

Ali Enami

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Education	PhD, Department of Economics, Tulane University Dissertation title: Analyzing the Socio-economic Impacts of Fiscal Policies: Educational Attainment, Interstate Migration, Inequality, and Poverty. Committee: James Alm (chair), Alan Barreca, Douglas Harris, and Nora Lustig. August 2018
	MS, Department of Economics, Tulane University Dec. 2015
	MA, Department of Economics, The University of Akron Dec. 2012
	MBA, Malek-Ashtar University of Technology (Iran) Sept. 2009
	BS, Industrial Engineering, K.N. Toosi U. of Tech. (Iran) Sept. 2006
Research Areas	Applied Microeconomics, Public Economics, Education Economics, Health Economics, and Development Economics.
Grant	The Economic Research Forum (Egypt): \$5,000 (PI) “The role of fiscal policies in fighting poverty and reducing inequality in Iran with a focus on Energy subsidies reform: An application of Commitment to Equity (CEQ) framework.” Jan. 2015– Jan. 2016
Other Outside Funding	(1) Global Development Network: \$5,000 Jun. 2017– Oct. 2018 (2) Humane Studies Fellowship: \$4,000 Academic Year: 2017–18 Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) at George Mason University (3) IHS PhD Scholarship: \$1,500 Academic Year: 2015–16
Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals	(1) Enami, Ali , Nora Lustig, and Alireza Taqdiri. 2019. “Fiscal Policy, Inequality, and Poverty in Iran: Assessing the Impact and Effectiveness of Taxes and Transfers.” <i>Middle East Development Journal</i> , 11, no. 1: 49-74. (2) Enami, Ali . 2017. “Does Unrestricted Public School Choice Increase Racial Segregation? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in New Orleans.” <i>Applied Economics Quarterly</i> , 63, no. 3: 275-294. (3) Alm, James, and Ali Enami . 2017. “Do Government Subsidies to Low-income Individuals Affect Interstate Migration? Evidence from the Massachusetts Health Care Reform.” <i>Regional Science and Urban Economics</i> , 66: 119-131. (4) Krumel Jr, Thomas P., and Ali Enami . 2017. “Balancing the Ticket While Appealing to the Base: The Game Theory Behind Mitt Romney’s Selection of Paul Ryan as his Presidential Running Mate.” <i>Party Politics</i> , 23 (5): 498-506. (5) Ghosh, Sucharita, and Ali Enami . 2015. “Do Refugee-Immigrants Affect International Trade? Evidence from the World’s Largest Refugee Case.” <i>Journal of Policy Modeling</i> , 37 (2): 291-307.
Revision Requested	Enami, Ali . 2019. “Labor versus Capital in the Provision of Public Services: Estimating the Marginal Products of Inputs in the Production of Student Outcomes.” Revision requested at <i>Economics of Education Review</i> . New coauthors added at revision stage: James Alm and Rodrigo Aranda Balcazar.
Book Chapters	(1) Enami, Ali , Nora Lustig, and Rodrigo Aranda Balcazar. 2018. “Analytic Foundations: Measuring the Redistributive Impact of Taxes and Transfers.” A chapter in Nora Lustig (Ed.) “Commitment to Equity Handbook. A Guide to Estimating the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty.” Brookings

Institution Press and CEQ Institute, Tulane University.

- (2) **Enami, Ali.** 2018. “Measuring the Redistributive Impact of Taxes and Transfers in the Presence of Reranking.” *Ibid.*
- (3) **Enami, Ali.** 2018. “Measuring the Effectiveness of Taxes and Transfers in Fighting Inequality and Poverty.” *Ibid.*
- (4) **Enami, Ali.** 2018. “Iran: An Application of the CEQ Effectiveness Indicators” *Ibid.*

Working Papers

- (1) **Enami, Ali,** Nora Lustig, 2018. “Inflation and the Erosion of the Poverty Reduction Impact of Iran’s Universal Cash Transfer”. CEQ WP 68.
- (2) **Enami, Ali,** Nora Lustig, and Alireza Taqdiri. 2016. “The Role of Fiscal Policy in Fighting Poverty and Reducing Inequality in Iran (An Application of the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Framework).” Economic Research Forum (Egypt) working paper 1020.
- (3) **Enami, Ali.** 2016. “Determinants of Child Mortality in Africa: A Methodological Discussion.” Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2711757>
- (4) **Enami, Ali.** 2016. “The Effect of In Utero Exposure to Asian Flu (1957-58) on Future Earnings.” Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2711764>

Other Publications

- (1) **Enami, Ali,** Nora Lustig, 2018. “The Wrecking Force of Inflation: How the Universal Cash Transfer in Iran Has Lost its Poverty Reduction Impact”. Economic Research Forum (Egypt) Policy Brief No. 37.
- (2) Krumel Jr, Thomas P., and **Ali Enami.** 2015. “Pairing with an extreme running mate helps moderate presidential candidates to appeal to more voters.” *USApp – American Politics and Policy Blog*, The London School of Economics and Political Science.
- (3) **Enami, Ali.** 2012. “The Effect of Oil Revenue on Consumption Expenditure in Iran.” Proceedings of the 43rd annual conference of Mid-Continent Regional Science Association.

Work in Progress

- (1) **Enami, Ali,** C. Lockwood Reynolds, and Shawn M. Rohlin. “The Effect of Property Taxes on Businesses: Evidence from a Dynamic Regression Discontinuity Approach.”
- (2) Alm, James, **Ali Enami,** and Michael McKee. “Who Responds? Disentangling the Effects of Audits on Individual Tax Compliance Behavior”.
- (3) Lynde, Matthew R., **Ali Enami,** and Alexander Vasaly. “Financial Remedies for Patent Infringement in International Arbitration: A Comparison Between the U.S. and Other Major Intellectual Property Litigation Jurisdictions.”

Invited Talks and Workshops

- (1) CEQ Training Workshop. Poverty Global Practice Summer University at The World Bank. Washington, D.C. July 9-11, 2018.
- (2) MENA Chief Economist Office Seminar Series at The World Bank. Washington, D.C. June 28, 2017.
- (3) Guest Seminar at the Middle East and Central Asia Department of the International Monetary Fund. Washington, D.C. June 27, 2017.
- (4) CEQ-IDB Workshop on Equity of Public Expenditure at the Inter-American Development Bank. Washington, D.C. June 26, 2017.
- (5) Learning Event on the Commitment to Equity Methodology at The World Bank.

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	Washington, D.C. February 2015, February 2016, and July 2016.	
Conference Presentations	(1) 88 th annual conference of the Southern Economic Association. Washington, D.C. November 18-20, 2018.	
	(2) 111 th Annual Conference of National Tax Association. New Orleans, LA. November 15-17, 2018.	
	(3) 87 th annual conference of the Southern Economic Association. Tampa, FL. November 17-19, 2017.	
	(4) 7 th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ). New York City, NY. July 17-19, 2017.	
	(5) Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Colloquium, Institute for Humane Studies at George Masson University. Fairfax, VA. November 13-15, 2015.	
	(6) The 49 th annual meeting of the Missouri Valley Economic Association (MVEA). Memphis, TN. October 25-27, 2012.	
	(7) The Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCRSA). Bloomington, MN. June 6-8, 2012.	
Research Affiliations	Resident Research Associate at the Commitment to Equity Institute at Tulane University	June 2016 – July 2018
	Research Assistant to:	
	Professor Nora Lustig (Tulane University)	Jan. 2015 – July 2018
	Professor Mahdi Elyasi (Malek-Ashtar University of Technology (Iran))	Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2009
Teaching Experience	Instructor	
	Tulane University	Fall 2016
	Introduction to Microeconomics.	
	Payam-e Noor University (Iran)	Spring 2011
	Engineering Applied Statistics and Probability, Operations Research, and Engineering Economics.	
	Teaching Assistant	
	Tulane University	Aug. 2014 – May 2018
	Introduction to Microeconomics, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Introduction to Econometrics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Economics of Money and Banking, and Econometrics I (Ph.D.).	
	The University of Akron	Aug. 2011 – Dec. 2012
	Introduction to Economics, Principles of Microeconomics, Introduction to Economic Analysis, Intermediate Macroeconomics, and Foundations of Economic Analysis (Graduate).	
	Malek-Ashtar University of Technology (Iran)	Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2009
	Strategic Management in Practice (Graduate).	
Honors and Awards	Tulane University:	
	2017-18 Schloss Prize for Excellence in Economics (\$2,500)	April 2018
	Summer Merit Fellowship, School of Liberal Arts (\$2,500)	Summer 2017
	Murphy Fellowship (Full Tuition & Stipend)	Academic Years: 2014–18
	Murphy Teaching Assistantship (Stipend)	Academic Years: 2014–18
	School of Liberal Arts Fellowship (Full Tuition & Stipend)	Academic Year: 2013–14
	The University of Akron: Graduate Assistantship (Full Tuition & Stipend)	Aug. 2011 – Dec. 2012
	Malek-Ashtar University of Technology (Full Tuition)	Sept. 2006 – Sept. 2009

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	K.N. Toosi University of Technology (Full Tuition)	Sept. 2002 – Sept. 2006
Service	<i>Referee:</i> Public Finance Review, International Migration. <i>Tulane University:</i> <i>Member:</i> Provost's Office, Graduate Council; School of Liberal Arts, Graduate Studies Committee; School of Liberal Arts, Graduate Honor Board <i>President:</i> Association of Graduate Economics Students <i>Representative:</i> Graduate Studies Student Association <i>K.N. Toosi University of Technology (Iran):</i> <i>Editor:</i> Undergraduate-run Academic Journal of the Department of Industrial Engineering: <i>Daricheh</i> .	
Membership	American Economic Association, National Tax Association, and Southern Economic Association.	
Software	Stata, SAS, ArcGIS, LaTeX.	
Languages	English (Fluent), Farsi (Native).	
Other	Permanent Resident (Green Card holder)	
Employment (PT: part time)	Associate, Cornerstone Research Provided economic and statistical analysis on commercial litigation matters. Managed cross-office analyst teams. Supported academic experts in writing reports (e.g., class certificate, liability, and damages) and preparing for deposition and trial testimony. Experienced with antitrust, intellectual property, labor relation, and consumer fraud and product liability cases. Industry experience includes telecommunication, entertainment, social media, automobile, and healthcare.	Aug. 2018 – present
	Consultant, Global Development Network Provided on demand advice on “Commitment to Equity” fiscal incidence methodology developed by the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Institute, Tulane University (PT).	Sept. 2016 – July 2018
	Research Associate, CEQ Institute, Tulane University Contributed to the development of the “Commitment to Equity” fiscal incidence methodology. Authored a number of papers and book chapters related to various theoretical aspects of this framework and its application to the case of Iran (PT).	June 2016 – July 2018
	Short Term Temp. and Consultant, The World Bank Assisted the Bank’s staff with a number of projects related to the assessment of the distributional impact of fiscal policy in Indonesia, Jordan, and Sri Lanka (PT).	Oct. 2014 – June 2016 (with a few months off between contracts)
	Consultant, Public Warehouses & Customs Svcs. Co. (Iran) Consulted the Research and Development Unit to find opportunities for cutting costs and defining new lines of business (PT).	Oct. 2010 – June 2011
	Planning and System Engineer, Iran Switch Co. (Iran) Coordinated the design and implementation of an enhanced costing system (PT).	Apr. 2009 – May 2010
	Business Architect, P.M. Samane Co. (Iran) Analyzed and modeled business processes of clients, prepared process improvement proposals, and coordinated with computer programmers to produce customized process management solutions (PT).	Sept. 2008 – Apr. 2009

References

Professor James Alm
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Professor Toni Weiss (teaching reference)
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Select Abstracts

Labor versus Capital in the Provision of Public Services: Estimating the Marginal Products of Inputs in the Production of Student Outcomes [revision requested at *Economics of Education Review*]

This paper provides a more comprehensive evaluation of the role of financial resources available to public schools on student achievement. Specifically, I estimate the short- and long-term impact on student performance of each type of school expenditure: operating, minor capital, and major capital. I use a dynamic regression discontinuity design that relies upon the exogenous variation in public school funding created by marginally approved or failed local referenda to fund school districts. I find that only the approval of additional operating expenditures and exclusively in the short-term has a positive effect on the student test scores: about 0.033 standard deviations (0.27 percentage points) increase in math proficiency scores in the first year following the approval of an additional \$1,000 extra per pupil operating expenditure. I also examine four channels - class size, attendance, discipline, and teachers' compensation - through which each type of expenditure could affect the performance of students. I find that the subsequent increase in the average expenditure on instructional staff is the only channel that can explain the positive effect of additional operating expenditure. Finally, I do not find any long-term effect on student performance for any type of school expenditures.

Fiscal Policy, Inequality, and Poverty in Iran: Assessing the Impact and Effectiveness of Taxes and Transfers [*Middle East Development Journal*, 2019]

Using the Iranian Household Expenditure and Income Survey for 2011/12, we estimate the impact and effectiveness of various components of Iran's fiscal system on reducing inequality and poverty. We utilize the marginal contribution analysis to determine the impact of each component, and we introduce newly developed indicators of effectiveness to calculate how well various taxes and transfers are operating to reduce inequality and poverty. We find that the fiscal system reduces the poverty-head-count-ratio by 10.5 percentage points and inequality by 0.0854 Gini points. Transfers are generally more effective in reducing inequality than taxes while taxes are especially effective in raising revenue without causing poverty to rise. Although transfers are not targeted toward the poor, they reduce poverty significantly. The main driver is the Targeted Subsidy Program (TSP), and we show through simulations

that the poverty reducing impact of TSP could be enhanced if resources were more targeted to the bottom deciles.

Does Unrestricted Public School Choice Increase Racial Segregation? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in New Orleans [*Applied Economics Quarterly*, 2018]

This paper investigates the impact of introducing unrestricted public school choice on racial segregation in these schools. Using educational reform in the public schools of post-Katrina New Orleans as a natural experiment, this study shows that removing traditional public school zones (i.e. unrestricted choice) does not lead to additional racial segregation in public schools. The difference-in-difference-in-differences (DDD) approach of this paper accounts for the fact that the population of New Orleans may have changed (demographically and psychologically) because of the hurricane and disentangles the “reform effect” from the “hurricane effect”, a neglected bias that plagues previous studies of this reform.

Do Government Subsidies to Low-income Individuals Affect Interstate Migration? Evidence from the Massachusetts Health Care Reform [*Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2017]

Following the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010, many – but not all – states decided to expand their Medicaid program in line with provisions of the new law. Will low-income individuals respond to the incentives of living in a state with better health subsidies by relocating to the state? This paper addresses this question by examining the population growth rate of low-income individuals in Massachusetts following the Massachusetts Health Care Reform (MHCR) of 2006. Like the ACA, the MHCR expanded the Medicaid program, and also provided subsidized health insurance for low-income individuals. Using difference-in-differences and triple-differences models and Internal Revenue Service tax return data, we show that the reform did not have a global effect on the movement of low-income individuals across all cities in Massachusetts. However, we also show that the reform did have a local (or border) effect on the movement into border cities of the state, an effect that is relatively large for cities very close to the border but disappears quickly once the distance to border goes beyond 15 miles.