

XUE (REBECCA) LI

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, Louisiana State University, May 2014

M.Sc. Economics, Louisiana State University, 2010

B.Sc. Economics, Peking University, China, 2008

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Economics, Center for Economics, Finance and Management Studies (CEFMS), Hunan University, Sep 2014-Present

FIELDS OF INTERESTS

Primary: Labor Economics, Family Economics, Population Economics

Secondary: Health Economics, Chinese Economy

WORKING PAPERS

Xue Li, "Skill-biased Technological Change, Male Wage Inequality and Female Marital Decision", prepare to submit to *Labour Economics*

This paper investigates the causal impact of male wage inequality on female propensity to marry. Male wage inequality is measured by the wage gap between high educated men (with some college education or higher) and low educated men (with high school degree or lower education) and the skill-biased technological change is used as an instrument for male wage inequality. Based on data from the 1990 and 2000 U.S. censuses as well as the 2007 American Community Survey, I find that an increase in the wage gap between high and low educated men decreases the marriage propensity among low educated women and it increases the marriage propensity among high educated women. Same results are found in white or non-white women samples.

Xue Li (corresponding author) and Yi Liu, "Male Income Inequality and Female Marital Decisions in China", submitted to *China Economic Review*

This paper examines whether rising income inequality affects marriage formation in China. Evidence from China Health and Nutrition Survey (CHNS) indicates that

Chinese women aged 20 to 34 are more likely to be married in a city or county with higher male income inequality. This result is conditional on the woman's personal characteristics and marriage market features such as sex ratio. This effect is stronger for rural women, elder women and lower educated women than for urban women, younger women and higher educated women respectively. It is robust under different measurements and specifications. Propensity to marry for women also increases as overall income inequality in the city or county increases. Similar results are also found for men. It could be because that a higher income inequality increases the probability to meet partners with income exceeding the woman's expected standard of future husband in her marital search and that higher income inequality raises income risk and uncertainty of the society, which makes marriage with social security function in China more attractive to young Chinese.

Yi Liu, Sajal Lahiri and Xue Li, "Determinants of Privatization in China: The Role of the Presence of Foreign Firms", prepare to submit to *World Development*

This paper investigates the role of the presence of foreign firms in a sector in influencing the privatization policy for domestic firms in that sector in China. We present several variables to proxy for such presence. Using the Enterprise Surveys by the World Bank in 2005 of more than 12,000 Chinese firms located over 100 cities, we find that generally the presence of foreign firms increases the extent of private ownership of domestic firms in that sector. However, inefficient firms (relative to the foreign ones) are less likely to be privatized. Additionally, we test for possible non-linearity and endogeneity in the relationship.

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Housing and Marriage: Evidence from the 1994 Housing Reform in China"

The 1994 housing reform of China provided employees in the public sector opportunities to purchase state-owned housing at prices about 15% lower than the market value. Using China Health and Nutrition Survey (CHNS), the effects of this exogenous policy and the corresponding change of home-ownership on individual decisions to get married are explored using a difference in difference approach.

"Fertility Migration: Choose the Child's Birth Place" with Weiguang Deng

Parents choose the country or region as the birth place of their child in order to make the child eligible to be a citizen/residence of that country/region. The reasons include but not limited to a better life-time welfare of the child and a potential possibility of becoming a citizen/residence of that country/region for parents themselves. This paper builds up a model of mother's fertility choice of the birth location of her child to firstly incorporate the motivations and characteristics of this type of migration, say "fertility migration." It also examines empirical evidences to support the finding and discover more features to this migration phenomenon.

"The Identity Effect of Birth-Order within Twins" with Weiguang Deng

"How Urbanization Inspires Entrepreneurship in China"

“Migrants’ Consumption, Health and Migration Duration in China” with Yaqin Su and Ting Wang

“The Effect of Father’s Time Involvement on Children’s Development Outcome”

“Financial Aids from States for Single Mothers and Their Decisions to Get Married”

PRESENTATIONS

“Male Income Inequality and Female Marital Decisions in China.” Presented at
The 6th International Symposium on Human Capital and Labor Markets; October 2014.

The 83rd Southern Economic Conference; November 2013.

The 12th Annual Economic Conference hosted by University of Missouri-Columbia and the Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; October, 2012.

The Department Seminar, Department of Economics, Louisiana State University; September, 2011.

“Skill-biased Technological Change, Male Wage Inequality and Female Marital Decision.” Presented at

The 83rd Southern Economic Conference; November 2013.

The Department Seminar, Department of Economics, Louisiana State University; September, 2013.

The 12th Annual Economic Conference hosted by University of Missouri-Columbia and the Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; October, 2012.

TEACHING

At CEFMS, Hunan University:

Teach Graduate Course for 2nd Year Master Students and PhD Students, Fall 2014
Advanced Microeconomics II (23 Students)

Teach Graduate Course for 1st Year Master Students and PhD Students, Fall 2014
Advanced Econometrics I (27 students)

At LSU:

Instructor with Full Responsibility, Fall 2012-Spring 2014 (Students evaluation 3.7/4)
Economics 2010: Principles of Macroeconomics (Over 160 students each semester)

Lab Instructor, Fall 2010-Spring 2012

Economics 2030: Principles of Economics (Over 120 students each semester)

Teaching Assistant, Fall 2008-Spring 2010

Economics 7610: Mathematics for Economists (Teach tutorial for graduate students)

Economics 4540: Economic Forecasting

Economics 2035: Money/Banking/Macroeconomic Activity

Economics 2000: Principles of Microeconomics

AWARDS

Louisiana State University: Full Scholarship with tuition waiver; Fall 2008-Spring 2014
Peking University: Innovation Prize for Prominent Academic Achievement, 2007

AFFILIATIONS

American Economic Association, Chinese Economists Society

SKILLS

Language: Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent)

Software: Stata, SAS, Matlab, Eviews, Mathematica, Microsoft Office, Visual Basic

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Academic Seminars at CEFMS, Hunan University, Seminar Host; Changsha, Hunan Province, China; Fall 2014

Baton Rouge Crisis Intervention Center, Crisis Counselor; Baton Rouge, LA; Fall 2012-Spring 2013

REFERENCES

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