

# NICOLÁS NAVARRETE H.

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## PLACEMENT OFFICER

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## CURRENT POSITION

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Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Paris School of Economics 2018-present

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Economics, University of Warwick 2012-2017  
Visiting Graduate Student, UC Santa Barbara 2017  
Master of Science in Finance, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign 2012  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Universidad Santa María, Chile 2009

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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Labor Economics, Health Economics, Economics of Education.

## REFERENCES

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[Clément de Chaisemartin](#)

Department of Economics, UC Santa Barbara  
North Hall 2038, University of California  
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## PUBLICATIONS

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“Unleashing Waste-Pickers’ Potential: Supporting Recycling Cooperatives in Santiago de Chile” (joint work with Pablo Navarrete). *World Development*, January 2018.

## WORKING PAPERS

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“Direct and spillover effects on health of increased income for the elderly: evidence from a Chilean pension program” **Job Market Paper, R&R, AEJ: Economic Policy**. (joint work with Enrico Miglino, Gonzalo Navarrete H. and Pablo Navarrete H.).

“The direct and spillover effects of a mental health program for disruptive students” **R&R, Journal of Labor Economics** (joint work with Clément de Chaisemartin) .

“Behind the Veil: the Effect of Banning the Islamic Veil in Schools” (joint work with Éric Maurin).

“The Effects of Homeownership Assistance on Labor Supply”.

When do School Principals Matter?: The Effects of a Reform in the Selection Procedure of School Principals on School Outcomes.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

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“Supporting Small Firms During a Pandemic: The Effect of Covid-19 Loans on Borrowing, Defaults and Formal Job Destruction” (joint work with Diego Solórzano)

## REFEREE SERVICE

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*Labour economics, Journal of Development Economics, Annals of Economics and Statistics.*

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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- “Supporting Small Firms During a Pandemic: The Effect of Covid-19 Loans on Borrowing, Defaults and Formal Job Destruction”. Research grant, *Institut Louis Bachelier*, 10 000 €, 2020.
- “The Effect of a Basic Pension on Mortality: a Regression Discontinuity Design”. Research grant, *Development Bank of Latin America*, 15 000 USD, 2017.
- “The Effects of Homeownership Assistance on Labor Supply”. Research grant, *Development Bank of Latin America*, 15 000 USD, 2016.
- Grant for overseas fieldwork, *The Economic and Social Research Council*, 3 200 GBP, 2015.
- PhD Scholarship, *The Economic and Social Research Council*, 2013.
- Master Scholarship, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*, 2011.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**2020:** Paris School of Economics, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.

**2019:** Universidad de Chile.

**2018:** Paris School of Economics, UAB, School of Public Policy - Central European University, Universidad de Chile, Universidad Diego Portales, Universidad de Santiago de Chile, RATIO institute (Sweden).

**2017:** University of Warwick, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Pompeu Fabra University, UC Irvine, UC Santa Barbara, USC, University of Sussex.

**2016:** European Winter Meetings of the Econometric Society, University of Leicester, Habitat and Urban Development conference (CAF), University of Warwick.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Experimental methods, Politecnico di Milano (guest lecturer) <i>Course: “Well Being and City Perceptions”</i>	2020-2021
Introduction to Economics (Economics 1), Sciences Po (teaching assistant)	2020-2021
Econometrics 1, University of Warwick (teaching assistant)	2016-2017
Econometrics 1, Universidad Santa María, Chile (teaching assistant)	2006-2008

## PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

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Advisor, Ministry of the Presidency, Government of Chile	2009-2010
Research Assistant, ECLAC, United Nations	2008

## ABSTRACTS

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“Direct and spillover effects on health of increased income for the elderly: evidence from a Chilean pension program” **Job Market Paper, R&R, AEJ: Economic Policy**. (joint work with Enrico Miglino, Gonzalo Navarrete H. and Pablo Navarrete H.).

We estimate the effect of a permanent income increase on the health outcomes of the elderly poor and their relatives. Our regression discontinuity design exploits an eligibility cut-off in a Chilean *basic pension program* that grants monthly payments to retirees without a contributory pension. Using administrative data we find that, four years after applying, basic pension recipients are 2.6 percentage points less likely to die. Additionally, we observe spillover effects on working-age relatives, who are more likely to have a newborn. Results suggest that increasing the elderly’s income can improve their health and benefit younger household members.

“The direct and spillover effects of a mental health program for disruptive students” **R&R, Journal of Labor Economics** (joint work with Clément de Chaisemartin) .

Social and emotional learning (SEL) programs teach disruptive students to improve their classroom behavior. Small-scale programs in high-income countries have been shown to improve treated students’ behavior and academic outcomes. Using a randomized experiment, we show that a nationwide SEL program in Chile has no effect on eligible students. We find evidence that very disruptive students may hamper the program’s effectiveness. ADHD, a disorder correlated with disruptiveness, is much more prevalent in Chile than in high-income countries, so very disruptive students may be more present in Chile than in the contexts where SEL programs have been shown to work.

“Behind the Veil: the Effect of Banning the Islamic Veil in Schools” (joint work with Éric Maurin).

Immigration from Muslim countries is a source of tensions in many Western countries. Several countries have adopted regulations restricting religious expression and emphasizing the neutrality of the public sphere. We explore the effect of the most emblematic of these regulations: the prohibition of Islamic veils in French schools. In September 1994, a circular from the French Ministry of Education asked teachers and principals to ban Islamic veils in public schools. In March 2004, the parliament took one-step further and enshrined prohibition in law. This paper provides evidence that the 1994 circular contributed to improving the educational outcomes of female students with a Muslim background and to reducing educational inequalities between Muslim and non-Muslim students. We also provide evidence suggesting that the 2004 law has not generated any further improvements.

“The Effects of Homeownership Assistance on Labor Supply” .

Secure housing tenure is often thought to be a means of escaping poverty traps. Accordingly, policies that heavily subsidize private-market homeownership for low-income households are becoming part of the developing world landscape. To estimate the effect of this intervention type on the employment of beneficiaries, I implement a regression discontinuity design exploiting individual-level administrative data from a Chilean program that uses an arbitrary threshold to allocate homeownership vouchers. For the average user, the voucher represents approximately 5.1 years of salary and covers 97 percent of the total price of the purchased house. I present three main findings. First, receiving a voucher does not have an effect on the employment levels of heads of households, but it reduces the employment levels of their children. Second, children in new-homeowner households are more likely to be enrolled in full-time education, which may explain the decrease in their employment. Third, residential stability, residential area quality, and proximity to employment hubs do not seem to play any role in these findings. Results in this paper suggest that subsidized private-market homeownership could be an effective way to mitigate the intergenerational transmission of poverty.

## When do School Principals Matter?: The Effects of a Reform in the Selection Procedure of School Principals on School Outcomes.

School principals are generally considered to play an important role in the production of education, but the empirical evidence supporting this belief remains scarce. To explore their effectiveness in improving school outcomes, I exploit a Chilean reform that alters the selection process for public school principals. This reform provides plausibly exogenous variation in principals' characteristics. Using a difference-in-differences approach, I find that principals appointed under the reform tend to be younger, less experienced, and more highly educated. Drawing from a panel dataset of teacher responses, I observe that the new principals improve the general climate in their schools by decreasing violence and expanding community engagement. On the other hand, new principals do not improve teacher-monitoring practices, teachers' pedagogical methods, or students' test scores. These results could be explained by the fact that principals operate in a context where authorities can neither dismiss nor reward them, and where parents seem to place a high importance on school safety.