DO SITUATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION MEASURES RESULT IN THE DISPLACEMENT OF CRIME?
A QUASI-EXPERIMENT IN SYDNEY

Abstract

In this paper we evaluate the direct and potential displacement effect of the 2014 “Lockout Laws” which restricted the night-time sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages in Sydney (Australia). These laws aimed at reducing alcohol-related assaults but targeted only the two entertainment precincts with the highest rates of assault. However, few months after the laws were implemented, anecdotal evidence suggested a displacement of assaults to alternative night-life hotspots that were not subject to the laws. Using difference in differences methods, we find that Lockout Laws were effective in reducing assaults in the targeted areas by 23.8%. However, about 1 in 2 assaults were displaced into surrounding entertainment areas.

Presenter

Mario has joined UTS in August 2007 after completing his PhD in Economics at University College London “The Role of Cognitive Skills on Educational and Labour Market Outcomes”. His main research and teaching interests lie in the area of Labour Economics, Public Economics and Applied Econometrics. Mario has published his work in international refereed journals, including the Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics and the Economics of Education review.

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