

Diana Lopez-Avila

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CITIZENSHIP	Colombian	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Primary: Development Economics, Gender, Early Childhood Development Secondary: Labor Economics, Child Labor, Intra-household Decision Making, Education	
EDUCATION	Paris School of Economics , Paris, France Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, September 2011 (expected completion date: July 2015) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissertation Topic: "Children well being, Women empowerment and Social Programs"• Advisor: Karen Macours Master, Analysis and Policy in Economics, September 2009-June 2011, Graduated with honors	
	Universidad de Los Andes , Bogota, Colombia M.S, Economics, April, 2005 B.A., Economics, September, 2003	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Teaching Assistant- Development Economics Undergraduate. SciencesPo (Paris, France)	Fall 2014
	Lecturer- Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics Undergraduate. Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogota, Colombia)	2008-2009
	Lecturer- Basic and Intermediate Microeconomics Undergraduate. Universidad Autonoma de Manizales (Manizales, Colombia)	2006-2007
	Teaching Assistant- Basic and Intermediate Microeconomics Undergraduate. Universidad de los Andes (Bogota, Colombia)	2003-2006
NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE	Economic Advisor. Monitoring and evaluation of the <i>Colegios en Concesion</i> (public schools managed by private operators) in Bogota-2006 Instituto para la Investigacion Educativa y el Desarrollo-IDEPE (Bogota, Colombia)	
	Research Assistant. <i>Proyecto de Educacion Rural</i> (Rural Education Program) -2006 and <i>Programa de Desarrollo y Paz del Magdalena Medio</i> (Program of Development and Peace) -2004 Centro de Estudios sobre Desarrollo Economico-CEDE (Bogota, Colombia)	
FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE	Colombia (2013) Implementation of focus groups and semi-structured interviews to beneficiaries and providers of a subsidized child care option. Implementation of semi-structured interviews on women empowerment and domestic violence to rural women.	

Design of a gender and domestic violence survey module for a project aiming at evaluating the complementarity between social and rural development programs.

Haiti (2012)

Participation in the design of the impact evaluation of two projects related to agriculture technology adoption in northern Haiti.

Development Impact Evaluation Initiative-Paris School of Economics (DIME-PSE)

India (2010)

Data cleaning of first follow-up survey and supervision on data collection of second follow-up survey of the program, *Integrating the Poorest into Microfinance: an Impact Evaluation* in the state of West Bengal.

Center for Microfinance (CMF-IFMR)

PUBLICATIONS

Journals

Lopez, D. and Riberio, R., 2005. "Educacion y Cuidado de los Hijos. Experiencia para Madres y Niños Colombianos, 2003". Desarrollo y Sociedad 56:67-102. Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.

Working Papers

Attanasio, O., Fitzsimons, E., Lopez, D., et. al. 2006. "Child Education and Work Choices in the Presence of a Conditional Cash Transfer in Rural Colombia". IFS WP 06/01.

PAPERS IN
PREPARATION

"Child Disciplining, Domestic Violence and Social Programs: Evidence from Colombia"
(Job Market Paper)

This paper examines how interventions during early childhood affect disciplining methods in Colombia, where poor households are eligible for a number of social programs targeted to young children based on a proxy means index. These programs include child care options, nutritional programs and health checks. I analyze whether these programs affect parents' disciplining methods through two different identification strategies. I implement a regression discontinuity design exploiting the discontinuity on the probability of benefiting from these programs, as a function of the proxy means index used for targeting. I also implement a propensity score matching using differences in length of exposure to one of these programs, a subsidized child care option. Under both approaches I find evidence of social programs, targeted to young children, to change parents' disciplining practices. Parents of children who attend the health checks regularly, are 20 percentage points less likely to use physical punishment, as compared to parents of children who attend less frequently. Mothers of children who attend at least 16 months to the subsidized child care option, use less physical punishment and more frequently pedagogic punishment, as compared to mothers of children who only attend 2-15 months. Impact is focused mainly on young children, children 0-5 years of age. This evidence suggests that early childhood interventions can be important vehicles for changing parents' disciplining behavior.

"Time Allocation within Poor Households: Evidence from a Welfare Program in Rural Colombia", with Mesnard, A.

This paper takes advantage of the data on time use collected for the evaluation of *Familias en Accion*, a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) in Colombia, to answer how a welfare program affects time allocation between children and parents. We use a Diff-in-Diff as our identification strategy by comparing treatment and control municipalities between baseline (2002) and first follow up (2003). Our results suggest that around one-third of the increase in time spent in school activities comes from a decrease in total working time. Besides, mother's labor market participation appears to play a key role in the reduction on children's working time. Total working time decreases primarily for children whose mothers participate in the

labor market. In working-mother households, children's total working time decreases by around 45 minutes (per day), while in non-working-mother households the decrease is of 30 minutes. Time spent at school increases by 1.7 hours no matter the working status of the mother. The differentiated decrease in children's working time suggests that the transfer helps to compensate for the reduction in time spent in income generating activities and household chores, but mainly for working mothers; while non-working mothers substitute for household chores. Mother's labor participation seems to play a key role in determining the opportunity cost of child labor, providing important elements for policy design.

"Empowering Women: Is there any effect on Domestic Violence?", with Moya, A. This paper aims to examine how social programs aiming at improving women status affect domestic violence. Several social programs aim at increasing women empowerment. An improvement of women status within the household is usually thought to be beneficial and to allow a better allocation of resources. However, the change in the balance of power among spouses may increase violence towards women. We use the data collected to evaluate the complementarity of receiving a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT), *Familias en Accion*, and a rural development program, *Oportunidades Rurales*, in rural Colombia. A first set of results appear to suggest that women beneficiary of a CCT experience an increase in domestic violence, particularly threat of violence. Receiving in addition a rural development program appears to reverse this effect.

"Agricultural Diversification, Crop choice and Intra-household decision making: Evidence from a safety net in rural Nicaragua", with Macours, K.

Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) have been mainly seen as a mean to increase school attendance and improve children's health conditions, as well as to improve household consumption. However, they have not been necessarily seen as drivers to push poor households to engage in more productive activities and hence, encouraging long term well-being outcomes. We argued that in the presence of missing markets, a social safety net guaranteeing food access would allow households to move away from subsistence crops towards cash crops, achieving a more diversified crop portfolio. Analyzing the case of a CCT in rural Nicaragua, we find evidence for households to move towards more profitable crops such as fruit, vegetables, coffee and pasture. Though we expected a simultaneous shift away from risky and less profitable crops, subsistence crops, we do not observe that type of pattern. We explore possible intra-households characteristics that may affect allocation of resources, women receive the transfer but men are the main decision makers regarding agricultural activities. We explore differences according to household headship, presence of males in working age or children, and women empowerment; no differentiated impact is observed.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES	(Scheduled) Simposio de la Asociacion Espanola de Economia (SAEe)-Universitat Illes Balears (2014) (Scheduled) Lacea-Lames Conference-University of São Paulo (2014) Casual Friday Development Seminar-PSE (2012, 2013 and 2014) EUDN 12th PhD Workshop on Development Economics-The Graduate Inst. Geneva (2013) EDePo and IFS Internal Seminars-Inst. for Fiscal Studies (2013)
AWARDS	Colciencias Scholar, 2011 Colfuturo Scholar, 2009
SERVICE	Coordinator. Network of Universidad de los Andes Alumni living in Paris. Since 2009 Organizer. Casual Friday Development Seminar-PSE. 2013-2014 Student Representative. Master Analysis and Policy in Economics-PSE. 2009-2011
COMPUTER SKILLS	Stata, L ^A T _E X

LANGUAGES Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Advanced) Portuguese (Intermediate)

REFERENCES

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