

Leila Salarpour Goodarzi

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, State University of New York at Binghamton (Binghamton University), exp May 2019

Masters in Economics, Binghamton University, May 2015

Bachelor of Science in Theoretical Economics, Shahid Beheshti University (SBU), Tehran, Iran, March 2012

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATIONS

Labor Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

SUBFIELDS OF INTEREST

Intra-household relations, Labor Force Participation, Gender, Marriage Markets & Divorce, Islamic Marriage Contracts, Early Childhood Development, Education, Retirement

WORKING PAPERS

Mahr: A Prenuptial Agreement in Islamic Marriage Contracts and Its Impact on Divorce Outcomes

The Effects of a Compulsory Pre-Primary Education in Mexico

WORK IN PROGRESS

Labor Market Impacts of Refugees in Europe, with Plamen Nikolov

A Retirement Policy Change in Iran and Its Effects on Female Labor Force Participation

Retirement Payments After Remarriage & Marriage Market Consequences: A Natural Experiment from Iran, with Mahdi Majbourni

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Instructor

Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Binghamton University, Fall 2018

Economics of Fixed Income Markets, online course, Binghamton University, Summer 2018

Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, online course, Binghamton University, Summer 2016

Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Binghamton University, Spring 2016 & Fall 2016

Teaching Assistant

Binghamton University

Microeconomic Theory (**Masters Level**)

Microeconomics of Development, Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics (**Undergraduate Level**)

Shahid Beheshti University

Calculus II (**Undergraduate Level**)

SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

Presentation

The MEEA/ASSA Annual Meeting, Jan 2019 (Upcoming)

The IAFFE Annual Conference at SUNY New Paltz, June 2018

IZA Workshop on Gender and Family Economics, Apr 2018

The Iranian Studies Initiative Annual Conference, “The Changing Nature of Family and Marriage in Contemporary Iran”, University of California Santa Barbara, Nov 2017

Guest Lecturing

Marriage & Divorce Markets, Department of Economics, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Nov 2017

HONORS AND GRANTS

Travel Grant for Conference Participation, Economics Department, Binghamton University, 2017 & 2018

Travel Grant for Conference Participation, HAND Foundation, Jan 2017 & 2018

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Economics Department, Binghamton University, Spring 2018

Edward H. Prentice Excellence Award, Binghamton University, Jan 2017

Tuition Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship, Binghamton University, Jan 2014 – present

Outreach and Service Award in Class of 2007, Shahid Beheshti University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Harpur Dean Search Committee Member, Binghamton University, Sep 2016 – Apr 2017

Treasurer, Economics Graduate Student Organization, Binghamton University, Aug 2016 – Aug 2017

Graduate Committee Member, Economics Dept, Binghamton University, Aug 2016 – Aug 2017

President, Economics Graduate Student Organization, Binghamton University, Sep 2014 – Aug 2015

Economics Department Graduate Mentor, Binghamton University, Aug 2014 – Present

Director of the National Essay Writing Contest in Economics, SBU, Jan 2011– Apr 2011

Board of Editors, Neda Magazine, Department of Economics, SBU, Sep 2009 – Mar 2012

Vice President, Scientific-Economics Association (SEA), SBU, Sep 2009 – Jan 2011

Board Member, Scientific-Economics Association (SEA), SBU, Apr 2009 – Jan 2012

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

Teaching Online Certification Program, Binghamton University, Aug 2016

Advanced Graduate Certificate in Complex Systems Science and Engineering, Binghamton University, May 2015

Journalism, Bureau of Media Studies and Planning, Tehran, Iran, May 2013

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Financial Consultant, Kassoun Design & Construction (KDC), Iran, Feb 2013 – May 2013

Financial Officer and Accountant, Tadbir Noavaran Kherad Company (TNK), Mar 2008 – Mar 2013

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Language: English (Fluent), Farsi (Native), Arabic (Elementary)

REFERENCES

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University Distinguished Professor
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Professor David Slichter
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ABSTRACTS

Mahr: A Prenuptial Agreement in Islamic Marriage Contracts and Its Impact on Divorce Outcomes

Abstract

Mahr—a monetary gift promised by the groom to the bride at the time of marriage—is a mandatory part of prenuptial agreements in Islamic marriage contracts and can play a crucial role in divorce cases. I investigate how mahr affects the intrahousehold bargaining power of couples in their divorce outcomes using a 2013 reform in Iran. Since only men have the right to finalize a divorce, women usually forfeit part of their mahr to negotiate for the husband's approval of the divorce request. The new law capped the value of mahr at 110 gold coins (around \$35k USD), with any additional payment conditional on men's individual wealth. I use a theoretical model of Islamic marriage and divorce to show how mahr alters a couple's choice about divorce and their market outcomes such as final mahr payments and child custody agreements. I provide empirical evidence, using a set of hand-collected data, that supports the predictions of this model for divorces and the impacts of the reform. Compared to the initial amount promised in male-initiated divorces, actual payment of mahr decreased substantially, whereas mahr paid in divorces initiated by women showed no significant decrease. Even though the proportion of cases involving children and the probability of the mother getting custody does not change, the probability of receiving child support for mothers with custody shows a significant decline, consistent with the policy decreasing women's negotiation power.

JEL Codes: D86, D19, J4, J1, J16

Keywords: Islamic Marriage, Mahr, Contracts, Divorce, Gender, Intrahousehold Bargaining

The Effects of a Compulsory Pre-Primary Education in Mexico

Abstract:

This paper provides evidence on the impact of pre-primary school attendance on children's outcomes. Mexico passed a law in 2002 which made three years of pre-school compulsory for children aged 3 to 5. This law was the first national policy in the world to mandate pre-primary education for three-year-olds. I look at the impact of the first phase of the law, which made pre-primary compulsory for children aged five starting in 2004. Using data from the Ministry of Education in Mexico and IPUMS International, I find a positive effect from the policy on pre-primary attendance of 5-year-olds. In the next step, using the schooling participation across states and the first two rounds of the Mexican Family Life Survey (MXFLS), I look at the intensity of policy impacts to study the change in children's cognitive test results. My identification strategy relies on a difference-in-differences. I find a positive effect on cognitive performance of five-year-olds right after their pre-primary level. However, these results seem to disappear after a year and for six-year-olds.

JEL-classification: I24, I25, I26, N36

Keywords: Pre-Primary Education, Early Childhood Education, Public Education, School Enrollment, Cognitive Skills