

MARIA MICAELA SVIATSCHI

Phone: (917) 628-5267 · e-mail: mms2241@columbia.edu

<http://www.micaelasviatschi.com>

FIELDS	Development Economics, Labor Economics
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Crime, Gender, Political Economy
EDUCATION	Columbia University , <i>Department of Economics</i> , New York, NY Ph.D. Candidate in Economics <i>May 2017 (expected)</i> Master of Philosophy in Economics <i>May 2013</i> Master of Arts in Economics <i>May 2012</i> Universidad de San Andres , Buenos Aires, Argentina Master in Economics <i>Dec 2009</i> B.S. in Economics <i>Dec 2007</i>
PLACEMENT CHAIRS	Navin Kartik, nk2339@columbia.edu , Doug Almond, da2152@columbia.edu . Placement Assistant: Amy Devine, (212) 854-6881, aed2152@columbia.edu
JOB MARKET PAPER	Making a <i>Narco</i> : Childhood Exposure to Illegal Labor Markets and Criminal Life Paths This paper shows that exposing children to illegal labor markets makes them more likely to be criminals as adults. I exploit the timing of a large anti-drug policy in Colombia that shifted cocaine production to locations in Peru that were well-suited to growing coca. In these areas, children harvest coca leaves and transport processed cocaine. Using variation across locations, years, and cohorts, combined with administrative data on the universe of individuals in prison in Peru, affected children are 30% more likely to be incarcerated for violent and drug-related crimes as adults. The biggest impacts on adult criminality are seen among children who experienced high coca prices in their early teens, the age when child labor responds the most. No effect is found for individuals that grow up working in places where the coca produced goes primarily to the legal sector, implying that it is the accumulation of human capital specific to the illegal industry that fosters criminal careers. As children involved in the illegal industry learn how to navigate outside the rule of law, they also lose trust in government institutions. However, consistent with a model of parental incentives for human capital investments in children, the rollout of a conditional cash transfer program that encourages schooling mitigates the effects of exposure to illegal industries. Finally, I show how the program can be targeted by taking into account the geographic distribution of coca suitability and spatial spillovers. This paper takes a first step towards understanding how criminals are formed by unpacking the way in which crime-specific human capital is developed at the expense of formal human capital in “bad locations.”
ONGOING WORK	Long-term Effects of Temporary Labor Demand: Free Trade Zones, Female Education and Marriage Market Outcomes in the Dominican Republic, <i>working paper</i> Bright Minds, Big Rent: Gentrification and the Rising Returns to Skill (<i>joint with Lena Edlund and Cecilia Machado</i>). <i>NBER Working Paper w21729</i> , November 16, 2015. <i>Featured in The Washington Post, The Atlantic, The Chicago Tribune, Bloomberg View, and The Huffington Post.</i> Exporting Criminal Capital: The Effect of US Deportations on Gang Formation and Human Capital in Central America (<i>joint with Josefa Aguirre</i>), <i>results available upon request.</i>

Does Domestic Violence Inhibit Human Capital Investment? Evidence from Peru's Women Emergency Centers with Guadalupe E. Kavanaugh and Iva Trako (*joint with Iva Trako and Guadalupe Gutierrez Escribano*), results available upon request.

What Makes a Good Public Servant? Criminal Exposure and Performance in Office (*joint with Jorge Mangonnet*)

The Unintended Economic Effects of Truce between Gangs in El Salvador

The Effects of Indoor Prostitution on Sex Crime: Evidence from New York City (*joint with Riccardo Ciacci*), working paper

Non-Monetary Prizes and Education Outcomes. Evidence from a Field Experiment in Peru (*joint with Josefa Aguirre*) *In the field*, results for this project are expected in March 2017

PUBLICATIONS Auspicious Birth Dates Among Chinese in California (*joint with Douglas Almond, Christine Pal Chee and Nan Zhong*). *Economics and Human Biology*, July 2015

ACHIEVEMENTS Reubens Fellowship in support of research in the Fields of Development, International and Labor Economics for "Making a Narco...", Columbia University 2015

Best Graduate Paper Award on Topics of Labor and Gender in Latin America for "Long-term Effects of Temporary Labor Demand...", Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies in Latin America and the Caribbean 2015

Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award (runner-up) for "Making a Narco...", Columbia University, 2014

Field Work Grant, Center for Development and Economic Policy, Columbia University, 2014

Harris Prize Second Year Paper Award (runner-up) for "Long-term Effects of Temporary Labor Demand...", Columbia University, 2013

Columbia University Doctoral Fellowship, New York, NY, Aug 2011 to present

Best Paper for Young Scholars (runner-up), Development Economics Conference in Bolivia, 2010

Best Paper for Undergraduate Thesis (runner-up), Argentinean Association of Political Economy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2008

Best Undergraduate Thesis, Universidad de San Andres, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE **University of California**, Berkeley, CA
Research Assistant to Professor Ernesto Dal Bo Jan - Aug 2014

Columbia University, New York City, NY
Research Assistant to Professor Douglas Almond Jan - May 2014

Columbia University, New York City, NY
Research Assistant to Professor Jeffrey Fagan Aug - Dec 2012

Harvard Business School, Boston, MA
Research Assistant to Professor Rafael Di Tella Jan- May 2011

Universidad de San Andres, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Research Assistant to Professor Martin Rossi Mar - May 2011

Harvard Business School, Boston, MA
Research Assistant to Professor Rafael Di Tella Aug - Dec 2008

WORK EXPERIENCE **Inter-American Development Bank**, Washington, DC
Consultant to Yuri Soares Jun - Aug 2013
Projects: Program Evaluation of After-School Programs in Jamaica. Literature Review on the Empirical and Theoretical Evidence of Non-cognitive Skills on Labor Market Outcomes

Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC

Research Fellow to Yuri Soares

Jan 2009 - Aug 2011

Projects: Country Program Evaluation of Paraguay 2004-2009. The Impact of Justice Modules in Rural Areas of Peru (first phase). The Impact of Court Modernization on Crime in Costa Rica. Design of Program Evaluation Methodology for Justice Modules Project in Rural Peru (second phase)

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

Columbia University, New York, NY

Teaching Assistant

Oct 2012 - present

- Urban Economics *Fall 2016*
- Topics in Development *Spring 2013, Spring 2014*
- Gender and Economics *Fall 2012, Fall 2013*
- Applied Econometrics *Fall 2013*

Universidad de San Andres, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics

Mar - Dec 2008, Mar 2010 - Jul 2011

- Principle of Economics, *Fall 2008*
- Economic History, *Spring 2008*
- Applied Econometrics *Fall 2010, Fall 2011*
- Economics of Regulation, *Fall 2010*

**CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS,
INVITED TALKS**

November 2016: Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and Latin American Econometric Society (LAMES) Annual Meeting. June 2016: Annual Meeting of America Latina Crime and Policy Network, Buenos Aires, Argentina. 2015: World Bank Conference on Productivity and Development, Washington DC. 2013-2014: World Bank Conference on Gender and Agency, Washington DC; Leicester Economics PhD Conference. Leicester, United Kingdom; Warwick Economics PhD Conference. Coventry, United Kingdom; NEUDC Northeast Universities Development Consortium. Boston. Inter-American Development Banks Office of Evaluation and Oversight. Washington, DC. Fifth Bolivian Conference on Development Economics in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. 2008-2010: Third Bolivian Conference on Development Economics in La Paz, Bolivia; XV Annual Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) in Medelln, Colombia; John Hopkins University. Bloomberg School of Public Health. Baltimore MD; Association for Social Economics. Montreal, Canada; Population Association of America. Dallas, Texas; Inter-American Development Banks Office of Evaluation and Oversight. Washington, DC; XLIII Annual Meeting of the Argentinean Association of Political Economy. Crdoba, Argentina.

REFEREE SERVICES Journal of Human Resources

LANGUAGES English (Fluent), Spanish (Native), Portuguese (Basic), French (Basic)

REFERENCES

MIGUEL URQUIOLA (ADVISOR)
Department of Economics
Columbia University
(212) 854-3769
msu2101@columbia.edu

JONAS HJORT
Graduate School of Business
Columbia University
(212) 854-5957
hjort@columbia.edu

BENTLEY MACLEOD
Department of Economics
Columbia University
(310) 571-5083
bentley.macleod@columbia.edu

RAFAEL DI TELLA
Harvard Business School
Harvard University
(617) 495-5048
rditella@hbs.edu