

MRINMOYEE CHATTERJEE

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland at College Park, 2023
Fields of Specialization: Labor, Development
Dissertation: *Three Essays About Economic and Behavioral Responses to Government Interventions*
Committee: Prof. Judith Hellerstein (Chair), Prof. Ethan Kaplan, Prof. Nolan Pope
- M.Sc. Economics, University College London, 2016
- B.Sc. Economics, University of Warwick, 2014

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Gender and labor market outcomes, occupational segregation, non-traditional inputs into education

WORKING PAPERS

“Trying to Beat the Heat: Air-Conditioning and Learning,” revise and resubmit at *Education Finance Policy*, 2025, with Nolan Pope

Growing evidence demonstrates that heat impairs student learning. A potential policy solution is investing in air-conditioning. Using the staggered roll-out of AC across schools, we analyze the impact of a \$135 million AC installation program undertaken by Chicago Public Schools between 2013-2017. We find no evidence AC installation improved students' end-of-year test scores or grade retention, and find marginal improvements in attendance. When measuring returns at the top of the 95 percent confidence interval, benefits to student achievement remain relatively modest. These results can help school districts better optimize their often limited budgets when striving to improve student performance.

“The World War II Production Effort and Changes in the Labor Demand for Women,” 2023

World War II saw an unprecedented influx of women onto factory floors. While most previous literature focuses on the effects on female labor supply via geographical variation in military mobilization, Rose (2018) highlights the importance of wartime production demand in driving female wartime employment. Using data on the wartime employment of women from Rose (2018), I revisit the framework in Acemoglu, Autor and Lyle (2004), and estimate the impact on relative wages for women, due to both state-wide and industry-wide changes in production demand during WWII. I find that wages increased for women in 1950 compared to 1940 in Durable Manufacturing by 35.4-35.9% in the industry with the largest change in the relative demand for women during WWII whereas impacts of state-level changes in demand are not significant. Impacts on wages in Non-Durable manufacturing are statistically insignificant and negative. The relative wage gains are highest for women with 12 or more years of education, suggesting that the increased demand during WWII allowed some women a “foot in the door” into prized manufacturing jobs.

“Putting Maternity on Ice: The Impacts of Financial Deregulation on Fertility,” 2023, with Dheeraj Chaudhary

US states deregulated their banking sectors in a staggered fashion from the 1970s to the 1990s, increasing efficiency through competition between banks and boosting economic growth within a state. We test if financial deregulation had any impacts on fertility. In updating our results with recent econometric literature accounting for differences in unit treatment timing, we find that our results are robust for the sample of observations prior to 1989 but not for the later sample. Women aged 20-44 saw a decrease of approximately 2-3% on average fertility rates post deregulation (using both state-level as well as individual-level data). Our results suggest that one important mechanism that could explain decreasing fertility is the increased opportunity costs of having children in a growing job market, especially for non-white and poorer households.

REPORTS, BRIEFS, AND OTHER WORK

“One Year Into Trump’s Second Term, Black Women Face Disproportionate Job Losses,” 10 February 2026, *Institute for Women's Policy Research*, with Jennifer Turner

“The Generational Wage Gap: Pay Equity Decades Away for Women Overall, Centuries Away for Women of Color,” 17 December 2025, *Institute for Women's Policy Research*, with Martha Susana Jaimes

“Investing in Economic Opportunity for Women in North Carolina,” 26 August 2025, *Institute for Women's Policy Research* and *North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement*, with Melissa Mahoney, Cristy Mendoza, Shannon Emmett and Emily Maistrellis

“State Policy Action Lab,” June 2025, *Institute for Women's Policy Research*, with Shannon Emmett, Emily Maistrellis, Hannah Gartner

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Social Science Research and Data Analyst, Institute for Women’s Policy Research, February 2025 – present

Research Assistant, Prof. Nolan Pope, University of Maryland, Fall 2019–Spring 2021

Research Assistant, Prof. Anja Prummer, Queen Mary University of London, Summer 2017

Research Assistant, Prof. Subrata Sarkar and Jayati Sarkar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Fall 2014–Spring 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Methods for Economic Analysis (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Spring 2023

Instructor, Intermediate Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2022

Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Summer II 2021, and Winter 2022

Teaching Assistant, Economic Inequality (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant, Applied Economics (graduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer I 2019, and Winter 2019

Teaching Assistant, Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), University of Maryland, Fall 2017 and Spring 2018

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Faculty Student Research Award (with Nolan Pope), Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland, 2019-20

K.P. and Jayalakshmi Muddappa Graduate Award in Economics, University of Maryland, 2017-18
Undergraduate Research Scholarship Scheme, University of Warwick, Summer 2013

LANGUAGES

English, Hindi, Bangla, French

U.S. Permanent Resident (Green Card Holder)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

R, Matlab, Stata, HTML, Wordpress, SPSS, LaTeX

REFERENCES

Prof. Judith Hellerstein	University of Maryland	hellerst@umd.edu	(301) 405-3545
Prof. Ethan Kaplan	University of Maryland	edkaplan@umd.edu	(301) 405-3501
Prof. Nolan Pope	University of Maryland	npope@umd.edu	(301) 405-3480
Dr. Martha Susana Jaimes	Institute for Women’s Policy Research	jaimes@iwpr.org	