

Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2017

THE EFFECT OF CHANGING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES ON REPARTNERING

Presenter: Anna Zhu, University Of Melbourne
Date: Wednesday 16 August 2017
Time: 12.00pm -1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics



Abstract:

This paper examines how a reduction in the financial resources available to lone parents affects repartnering. We exploit an Australian natural experiment that reduced the financial resources available to a subset of separating parents. Using biweekly administrative data capturing separations occurring among low and middle income couples, we show that the policy reform significantly increased the speed of repartnering for affected separating mothers. Reconciliation with a new partner drives this result. Complementary analysis of an annual panel survey demonstrates that repartnering impacts are also present over the six years post-separation. Together, these results demonstrate that one way that lone mothers respond to a reduction in financial resources available at the time of relationship breakdown is by repartnering more quickly.

Presenter:

I am a research fellow at the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne, Australia. My research aims to identify or evaluate how social policy enables socially or economically disadvantaged persons towards greater participation in society and well-being. My research applies principles and methodological approaches from economics and applied econometrics to large administrative and survey-based data. My current research focuses on the economic and social determinants of child development, the impacts of welfare and education policy design, and the economic consequences of housing and relationship instability.

VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

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