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**University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**

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**Personal Information**

Citizenship: United States  
Date of Birth: October 23, 1989  
Sex: Male

**Education**

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), 2015 to present  
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics  
Thesis Title: Essays in Labor Economics  
Expected Completion Date: June 2021

MSc. Economics, *with Distinction*

London School of Economics and Political Science, 2013 to 2014

B.S. Economics and B.A. International Studies, *Magna Cum Laude*

University of Wyoming, 2008 to 2013

**Teaching and Research Fields**

Labor Economics and Applied Microeconomics

**Job Market Paper**

*“The Impact of Occupational Licensing on Earnings and Employment: Evidence from State-Level Policy Changes”*

*Abstract.* This paper studies the short- and long-run impact of occupational licensing on labor market outcomes in the United States. I compile new data from contemporary and historical legislative documentation that records all state-level policy changes for over 200 licensed occupations between 1950 and 2018. Using this data, I implement an event study design that exploits within-occupation variation in the timing of licensing laws across states to trace out the dynamic response of earnings and employment to policy changes. I find consistent evidence across three independent employer and household surveys that the average licensing policy adopted during the past half-century increased worker earnings but did not reduce the total number of workers employed in the occupation. Twenty-five years after licensing statutes were adopted, cumulative wage growth in treated state-occupation cells exceeded that of untreated controls by as much as 7%. Over the same time period, my estimates rule out disemployment effects larger than 5%. However, I show that licensing does reduce employment for occupations that have little potential to cause serious harm. Where the consumer protection rationale for licensing is more plausible, I find simultaneous increases in both earnings and employment.

## **Research Papers in Progress**

### *“Historical Data on Professional and Occupational Credentialing Requirements in the United States”*

This paper describes the construction of a novel dataset that compiles over one hundred years of occupational licensing, certification, and registration requirements in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The data are assembled through a comprehensive analysis of numerous primary and secondary sources and currently identify major state and federal policy changes for 250 unique occupation categories. It is the first occupational licensing database to link each policy to both current statutes or administrative regulations, as well as to historical legislation covering the entire twentieth century. A comprehensive analysis of state session laws, in particular, allows me to observe the exact text of all legislative acts enacting, amending, or replacing statutes that reference specific occupations. Using the content of these laws, I record the enactment and effective dates of regulatory changes and several variables that characterize the type of regulation that was adopted. Relative to existing sources, my data offer a significantly longer time series, the ability to observe superseded legislation, and a more complete coding of legal prohibitions that differentiates between practice and title restrictions. I show that the data perform well on a number of validation measures and conclude with an agenda for future research.

### *“The Causal Effect of Place: Evidence from Japanese-American Internment”* (with Daniel Shoag)

Recent research has stressed the importance of long-run place effects on income and economic mobility, but the literature has struggled to isolate the causal impact of location. This paper provides new evidence on these effects using administrative data on over 100,000 Japanese-Americans who were interned during World War II. Internees were conditionally randomly assigned to camps in seven different states and held for several years. Restitution payments paid in the early 1990s to the universe of surviving internees allow us to measure their locations and outcomes nearly half a century after the camp assignments. Using this unique natural experiment, we find, first, that camp assignment had a lasting impact on individuals’ long-term locations after they were released. Next, using this variation, we find large place effects on individual economic outcomes like income, education, socioeconomic status, house prices, and housing quality. Though internment was a negative shock overall, relative to other internees, people assigned to wealthier regions do better on all measures. Random location assignment affected intergenerational economic outcomes as well, with families assigned to more socially mobile areas (as designated by Chetty et al., 2014) displaying lower cross-generational correlation in outcomes. Finally, we provide evidence that assignment to richer states impacted people’s values and political views, a new and intriguing mechanism through which place effects operate. Together, this new causal evidence on location effects has broad implications for urban economics.

## **Research Experience**

2017-2018      UCLA, Research Assistant for California Policy Lab with Prof. Till von Wachter  
2014-2015      Harvard Kennedy School, Research Assistant for Prof. Daniel Shoag

## **Teaching Experience**

Spring 2020      UCLA, *Introduction to Econometrics*, teaching associate for Prof. Rodrigo Pinto  
Winter 2020      UCLA, *Microeconomic Theory*, teaching associate for Prof. Bernardo Silveira  
Fall 2019        UCLA, *Principles of Microeconomics*, teaching assistant for Olivia Osei Twumasi  
Winter 2017      UCLA, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, teaching assistant for Meric Keskinel  
Fall 2016        UCLA, *Principles of Microeconomics*, teaching assistant for Prof. Randal Rojas

## **Invited Presentations**

August 2020      Young Economists Symposium, University of Pennsylvania (virtual)  
June 2020        Western Economic Association International Graduate Student Workshop (virtual)

## **Honors, Awards, and Fellowships**

2020-2021      Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA  
2020-2021      Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies

2019-2020 Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies  
2018-2019 Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA  
2018 John and Joan L. Wickham Scholarship for Applied Microeconomics, UCLA  
2018 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA

**References**

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