbmiQVAnwM7-2%7B%5C_%7Dat1bKz0gzRhHzSce/view.
- Aiyagari, S. R., J. Greenwood, and N. Guner (2000). “On the State of the Union”. *Journal of Political Economy* 108.2, 213–244. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/262117>.
- Angelov, N., P. Johansson, and E. Lindahl (2016). “Parenthood and the Gender Gap in Pay”. *Journal of Labor Economics* 34.3, 545–579. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1086/684851>.
- Bauernschuster, S. and M. Schlotter (2015). “Public child care and mothers’ labor supply - Evidence from two quasi-experiments”. *Journal of Public Economics* 123, 1–16. URL: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S004727271500002X>.
- Becker, G. S. and R. J. Barro (1988). “A Reformulation of the Economic Theory of Fertility”. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 103.1, 1–25. URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1882640>.
- Bick, A. (2016). “The Quantitative Role of Child Care for Female Labor Force Participation and Fertility”. *Journal of the European Economic Association* 14.3, 639–668. URL: <https://academic.oup.com/jeea/article/14/3/639/2194872>.
- Del Boca, D., C. Flinn, and M. Wiswall (2013). “Household Choices and Child Development”. *The Review of Economic Studies* 81.1, 137–185. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1093/restud/rdt026>.

- Doepke, M. and M. Tertilt (2016). “Families in Macroeconomics”. *Handbook of Macroeconomics*. Ed. by J. B. Taylor and H. Uhlig. Vol. 2B. Handbook of Macroeconomics. Elsevier. Chap. 23, 1789–1891. URL: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1574004816300064>.
- Doepke, M. and F. Kindermann (2019). “Bargaining over Babies: Theory, Evidence, and Policy Implications”. *American Economic Review* 109.9, 3264–3306. URL: <http://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.20160328>.
- Foerster, H. (2019). “The Impact of Post-Marital Maintenance on Dynamic Decisions and Welfare of Couples”. URL: http://hannoforster.com/assets/hannof%7B%5C_%7DJMP.pdf?no%7B%5C_%7Dcache=0.9626124031994803.
- Greenwood, J., N. Guner, and G. Vandenbroucke (2017). “Family Economics Writ Large”. *Journal of Economic Literature* 55.4, 1346–1434. URL: <http://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jel.20161287>.
- Greenwood, J., P. Kircher, C. Santos, and M. Tertilt (2019). “An Equilibrium Model of the African HIV/AIDS Epidemic”. *Econometrica* 87.4, 1081–1113. URL: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.3982/ECTA11530>.
- Greenwood, J., A. Seshadri, and G. Vandenbroucke (2005). “The Baby Boom and Baby Bust”. *American Economic Review* 95.1, 183–207. URL: <http://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/0002828053828680>.
- Guner, N., R. Kaygusuz, and G. Ventura (2011). “Taxation and Household Labour Supply”. *The Review of Economic Studies* 79.3, 1113–1149. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1093/restud/rdr049>.
- Guner, N., R. Kaygusuz, and G. Ventura (2019). “Child-Related Transfers, Household Labor Supply and Welfare”. *Review of Economic Studies* forthc. URL: <https://www.cemfi.es/%7B~%7Dguner/gkv-childtransfers-August-2019.pdf>.
- Kleven, H., C. Landais, and J. E. Sogaard (2019). “Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark”. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 11.4, 181–209. URL: <http://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/app.20180010>.
- Kuziemko, I., J. Pan, J. Shen, and E. Washington (2018). “The Mommy Effect: Do Women Anticipate the Employment Effects of Motherhood?” URL: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w24740>.
- Low, H., C. Meghir, L. Pistaferri, and A. Voena (2018). “Marriage, Labor Supply and the Dynamics of the Social Safety Net”. Working Paper 24356. National Bureau of Economic Research. URL: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w24356>.
- Persson, P. (2020). “Social Insurance and the Marriage Market”. *Journal of Political Economy* 128.1, 000. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1086/704073>.
- Voena, A. (2015). “Yours, Mine, and Ours: Do Divorce Laws Affect the Intertemporal Behavior of Married Couples?” *American Economic Review* 105.8, 2295–2332. URL: <http://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.20120234>.