



MA Seminar in Development Economics

Economics of Child Labour

CONTENT

A significant portion of the received literature argues that poverty is the leading cause of child labour. However, the available empirical evidence does not fully support this assertion. The last decade's monetary poverty has considerably declined in Sub-Saharan Africa, however, the decline in a child is less than expected. In this seminar we analyse the major economic factors influence the household's supply of child labour in Sub-Saharan Africa. We review several empirical studies to understand the incentives, agencies and constraints. With this provides a synthesis of the literature to gain an understanding of why the problem persists in the sub-region. Students may also present their own theoretical and empirical contributions.

TARGET GROUP

Students can acquire credit points for the following programs:

- IWG (Master): "Theorie und Empirie der gesellschaftlichen Entwicklung" or "Individueller Schwerpunkt/Spezialisierung"
- Economics (Master): "Individueller Schwerpunkt/Spezialisierung"
- Development Studies: "Development Seminar "
- P&E (MA): "Electives"

SEMINAR ORGANISATION

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1. An **introductory lecture** on the papers and the topics of the seminar is on **December 14, 2018**. All questions regarding the presentations and formal requirements and the credit points shall be discussed on this date.
2. Presentations of papers take place on **January 25-26, 2019**. Participants are required to hand in their electronic presentation by **January 24, 2019**
3. Deadline for the submission of the final write-up is **February 28, 2019**

Applications for the seminar are possible under a first-come-first-serve policy until December 12, 2018 via the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/P8c4jewMUP7wLg3k2>

REQUIREMENTS

1. Seminar participants are required to make an academic presentation of their assigned papers. The presentation may include additional related literature and/or data.
2. Participants must moderate the discussion following their presentation and respond to questions from the audience.
3. Active participation in discussions during the seminar is expected of all participants. **Attendance is compulsory.**
4. The grade will be given on basis of the seminar presentation and a written paper of approximately 4000 words at Master level.

OUTLINE OF TOPIC AND LITERATURE

Economic shocks and child labour

1. Bandara, A., Dehejia, R., & Lavie-Rouse, S. (2015). The impact of income and Non-income shocks on child labor: Evidence from a panel survey of Tanzania. *World Development*, 67, 218–237.

2. Beegle, K., Dehejia, R. H., & Gatti, R. (2006). Child labor and agricultural shocks. *Journal of Development Economics*, 81 (1), 80–96.
3. Frempong, R. B., & Stadelmann, D. (2018). The effect of food price changes on child labour: Evidence from Uganda. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 1–16.
4. Hou, X., Hong, S. Y., & Scott, K. (2015). The heterogeneous effects of a food price crisis on child school enrolment and labour: Evidence from Pakistan. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 52 (5).

Household wealth and child labour

1. Basu, K., Das, S., & Dutta, B. (2010). Child labor and household wealth: Theory and empirical evidence of an inverted-U. *Journal of Development Economics*, 91 (1), 8–14.
2. Basu, K., & Tzannatos, Z. (2003). The global child labor problem: What do we know and what can we do? *World Bank Economic Review*, 17 (2), 147–173.
3. Bhalotra, S., & Heady, C. (2003). Child farm labor: The wealth paradox. *World Bank Economic Review*, 17 (2), 197–227.
4. Edmonds, E. V. (2005). Does child labor decline with improving economic status? *Journal of Human Resources*, XL (1), 77–99.
5. Oryioie, A. R., Alwang, J., & Tideman, N. (2017). Child labor and household land holding: Theory and empirical evidence from Zimbabwe. *World Development*, 100, 45–58.
6. Rogers, C. A., & Swinnerton, K. A. (2004). Does child labor decrease when parental incomes rise? *Journal of Political Economy*, 112 (4), 939–946.
7. Hazarika, G., & Sarangi, S. (2008). Household access to microcredit and child work in rural Malawi. *World Development*, 36 (5), 843 - 859.

Economic growth and child labour

1. Edmonds, E. V., & Pavcnik, N. (2006). International trade and child labor: Cross country evidence. *Journal of International Economics*, 68 (1), 115–140.
2. Kambhampati, U. S., & Rajan, R. (2006). Economic growth: A panacea for child labor? *World Development*, 34 (3), 426–445.

3. Swaminathan, M. (1998). Economic growth and the persistence of child labor: Evidence from an Indian city. *World Development*, 26 (8), 1513–1528.
4. Kruger, D. I. (2007). Coffee production effects on child labor and schooling in rural Brazil. *Journal of Development Economics*, 82 (2), 448–463.

Child labour and educational outcomes

1. Emerson, P. M., Ponczek, V., & Souza, A. P. (2017). Child labor and learning. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 65 (2), 265–296.
2. Ersado, L. (2005). Child Labor and Schooling Decisions in Urban and Rural Areas: Comparative Evidence from Nepal, Peru, and Zimbabwe. *World Development*, 33 (3), 455–480.
3. Heady, C. (2003). The effect of child labor on learning achievement. *World Development*, 31(2), 385-398.

Edmonds, E.V. (2003). Child labor and schooling responses to anticipated income in South Africa. *Journal of Development Economics*, 81, 386– 414.

Household characteristics and child labour

1. Koomson, I., & Asongu, S. A. (2016). Relative contribution of child labour to household farm and non-farm income in Ghana: Simulation with child's education. *African Development Review*, 28 (1), 104–115.
2. Webbink, E., Smits, J., & de Jong, E. (2012). Hidden child labor: Determinants of housework and family business work of children in 16 developing countries. *World Development*, 40 (3), 631–642.
3. Admassie, A. (2002). Explaining the high incidence of child labour in Sub-Saharan Africa. *African Development Review*, 14 (2), 251–275.