**LEILA GAUTHAM**

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| **Office Contact Information** |  |
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| **Education** |
|  | University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2016 to present  |
|  | Ph.D. Candidate in EconomicsThesis Title: “Essays in Unpaid Care and Gender Inequality in India” |
|  | Expected Completion Date: May 2022 |
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|  | Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2014-2016MA in Economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and PlanningSt Stephen’s College, Delhi University, 2011-2014 |
|  | BA (Honors) Economics |
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| **Research Fields** |
|  | Gender, Development, Labor |
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| **Teaching Experience** |
|  | Fall 2017 | Intermediate Macroeconomics, teaching assistant for Professor Vamsi Vakulabharanam (UMass Amherst, Economics) |
|  | Spring 2017 | Introduction to Macroeconomics, teaching assistant for Professor Ozgur Orhangazi (UMass Amherst, Economics) |
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| **Research Experience and Other Employment** |
|  | 2018-present | Political Economy Research Institute, research assistant for Professor Nancy Folbre |
|  | 2013, 2017 | Field investigator for Professors Jean Drèze and Reetika Khera for surveys on public entitlements |
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| **Awards and Fellowships** |
|  | 2020 | The Economics Department and SBS Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship |
|  | 2016 | The Economics Department Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
|   | 2016 | The Ranjan Roy Memorial Prize, Jawaharlal Nehru University |
|  | 2015 | The EXIM Bank Scholarship, Jawaharlal Nehru University |
|  | 2011-2014 | The Sumitomo Scholarship, St. Stephen’s College |
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| **Publications** |
| Nancy Folbre, Leila Gautham, and Kristin Smith. Forthcoming, “Essential Workers and Care Penalties in the United States,” *Feminist Economics.* |
| Deepankar Basu and Leila Gautham. Forthcoming. “What is the Effect of an Exogenous Shock to the Wage Share? VAR Results for the US, 1973-2018,” in Deepankar Basu and Debarshi Das ed. *Conflict, Demand and Economic Development: Essays in Honor of Amit Bhaduri*. New York: Routledge.  |
| **Research Papers in Progress** “*Cheap Praise: Supplemental Pay for Essential Workers in the COVID-19 Pandemic*”(with Franziska Dorn, Nancy Folbre, and Martha MacDonald) Under consideration for Mignon Duffy, Amy Armenia, and Kim Price-Glynn, eds. *Confronting the Global Care Crisis during COVID-19: Past Problems, New Issues, and Pathways to Change*, under contract to Rutgers University Press. This paper compares policies implemented in the U.S., Canada, and Germany regarding the provision of supplemental or hazard pay to essential workers during the first six months of the Covid-19 pandemic.  |
| “*Gender, Motherhood and Wages in India*”  |
| Motherhood has been shown to reduce women’s earnings and to be an important reason why women earn less than men, yet evidence from developing countries remains scarce. Using cross-sectional and panel data, this paper aims to provide the first estimates for the effect of children on women’s wages in India. I focus on an important component of heterogeneity in this “motherhood penalty:” the constraints faced by urban mothers in combining paid work and childcare are substantially different from their rural counterparts. In particular, urban women have better educational and job characteristics than rural women. Gender gaps in these attributes play virtually no role in explaining the urban gender wage gap but may entail higher costs for urban women after they bear children. |
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| “*Regional Differences in Gender Gaps in Employment and Wages in Urban India*”This paper investigates regional differences in gender gaps in participation and wages in urban India. I argue that stronger social norms stigmatizing women’s wage work contribute to lower rates of female participation in the northern states of India compared to southern states, particularly among less-educated women. Differences in patterns of participation introduce significant selection biases in the measurement of gender wage gaps and help explain why urban gender wage gaps are significantly lower in the north, despite the south doing at least as well in terms of other indicators of gender equality. My hypothesis is that selection-corrected wage gaps that impute wages for the non-employed based on observed and unobserved characteristics are similar for both the north and south.“*Employment opportunities and women’s bargaining power in India*”Household bargaining models predict that better employment opportunities for women improve their fallback position and bargaining power. This paper explores the effect of employment opportunities onwomen's intra-household bargaining power, and tests whether employment in household enterprises affects bargaining power differently compared to wage work opportunities, through an empirical case study of the Indian context. I combine panel data on a rich set of variables on women’s bargaining power from the Indian Human Development Survey with data on regional labor markets from the National Sample Surveys and Economic Census, measuring employment opportunities through a shift-share design. I hypothesize that wage work might be characterized by greater independence from the family and the social community compared to household employment. I examine heterogeneity in the impact of employment opportunities on bargaining power across caste and class groups. |
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| “*Earnings Inequality by Industry: Care Services versus Business Services in the U.S., 1985 to 2018*” |
| (with Nancy Folbre and Kristin Smith)Despite the large and heterogeneous character of what is commonly termed the service sector, economists have devoted relatively little attention to its disaggregation. In this paper, we make a case for a tripartite division into care services, business services, and other services, based on important differences in the type of services delivered and characteristics of their consumers. Because professional and managerial jobs in care industries tend to pay less than others, controlling for education and other characteristics, the distribution of earnings in these industries is relatively compressed. What difference does this make for trends in earnings inequality? In this paper, we apply unconditional quantile regressions to data from U.S. Current Population Surveys to show that 1) the growth of primarily female employment in care services since the 1980s has buffered overall increases in wage inequality over time, and 2) men’s employment in business services has increased significantly over this period, a pattern that may help explain why gender convergence in wages has stalled since the mid-1990s. |
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| **Skills** |
| STATA, R, LaTeX |
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