

Xintong Wang

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Current Position

August 2018 – present *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Department of Economics, Louisiana State University

Previous Positions

July 2017 – July 2018 *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Department of Economics, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Education

Ph.D. Economics, State University of New York at Binghamton, May 2017
Committee: Alfonso Flores-Lagunes (co-chair), Solomon W. Polachek (co-chair), Carmen Carrion-Flores
M.A. Economics, State University of New York at Binghamton, January 2013
B.A. Economics (Major), Mathematics and Applied Mathematics (Minor), Nankai University (China), 2011

Research Interests

Applied Econometrics, The Economics of Crime, Health Economics, Labor Economics

Paper Under Review

“Conscription and Military Service: Do They Result in Future Violent and Non-Violent Incarcerations and Recidivism?” (with A. Flores-Lagunes). Revise and Resubmit at *the Journal of Human Resources*.

Abstract: Employing nonparametric bounds, we evaluate the validity of the Vietnam lottery draft as the Instrumental Variable (IV) for the Vietnam Era military service, and re-examine the effect of military service on future incarceration and recidivism outcomes. We allow the lottery draft to have a direct effect on the outcomes through channels other than its impact on military service, thereby disposing of the exclusion restriction (ER) assumption. Our estimated bounds suggest that the direct effect of the lottery draft increases the incarceration and recidivism rate for violent offenses, implying that the ER assumption is not valid in this context. For the effect of military service, our estimated bounds for those whose service is induced by the lottery draft (the “compliers”) do not rule out a zero effect on their incarceration rate for violent or nonviolent crimes. Lastly, our estimated bounds for the subpopulation of volunteer Vietnam veterans (the “always takers”), which may be relevant to the current all-voluntary force veterans, suggest that military service has positive effects on the incarceration rate for violent and nonviolent crimes for volunteers in the 1951 and 1952 birth cohorts, whereas only the results for white always-takers remain statistically significant when using multiple-testing procedures. Further analysis of summary statistics suggests possible channels for these effects.

Working Papers

“The Complicated Effects of the Vietnam Lottery Draft and Military Service on Self-Reported Health Revisited” (with A. Flores-Lagunes and C.A. Flores) (**Job Market Paper**)

Abstract: The current U.S. veteran population on average is less healthy than the non-veterans (Kramarow et al. 2012, Gustman et al. 2016). Among veterans who have served in different eras, the Vietnam War veterans are receiving the highest average Veterans Affairs (VA) Disability Compensation (VDC) Payments (Congressional Budget Office, 2014). Meanwhile, the literature that uses the Vietnam War draft lotteries as the Instrumental Variable for the military service did not find statistically significant long-term health effect of the Vietnam War military service. In this paper, we re-examine the long-term health effects of the U.S. Vietnam War military service and the Vietnam War draft lotteries using a restricted version of the National Health Interview Survey 1974-2013. To separately estimate these above two effects, we use nonparametric bounds. We find health deteriorating effects of the military service on activity and work limitations and chronic conditions of the volunteer veterans in 1997-2005 and 2006-2013. This result contrasts the previous finding in the literature by only focusing on the draft compliers using the Instrumental Variable method. Further, this health deteriorating effect for the volunteer veterans remains significant in all income quartile intervals. Regarding the direct effect of the draft lotteries (conscripted) independent of the military service, we find statistically significant differences in the mean health outcomes of the draft avoiders across lottery number intervals, in a pattern consistent with the likelihood of being called to serve in NHIS 1997-2005 and 2006-2013.

“The Long-term Effect of Military Service on Post-service Mortality” (with A. Flores-Lagunes and C.A. Flores)

Abstract: In this paper, we analyze the direct effect of the U.S. Vietnam War lottery draft on the long-term mortality outcomes of draft avoiders (i.e., never-takers) and the effect of Vietnam War military service on the long-term mortality outcomes of draftees and volunteers (i.e., compliers and always-takers, respectively). To effectively control for selection bias, and separately estimate these two effects, we employ nonparametric bounds. The data used come from a restricted version of the mortality linkage data of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) 1985-2005. The estimated direct or net effect of the lottery draft and the estimated effect of military service on mortality are both found to be positive in several birth year by education group samples among the 1948-1952 born white and nonwhite males. However, these estimated effects become statistically indistinguishable from zero after adjusting for multiple inferences. To reconcile the contrasting results of the insignificant bounds estimates of the military service effect on mortality outcomes, and the significantly higher probability of mortality of white veterans relative to white nonveterans, we provide an analysis of pre-draft average characteristics. This analysis reveals that white military volunteers, who are the majority of the Vietnam war veterans, tend to have a significantly higher smoking history before they were 17-years-old. This result suggests that white military volunteers may exhibit pre-service risky health tendencies that might have led them to worse average long-term health and mortality outcomes relative to white nonveterans. Whereas for nonwhites, our results suggest that military induction might have selected the nonwhite males with characteristics that led them to better average long-term health mortality outcomes than the other nonwhites.

“Learning and Not Using? The Effect of Degree Attainment on Illicit Drug Use” (with Daniel J. Parisian)

Abstract: This paper examines the causal effect of earning a high school, GED, or vocational degree on future illicit drug use, employing random assignment into the United States’ most comprehensive education and vocational training program for at-risk youth — Job Corps — as a source of exogenous variability in degree attainment. Nonparametric bounds under relatively weak monotonicity assumptions about the true effect are constructed to allow the random assignment to violate the exclusion restriction when used as an instrument. The results suggest that degree attainment reduces future illicit drug use by 1.1 percentage points. Simple back-of-the-envelope calculations show this reduction in drug use could save nearly \$4.7 billion in societal costs related to health care, crime, and the loss of productivity.

Work in Progress

“Changes in the Distribution of Wages in China Using Bounds to Account for Employment Composition”

“Paternal Military Service, Children's Healthcare Usage, and Health Outcomes”

“Short-term Health Insurance Duration Increase, Insurance Coverage, and Employment”

“The Effect of Immigrant Workers on Trade Unions’ Wage Premium”

Honors, and Grants

- 2017 Institute for Human Studies PhD Scholarship (principal investigator; declined due to graduation and loss of eligibility; amount \$1,500), Institute for Human Studies at George Mason University
- 2016 Department of Economics Travel Grant, Binghamton University (x4)
- 2015 Binghamton University Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee, Binghamton University
- 2015 Department of Economics Dissertation Year Fellowship, Binghamton University
- 2011-2017 Tuition Scholarship and Teaching/Research Assistantship, Binghamton University
- 2009-2010 Undergraduate Innovative Research Project Grant, Nankai University (China)
- 2007-2011 Nankai Scholarship, Nankai University (China)
- 2007 First-Class Scholarship, Nankai University (China)

Research Funding Effort

- 2015 “Analysis of the Causal Relationship of the Military Draft, Military Service, Crime, and Incarceration” (principal investigator; not funded; amount \$78,967), Bureau of Justice Statistics
- “The Impact of Military Service on Crime Outcomes: Refining the Evidence from the Vietnam-War Lottery Drafts” (principal investigator; not funded; amount \$31,584), National Institute of Justice

Teaching

Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Louisiana State University (2018 - present) Undergraduate: Introduction to Econometrics, Econometric Methods

Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Hobart and William Smith Colleges (2017 - 2018)
(Intermediate) Microeconomics Theory and Policy, Statistics, Economics of Health and Medical Care

Instructor of Record, Department of Economics, Binghamton University (2014-2015) Undergraduate:
(Intermediate) Macroeconomics Theory

Guest Lecturer, Department of Economics, Binghamton University
Undergraduate: Introduction to Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Spring 2015;
Information Economics, Spring 2017; Master: Microeconomics Theory, Fall 2016; PhD:
Econometrics, Spring 2017

Poster Presentation

2019 American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

Conference Presentations

2019 Midwest Economics Association Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO
Western Economics Association International Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA

2018 World Labor Conference 2018, Berlin, Germany
Midwest Economics Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
Southern Economic Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC

2017 The Econometric Society 2017 Summer Meeting, St. Louis, MO
Society of Labor Economics 2017 Annual Meetings, Raleigh, NC
New York Camp Econometrics XII, Lake Placid, NY

2016 Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL
Western Economics Association Annual Meeting, Portland, OR
Midwest Econometrics Group Annual Meeting, Urbana-Champaign, IL
Southern Economics Association Annual Meetings, Washington, DC

Restricted Data Access Clearance and Other Experience

January 2016 (active) Special Sworn Status, U.S. Census Bureau
Spring 2015 to 2017 Reviewer, Binghamton University Undergraduate Journal of Research and
Creative Activity
Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member
Olevia L Sharbaugh, Louisiana State University (2019)

Personal

Citizenship: China
Languages: English, Chinese (Mandarin)

References

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