

# How Unfair Chances and Gender Discrimination Affect Labor Supply

Nickolas Gagnon<sup>1,2</sup>, Kristof Bosmans<sup>1</sup> and Arno Riedl<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Economics, Maastricht University

<sup>2</sup>Economic Science Laboratory, University of Arizona

**CIRANO**  
Montréal

09-09-2019

Motivation  
Literature  
Methodology  
Framework  
Hypotheses  
Results  
Discussion  
Conclusion  
References

# Motivation

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Chances are common feature of labor markets, when information is incomplete—hiring, promoting, firing, wage-setting decisions
- ▶ Those chances may be unfair for various reasons, e.g., favoritism, nepotism, outright discrimination

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Infamous occurrence is gender discrimination

- ▶ Infamous occurrence is gender discrimination
  - ▶ 80% of U.K. female workers believe it exists in workplace
  - ▶ 24% of U.S. corporate female employees report gender played role in missing out on raise/promotion/chance to get ahead, 29% expect it in future
- ▶ Shared commonality between female musicians auditioning for orchestra and female economists up for tenure:
  - ▶ Lower chances than men of equal ability (Goldin and Rouse, 2000; Sarsons, 2019)

- ▶ Infamous occurrence is gender discrimination
  - ▶ 80% of U.K. female workers believe it exists in workplace
  - ▶ 24% of U.S. corporate female employees report gender played role in missing out on raise/promotion/chance to get ahead, 29% expect it in future
- ▶ Shared commonality between female musicians auditioning for orchestra and female economists up for tenure:
  - ▶ Lower chances than men of equal ability (Goldin and Rouse, 2000; Sarsons, 2019)
- ▶ Brings general question: as worker, how do you respond to chances being unfair?

**What we do:** First study to investigate the causal effect of...

- ① unfair chances based on unspecified source
- ② unfair chances based on gender discrimination

...on primary decision for workers: ensuing labor supply at given wage  
(i.e., after chances realization, fixing monetary incentives)

## Unequal wages:

- ▶ Long tradition investigating how unfair wage inequality can hamper workers' productivity  
(e.g., Adams, 1965; Akerlof and Yellen, 1990; Pfeffer and Langton, 1993; Bewley, 1999)
- ▶ Recent evidence shows unequal wages for equal work reduce labor supply  
(Bracha et al., 2015; Breza et al., 2018; Dube et al., 2019)

## Ex-ante/procedural fairness:

- ▶ Preferences for equal chances influence equity judgments, but **unexplored in labor markets**

(e.g., Diamond, 1967; Hammond, 1981; Epstein and Segal, 1992; Karni and Safra, 2002; Bolton et al., 2005; Trautmann, 2009; Krawczyk and Le Lec, 2010; Brock et al., 2013; Cappelen et al., 2013; Saito, 2013; Cettolin and Riedl, 2016)



## Ex-ante/procedural fairness:

- ▶ Preferences for equal chances influence equity judgments, but **unexplored in labor markets**

(e.g., Diamond, 1967; Hammond, 1981; Epstein and Segal, 1992; Karni and Safra, 2002; Bolton et al., 2005; Trautmann, 2009; Krawczyk and Le Lec, 2010; Brock et al., 2013; Cappelen et al., 2013; Saito, 2013; Cettolin and Riedl, 2016)

## Gender discrimination:

- ▶ Associated with negative well-being in psychology and medicine (Pascoe and Smart Richman, 2009)
- ▶ Evidence for **demand-side** discrimination, but **missing possible supply-side effects**—on workers' labor decisions (Altonji and Blank, 1999; Blau and Kahn, 2017; Bertrand and Duflo, 2017)

# Methodology

Motivation

Literature

**Methodology**

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Pre-registered study—design, hypotheses, tests
- ▶ Design can capture differences between treatments of approximately 0.20 SD with medium statistical power (50%)

- ▶ Recruit workers on online labor platform, gender-balanced, residing in UK
- ▶ Workers exogenously assigned to payment schemes (treatments) varying chances, source of chances, and wages
- ▶ Individual work: copy lines of characters for piece-rate wage
  - ▶ Worker decides after how many lines to leave
  - ▶ Lines gradually become longer
  - ▶ Up to 85 lines or 65 minutes
  - ▶ Lines entered have no further use for anyone

- ▶ First
  - ▶ Read instructions
  - ▶ Answer exhaustive comprehension questions (~ 20% fail)
  - ▶ Complete practice lines (unrelated to wages)

- ▶ First
  - ▶ Read instructions
  - ▶ Answer exhaustive comprehension questions (~ 20% fail)
  - ▶ Complete practice lines (unrelated to wages)
  
- ▶ Second
  - ▶ Learn procedure determining own wage and wage of another anonymous worker doing same work
  - ▶ Learn own wage and wage of other worker
  - ▶ Enter lines, decide after how many lines to quit

- ▶ Minimalist design: no interaction, risk, reciprocity, future job
- ▶ 1,271 workers complete experiment
  - ▶ Age: mean=38 ( $SD=12$ )
  - ▶ Woman: 50%
  - ▶ UK National: 93%
  - ▶ Student: 16%
  - ▶ Full-Time Employed: 50%
  - ▶ Part-Time Employed: 20%
  - ▶ On average, stayed 26 minutes ( $SD = 16$ ), paid £2.64 ( $SD = 1.53$ )
- ▶ Worker is randomized into one payment scheme, separately by gender (between-subject design)
- ▶ **Labor supply measure**: number of lines completed

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

## 5 Payment Schemes (Treatments)

- ▶ EQLOW
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.03
- ▶ EQHIGH
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.06

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

# 5 Payment Schemes (Treatments)

- ▶ EQLOW
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.03
- ▶ EQHIGH
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.06
- ▶ UNEQFAIR
  - ▶ Both workers: 50% chance to receive £0.06, otherwise receive £0.03 (one worker obtains £0.06, other worker obtains £0.03)

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References



# 5 Payment Schemes (Treatments)

- ▶ EQLOW
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.03
- ▶ EQHIGH
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.06
- ▶ UNEQFAIR
  - ▶ Both workers: 50% chance to receive £0.06, otherwise receive £0.03 (one worker obtains £0.06, other worker obtains £0.03)
- ▶ UNEQUNFAIR
  - ▶ One worker: 25% chance to receive £0.06
  - ▶ Other worker: 75% chance to receive £0.06
  - ▶ Unspecified source of chances: we do not provide reason

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

# 5 Payment Schemes (Treatments)

- ▶ EQLOW
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.03
- ▶ EQHIGH
  - ▶ Both workers receive wage of £0.06
- ▶ UNEQFAIR
  - ▶ Both workers: 50% chance to receive £0.06, otherwise receive £0.03 (one worker obtains £0.06, other worker obtains £0.03)
- ▶ UNEQUNFAIR
  - ▶ One worker: 25% chance to receive £0.06
  - ▶ Other worker: 75% chance to receive £0.06
  - ▶ Unspecified source of chances: we do not provide reason
- ▶ UNEQDISCR
  - ▶ One worker: **“You are a woman/man, therefore you have”** 25% chance to receive £0.06
  - ▶ Other worker: **“The other participant is a man/woman, therefore s/he has”** 75% chance to receive £0.06

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

# Online Labor Markets

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Boom in popularity, especially for labor and experimental economists

(e.g., Pallais, 2014 (AER), Bordalo et al., 2016 (QJE), Pallais and Sands, 2016 (JPE), De Quidt et al., 2018 (AER))

- ▶ Snowberg and Yariv (2018): online participants are generally inbetween undergraduates and representative sample

(e.g., DG, PD, time discounting, risk aversion, lying, CRT)

- ▶ Horton et al. (2011) and Arechar et al. (2018): classical games replicate online

(PD, Public Goods Game)

Motivation

Literature

**Methodology**

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ We use UK-based platform Prolific
- ▶ Platform provides important advantages for our study, over laboratory and/or field experiment inside firm:

- ▶ We use UK-based platform Prolific
- ▶ Platform provides important advantages for our study, over laboratory and/or field experiment inside firm:
  - ① Worker works and quits without creating peer effects
    - ▶ worker cannot observe or hear others, cannot hear argument with experimenter

- ▶ We use UK-based platform Prolific
- ▶ Platform provides important advantages for our study, over laboratory and/or field experiment inside firm:
  - ① Worker works and quits without creating peer effects
    - ▶ worker cannot observe or hear others, cannot hear argument with experimenter
  - ② Better (immediate) outside options for workers
    - ▶ home leisure, other tasks, main work

- ▶ We use UK-based platform Prolific
- ▶ Platform provides important advantages for our study, over laboratory and/or field experiment inside firm:
  - ① Worker works and quits without creating peer effects
    - ▶ worker cannot observe or hear others, cannot hear argument with experimenter
  - ② Better (immediate) outside options for workers
    - ▶ home leisure, other tasks, main work
  - ③ Large number of workers  $\Rightarrow$  statistical power

- ▶ We use UK-based platform Prolific
- ▶ Platform provides important advantages for our study, over laboratory and/or field experiment inside firm:
  - ① Worker works and quits without creating peer effects
    - ▶ worker cannot observe or hear others, cannot hear argument with experimenter
  - ② Better (immediate) outside options for workers
    - ▶ home leisure, other tasks, main work
  - ③ Large number of workers  $\Rightarrow$  statistical power
  - ④ Crucial: allows us to discriminate in labor market



Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Precautions to minimize potential concerns, among which:
  - ▶ Exhaustive comprehension questions  $\Rightarrow$  repeated mistakes lead to exclusion before experiment
  - ▶ Single participation per account, mostly on invitation, many restrictions to prevent duplicate accounts
  - ▶ Post-experiment questions

# Theoretical Framework

- Motivation
- Literature
- Methodology
- Framework**
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- References

- ▶ Build on existing framework (Breza et al., 2018; Card et al., 2012)
  - ▶ Worker **dislikes job with wage inequality** (more if disadvantageous) for equal work  $\Rightarrow$  dissatisfaction
  - ▶ Creates **marginal disutility of work**  $\Rightarrow$  **lowers labor supply**

# Theoretical Framework

Motivation  
Literature  
Methodology  
Framework  
Hypotheses  
Results  
Discussion  
Conclusion  
References

- ▶ Build on existing framework (Breza et al., 2018; Card et al., 2012)
  - ▶ Worker **dislikes job with wage inequality** (more if disadvantageous) for equal work  $\Rightarrow$  dissatisfaction
  - ▶ Creates **marginal disutility of work**  $\Rightarrow$  **lowers labor supply**
- ▶ Account for unfair chance (based on Saito (2013))
  - ▶ Aversion to unequal wage and **unfair chance**
  - ▶ Unfair chance creates **additional marginal disutility**  $\Rightarrow$  reduces labor supply

# Theoretical Framework

- ▶ Build on existing framework (Breza et al., 2018; Card et al., 2012)
  - ▶ Worker **dislikes job with wage inequality** (more if disadvantageous) for equal work  $\Rightarrow$  dissatisfaction
  - ▶ Creates **marginal disutility of work**  $\Rightarrow$  **lowers labor supply**
- ▶ Account for unfair chance (based on Saito (2013))
  - ▶ Aversion to unequal wage and **unfair chance**
  - ▶ Unfair chance creates **additional marginal disutility**  $\Rightarrow$  reduces labor supply
- ▶ **Gender discrimination** entails psychological costs
  - ▶ **Raises marginal disutility**  $\Rightarrow$  contracts labor supply

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

**Framework**

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Two workers,  $i$  and  $j$ , engaged in same work with piece-rate wages  $w_i$  and  $w_j$
- ▶ Wages and chances leading to wages are public knowledge
- ▶ Worker  $i$  chooses labor supply  $l_i$  considering  $w_i$ ,  $w_j$ , distribution of chances, and cost of providing labor

- ▶ Two workers,  $i$  and  $j$ , engaged in same work with piece-rate wages  $w_i$  and  $w_j$
- ▶ Wages and chances leading to wages are public knowledge
- ▶ Worker  $i$  chooses labor supply  $l_i$  considering  $w_i$ ,  $w_j$ , distribution of chances, and cost of providing labor
- ▶ Based on Breza et al. (2018) (similar to Fehr and Schmidt (1999)), marginal disutility created by wage inequality takes form

$$P_i(w_i, w_j) = \alpha_i \max\{w_j - w_i, 0\} + \beta_i \max\{w_i - w_j, 0\}$$

- ▶ Based on labor supply evidence, we assume  $\alpha_i > \beta_i > 0$

- ▶ Marginal disutility created by unfair chances is based on Saito (2013) and others (e.g., Bolton et al., 2005; Trautmann, 2009)

$$A_i(E(w_i, w_j)) = \alpha'_i \max\{E(w_j - w_i), 0\} + \beta'_i \max\{E(w_i - w_j), 0\}$$

- ▶ We assume  $\alpha'_i > \beta'_i > 0$

- ▶ Worker  $i$  chooses labor supply  $l_i$  so as to maximize utility

$$U_i(w_i, w_j, l_i) = w_i l_i - P_i(w_i, w_j) l_i - A_i(E(w_i, w_j)) l_i - \frac{l_i^2}{2}$$

- ▶ Optimal labor supply is then

$$l_i^* = w_i - P_i(w_i, w_j) - A_i(E(w_i, w_j))$$



- ▶ Worker  $i$  chooses labor supply  $l_i$  so as to maximize utility

$$U_i(w_i, w_j, l_i) = w_i l_i - P_i(w_i, w_j) l_i - A_i(E(w_i, w_j)) l_i - \frac{l_i^2}{2}$$

- ▶ Optimal labor supply is then

$$l_i^* = w_i - P_i(w_i, w_j) - A_i(E(w_i, w_j))$$

- ▶ Unequal wage and unfair chance both decrease labor supply
- ▶ Decrease is larger for disadvantaged than advantaged workers

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Finally, we posit: gender discrimination entails additional psychological costs for workers
- ▶ Marginal disutility is again greater for disadvantaged workers
- ▶ Do not explicitly model this
- ▶ For instance, discriminatory chances could involve a term  $\delta > 0$  that multiplies  $\alpha'_i$  and  $\beta'_i$

# Hypotheses

- Motivation
- Literature
- Methodology
- Framework
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- References

- ▶ Our hypotheses apply only to workers who do not beat the odds
- ▶ For low-wage workers: those who faced equal wages, fair chances, or low chances
- ▶ For high-wage workers: those who faced equal wages, fair chances, or high chances
- ▶ Reason: our design generates few such workers
- ▶ First three hypotheses come from our framework

# Hypotheses

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

## HYPOTHESIS 1, LOW-WAGE WORKERS

For low-wage worker, labor supply ranks across schemes as follows:  
 $EQLOW > UNEQFAIR > UNEQUNFAIR > UNEQDISCR$

# Hypotheses

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

## HYPOTHESIS 1, LOW-WAGE WORKERS

For low-wage worker, labor supply ranks across schemes as follows:  
 $EQ_{LOW} > UNEQ_{FAIR} > UNEQ_{UNFAIR} > UNEQ_{DISCR}$

## HYPOTHESIS 2, HIGH-WAGE WORKERS

For high-wage worker, labor supply ranks across schemes as follows:  
 $EQ_{HIGH} > UNEQ_{FAIR} > UNEQ_{UNFAIR} > UNEQ_{DISCR}$

## HYPOTHESIS 3, DISADVANTAGE VS. ADVANTAGE

The labor supply decreases in

- (a)  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$  compared to  $EQ_{LOW}/EQ_{HIGH}$ ,
  - (b)  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  compared to  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$ , and
  - (c)  $UNEQ_{DISCR}$  compared to  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$ ,
- are greater for low-wage worker than for high-wage worker

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

### HYPOTHESIS 3, DISADVANTAGE VS. ADVANTAGE

The labor supply decreases in

- (a)  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$  compared to  $EQ_{LOW}/EQ_{HIGH}$ ,
  - (b)  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  compared to  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$ , and
  - (c)  $UNEQ_{DISCR}$  compared to  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$ ,
- are greater for low-wage worker than for high-wage worker

- ▶ Investigate gender difference in responses to negative discrimination

### HYPOTHESIS 4, GENDER AND NEGATIVE DISCRIMINATION

Difference in labor supply between  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  and  $UNEQ_{DISCR}$  is equal for low-wage workers of both genders

# Results—Testing our Hypotheses

- ▶ A few features:
  - ▶ Two tests
    - ▶ Non-parametric rank test: Dunn's tests for pairwise comparisons, following Kruskal Wallis test
    - ▶ Tobit regression
    - ▶ Employ one-sided test whenever we made prediction
    - ▶ Rely on Dunn's test whenever possible—no normality assumption
  - ▶ Present results with and without BH correction (Benjamini and Hochberg, 1995) within each hypothesis
    - ▶ False Discovery Rate procedure for multiple hypotheses



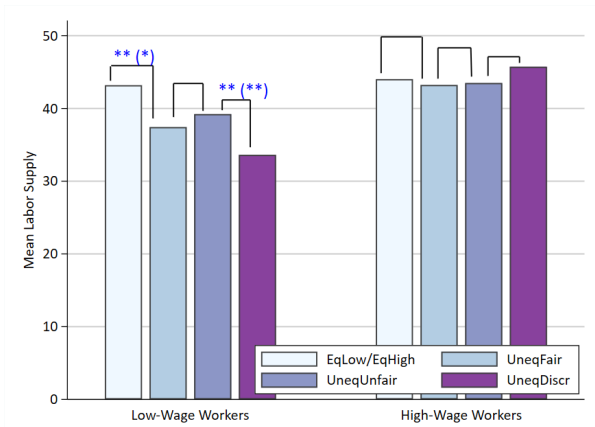
# Labor Supply in each Payment Scheme

DescriptiveStatistics

3CompHypo1&2

6CompHypo1&2

Figure: Labor Supply per Scheme—3 Dunn's tests in predicted direction (parentheses: Benjamini and Hochberg (1995) correction)



Note: Labor supply is measured by the number of lines completed and ranges from 0 to 85. N ranges from 127 to 145 workers per payment scheme. One-sided p-values in direction of hypotheses: \* $p < 0.10$ , \*\* $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ .

## RESULT 1, LOW-WAGE WORKERS:

(a) UNEQDISCR substantially reduces labor supply, compared to other schemes

–22% (0.35 SD) relative to EQLOW

–15% (0.21 SD) relative to UNEQUNFAIR

(b) UNEQUNFAIR does not decrease labor supply relative to UNEQFAIR

(c) UNEQFAIR reduces labor supply compared to EQLOW  
–13% (0.20 SD)

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

## RESULT 1, LOW-WAGE WORKERS:

(a) UNEQDISCR substantially reduces labor supply, compared to other schemes

–22% (0.35 SD) relative to EQLOW

–15% (0.21 SD) relative to UNEQUNFAIR

(b) UNEQUNFAIR does not decrease labor supply relative to UNEQFAIR

(c) UNEQFAIR reduces labor supply compared to EQLOW  
–13% (0.20 SD)

## RESULT 2, HIGH-WAGE WORKERS:

UNEQDISCR, UNEQUNFAIR, UNEQFAIR, and EQHIGH all produce similar labor supply

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

## RESULT 3, DISADVANTAGE VS. ADVANTAGE:

(a) Decrease in labor supply caused by  $UNEQ_{DISCR}$  relative to  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  is larger for low-wage than high-wage workers

(b) Decreases caused by  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  relative to  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$  and by  $UNEQ_{FAIR}$  relative to  $EQ_{LOW}/EQ_{HIGH}$  do not differ significantly for the two types of workers

# Men and Women Reactions to Negative Discrimination

Table: Descriptive Statistics—Labor Supply of Low-Wage Men and Women in UNEQUNFAIR and UNEQDISCR

Low-Wage Workers	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	N
Men					
UNEQUNFAIR	36.13	27.44	.04	.14	72
UNEQDISCR	36.92	29.27	.06	.15	71
Women					
UNEQUNFAIR	42.37	27.92	.04	.15	71
UNEQDISCR	30.38	23.00	.11	.06	72

Note: Labor supply is measured by the number of lines completed and ranges from 0 to 85. Min. and Max. indicate the percentage of workers completing the minimum and maximum number of lines.

Table: Hypothesis 4—Tobit Regression of Labor Supply on  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  and  $UNEQ_{DISCR}$ , for Low-Wage Men and Women

Scheme	Low-Wage Workers
$UNEQ_{DISCR}$	-1.363 (5.510)
$UNEQ_{DISCR} \times \text{Woman}$	-16.105** (7.805)
Woman	1.736 (6.077)
Controls	Yes
Prob >F	0.039
Pseudo R2	0.012
$N$	283

Note:  $UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$  serves as baseline. Standard errors are indicated in parentheses. Two-sided p-values: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ .

## RESULT 4, GENDER AND NEGATIVE DISCRIMINATION:

Decrease in labor supply caused by  $UNEQDISCR$  relative to  $UNEQUNFAIR$  is larger for women than men

# Exploratory Analyses

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

**Results**

Discussion

Conclusion

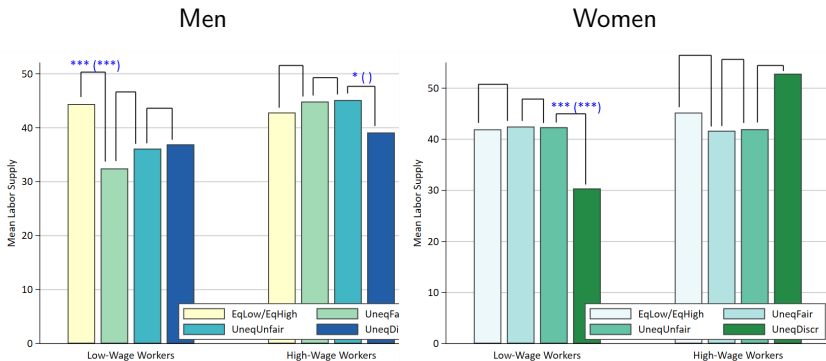
References



# Exploratory Analyses—Further Gender Differences

DetailsGender

Figure: Labor Supply per Gender/Scheme—3 Dunn's tests in predicted direction (parentheses: BH correction)



Note: Labor supply is measured by the number of lines completed and ranges from 0 to 85. N ranges from 62 to 75 workers per payment scheme. One-sided p-values in direction of hypotheses: \*  $p < 0.10$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ .

# Positive Discrimination of Women

- ▶ Setting aside our hypotheses... could positive discrimination increase women's labor supply?

Table: P-Value of Test that Positive Discrimination of Women does not Affect their Labor Supply

Inequality Technique	High-Wage Female Workers Dunn
$EQ_{HIGH} \neq$ $UNEQ_{DISCR}$	<b>0.055</b>
$UNEQ_{UNFAIR} \neq$ $UNEQ_{DISCR}$	<b>0.012</b>
$N$	273

Note: Two-sided p-values are presented.

- ▶ This is question for future research

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

# Extensive and Intensive Margins

MarginsDetails

Motivation  
Literature  
Methodology  
Framework  
Hypotheses  
**Results**  
Discussion  
Conclusion  
References

- ▶ Discriminatory chances increase probability that low-wage workers refuse to work
- ▶ And decrease labor supply for low-wage workers deciding to work

# Discussion

- Motivation
- Literature
- Methodology
- Framework
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Discussion**
- Conclusion
- References

# Discussion—Unequal Wages and Labor Supply

- ▶ We replicate finding that unequal wages *for same work* decreases labor supply of disadvantaged worker
  - ▶ Bracha et al. (2015); Breza et al. (2018); Dube et al. (2019)
- ▶ Gender: *BGL* find low wages only affect men, *BKS* study only men, *DGL* study mostly women; we find no effect on women
  - ▶ However, low wages from gender-discriminatory chances do decrease labor supply of men and women
- ▶ Advantageous unequal wages: only *BKS* find some negative effect and argue it might come through work tensions
  - ▶ With our design without peer interactions: no effect for high-wage workers

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

# Fairness of Chances

- ▶ Large literature on ex-ante fairness (Diamond, 1967)
  - ▶ Potential issue is dynamic inconsistency: ex-ante fair becomes ex-post unfair (Myerson, 1981)
- ▶ Bolton et al. (2005) show that ex-ante chances do influence ex-post behavior
  - ▶ Less ex-post rejection of bad outcomes in mini-UG if chances are fair
- ▶ In contrast, workers' ex-post labor supply decision is independent of ex-ante chances

# Discrimination and Genders' Labor Outcomes

Motivation  
Literature  
Methodology  
Framework  
Hypotheses  
Results  
Discussion  
Conclusion  
References

- ▶ Lower labor supply of women explains most of gender income gap (Goldin, 2014; Blau and Kahn, 2017)
  - ▶ Women are less present in high-pay occupations, typically demanding long work hours—lawyers, managers, professors
  - ▶ Women work less hours and earn less *within same occupation*—high-pay jobs have high returns to long hours

# Discrimination and Genders' Labor Outcomes

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Lower labor supply of women explains most of gender income gap (Goldin, 2014; Blau and Kahn, 2017)
  - ▶ Women are less present in high-pay occupations, typically demanding long work hours—lawyers, managers, professors
  - ▶ Women work less hours and earn less *within same occupation*—high-pay jobs have high returns to long hours
- ▶ Standard explanation: women prefer job flexibility due to household tasks (Bertrand et al., 2010; ?; Goldin, 2014; Wiswall and Zafar, 2017)
- ▶ Our results suggest: gender discrimination can also lower women's labor supply (for given monetary incentives)



# Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

**Discussion**

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Young female lawyer starts new job, willing to work extra hours

# Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Young female lawyer starts new job, willing to work extra hours
- ▶ Older partners promote similar young male lawyers over her
- ▶ Because they (wrongly) believe that, being a woman, she is less willing to work extra hours

# Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Young female lawyer starts new job, willing to work extra hours
- ▶ Older partners promote similar young male lawyers over her
- ▶ Because they (wrongly) believe that, being a woman, she is less willing to work extra hours
- ▶ Unsatisfied, she chooses not to work extra hours, thereby decreasing her value to firm

# Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

- ▶ Young female lawyer starts new job, willing to work extra hours
- ▶ Older partners promote similar young male lawyers over her
- ▶ Because they (wrongly) believe that, being a woman, she is less willing to work extra hours
- ▶ Unsatisfied, she chooses not to work extra hours, thereby decreasing her value to firm
- ▶ Observing her behavior, initial choice of older partners is validated: their (wrong) belief now appears correct

# Conclusion

▶ Main Results:

- ① Negative gender discrimination in chances considerably reduces labor supply ( $-22\%$  compared to equal low wages)
- ② Effect is roughly twice as large as decrease induced by low relative wages coming from fair or unfair chances
- ③ Workers are insensitive to whether their disadvantageous wages result from fair chances or unfair chances
- ④ Workers are unresponsive to any types of advantageous inequality that we examine

- ▶ Suggest that distribution of chances from unspecified source does not alter workers' ex-post labor supply decisions

- ▶ Suggest that distribution of chances from unspecified source does not alter workers' ex-post labor supply decisions
- ▶ Provide evidence for novel supply-side consequence of gender discrimination in labor markets
  - ▶ Among rare studies examining discriminated workers' behavior (e.g., Parsons et al., 2011; Glover et al., 2017)
  - ▶ First to study labor responses to facing discrimination, keeping monetary incentives constant
  - ▶ Different perspective on lower labor supply of women

- ▶ Suggest that distribution of chances from unspecified source does not alter workers' ex-post labor supply decisions
- ▶ Provide evidence for novel supply-side consequence of gender discrimination in labor markets
  - ▶ Among rare studies examining discriminated workers' behavior (e.g., Parsons et al., 2011; Glover et al., 2017)
  - ▶ First to study labor responses to facing discrimination, keeping monetary incentives constant
  - ▶ Different perspective on lower labor supply of women
- ▶ Open new avenues for research on workers' reactions to discrimination



- Motivation
- Literature
- Methodology
- Framework
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion**
- References

Thank you for your attention

Table: Demographic Characteristics of Workers

Demographic Characteristic	Mean (SD) or Percentage
Age	38 (12)
Participations	141 (176)
Woman	.50
Student	.16
UK National	.93
Caucasian/White	.88
Employed Full-Time	.50
Employed Part-Time	.20
Job Seekers	.18
Not in Paid Work	.06
Other Work Situation	.05

Note: N varies from 1263 to 1271 by characteristic, because we could not obtain data from the platform on certain characteristics of a few workers.

Table: Descriptive Statistics—Labor Supply per Payment Scheme

Low-Wage Workers	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	N
EQLOW	43.20	27.63	.04	.16	128
UNEQFAIR	37.44	29.16	.06	.17	125
UNEQUNFAIR	39.22	27.76	.04	.15	143
UNEQDISCR	33.62	26.41	.08	.11	143
High-Wage Workers	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	N
EQHIGH	44.03	28.93	.04	.20	128
UNEQFAIR	43.23	29.64	.03	.20	127
UNEQUNFAIR	43.50	28.85	.02	.20	143
UNEQDISCR	45.74	26.72	.02	.16	145

Note: Labor supply is measured by the number of lines completed and ranges from 0 to 85. Min. and Max. indicate the percentage of workers completing the minimum and maximum number of lines.

Table: Hypotheses 1 and 2—P-values of Predicted Differences in Labor Supply between Payment Schemes

Predicted Inequality Technique BH Correction	Low-Wage Workers				High-Wage Workers			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Tobit No	Dunn No	Tobit Yes	Dunn Yes	Tobit No	Dunn No	Tobit Yes	Dunn Yes
$EQ_{LOW(HIGH)} > UNEQ_{FAIR}$	0.170	<b>0.017</b>	0.255	<b>0.050</b>	0.387	0.371	1.000	1.000
$UNEQ_{FAIR} > UNEQ_{UNFAIR}$	0.513	0.878	0.513	0.878	0.473	0.780	0.709	1.000
$UNEQ_{UNFAIR} > UNEQ_{DISCR}$	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.019</b>	<b>0.031</b>	0.752	0.886	0.752	0.886
<i>N</i>	533	539	533	539	542	543	542	543

Note: One-sided p-values are presented, in the direction predicted. Dunn's tests are non-parametric. BH correction (Benjamini and Hochberg, 1995) is a False Discovery Rate procedure accounting for multiple hypothesis testing.

Table: P-Values of Six Predicted Differences in Labor Supply between Payment Schemes

Predicted Inequality Technique BH Correction	Low-Wage Workers				High-Wage Workers			
	(1) Tobit No	(2) Dunn No	(3) Tobit Yes	(4) Dunn Yes	(5) Tobit No	(6) Dunn No	(7) Tobit Yes	(8) Dunn Yes
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQFAIR	0.170	<b>0.017</b>	0.212	<b>0.050</b>	0.387	0.371	1.000	1.000
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQUNFAIR	<b>0.165</b>	<b>0.058</b>	0.248	<b>0.087</b>	0.357	0.426	1.000	1.000
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQDISCR	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.002</b>	<b>0.006</b>	0.607	0.853	0.910	1.000
UNEQFAIR > UNEQUNFAIR	0.513	0.878	0.513	0.878	0.473	0.780	0.946	1.000
UNEQFAIR > UNEQDISCR	<b>0.013</b>	<b>0.081</b>	<b>0.025</b>	0.102	0.720	0.905	0.900	0.905
UNEQUNFAIR > UNEQDISCR	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.019</b>	<b>0.031</b>	0.752	0.886	0.752	1.000
<i>N</i>	533	539	533	539	542	543	542	543

Note: One-sided p-values are presented, in the direction predicted. BH corrections account for multiple hypothesis testing.

Table: Tobit Regression of Labor Supply on Payment Schemes

	Low-Wage Workers	High-Wage Workers
Scheme	(1)	(2)
UNEQFAIR	-4.144 (4.337)	-1.309 (4.547)
UNEQUNFAIR	-4.008 (4.115)	-1.607 (4.397)
UNEQDISCR	-13.610**** (4.051)	1.146 (4.220)
Controls	Yes	Yes
Prob >F	0.001	0.010
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.011	0.008
N	533	542

Note: EQLOW(HIGH) serves as baseline. Standard errors are in parentheses. Two-sided p-values: \* $p < 0.10$ , \*\* $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .

# Reactions to Advantage vs. Disadvantage

Result3

Table: Hypothesis 3—P-values of Predicted Differences in Effect of Payment Schemes, between Low-Wage and High-Wage Workers

Predicted Inequality	All Workers	
	(1)	(2)
Technique	Tobit	Tobit
BH Correction	No	Yes
$(EQ_{LOW} - UNEQ_{FAIR})_{LowWage} >$ $(EQ_{HIGH} - UNEQ_{FAIR})_{HighWage}$	0.374	0.561
$(UNEQ_{FAIR} - UNEQ_{UNFAIR})_{LowWage} >$ $(UNEQ_{FAIR} - UNEQ_{UNFAIR})_{HighWage}$	0.503	0.503
$(UNEQ_{UNFAIR} - UNEQ_{DISCR})_{LowWage} >$ $(UNEQ_{UNFAIR} - UNEQ_{DISCR})_{HighWage}$	<b>0.023</b>	<b>0.070</b>
<i>N</i>	1075	1075

Note: One-sided p-values are presented, in the direction predicted. BH corrections account for multiple hypothesis testing.

Motivation  
Literature  
Methodology  
Framework  
Hypotheses  
Results  
Discussion  
Conclusion  
References

# Reactions to Advantage vs. Disadvantage

Table: Tobit Regression of Labor Supply on Payment Schemes, for All Workers

Scheme	All Workers
UNEQFAIR	-4.636 (4.385)
UNEQUNFAIR	-4.432 (4.098)
UNEQDISCR	-13.133*** (4.058)
UNEQFAIR × HighWage	2.030 (6.318)
UNEQUNFAIR × HighWage	4.066 (6.050)
UNEQDISCR × HighWage	13.307** (5.790)
HighWage	2.291 (4.352)
Controls	Yes
Prob >F	0.000
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.008
N	1075

Restriction 1

$$\text{UNEQFAIR} \times \text{HighWage} = 0$$

$$\text{UNEQUNFAIR} \times \text{HighWage} = \text{UNEQFAIR} \times \text{HighWage}$$

$$\text{UNEQDISCR} \times \text{HighWage} = \text{UNEQUNFAIR} \times \text{HighWage}$$

Wald Test (two-sided p-value) = 0.073

Note: EQLOW serves as baseline. Standard errors are in parentheses. Two-sided p-values: \* $p < 0.10$ , \*\* $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .



Table: P-values of Tests of Inequalities in Labor Supply between Payment Schemes, for Men and Women

Predicted Inequality Technique BH Correction	Low-Wage Workers				High-Wage Workers				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
	Tobit No	Dunn No	Tobit Yes	Dunn Yes	Tobit No	Dunn No	Tobit Yes	Dunn Yes	
Men									
EQ <sub>LOW</sub> (HIGH) > UNEQ <sub>FAIR</sub>	<b>0.016</b>	<b>0.002</b>	<b>0.049</b>	<b>0.006</b>	0.783	0.818	0.783	0.818	
UNEQ <sub>FAIR</sub> > UNEQ <sub>UNFAIR</sub>	0.716	0.920	0.716	0.920	0.508	0.248	0.762	0.372	
UNEQ <sub>UNFAIR</sub> > UNEQ <sub>DISCR</sub>	0.398	0.238	0.598	0.358	0.123	<b>0.063</b>	0.369	0.190	
N	268	271	268	271	270	270	270	270	
Women									
EQ <sub>LOW</sub> (HIGH) > UNEQ <sub>FAIR</sub>	0.732	0.767	0.732	0.767	0.206	0.104	0.619	0.311	
UNEQ <sub>FAIR</sub> > UNEQ <sub>UNFAIR</sub>	0.305	0.751	0.457	1.000	0.517	0.801	0.775	1.000	
UNEQ <sub>UNFAIR</sub> > UNEQ <sub>DISCR</sub>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.003</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>0.009</b>	0.981	0.994	0.981	0.994	
N	265	268	265	268	272	273	272	273	

Note: One-sided p-values are presented, in the direction predicted. BH corrections account for multiple hypothesis testing.

Table: Tobit Regression of Labor Supply on Payment Schemes, for Men and Women

	Low-Wage Workers			High-Wage Workers		
	Men	Women	Men & Women	Men	Women	Men & Women
Scheme	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
UNEQFAIR	-12.788** (5.950)	3.919 (6.311)	-12.682** (5.909)	4.947 (6.307)	-5.478 (6.674)	3.238 (6.351)
UNEQUNFAIR	-9.366* (5.585)	0.715 (5.938)	-8.896 (5.669)	5.069 (6.368)	-5.213 (6.347)	3.342 (6.273)
UNEQDISCR	-10.802* (5.952)	-15.378*** (5.561)	-11.092* (5.831)	-1.698 (5.640)	7.046 (6.390)	-3.679 (5.649)
UNEQFAIR × Woman			17.242** (8.605)			-8.769 (9.269)
UNEQUNFAIR × Woman			9.878 (8.163)			-9.287 (8.848)
UNEQDISCR × Woman			-5.021 (7.966)			10.430 (8.533)
Woman			-5.400 (6.212)			5.317 (6.854)
Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prob >F	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.045	0.000	0.003
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.014	0.019	0.013	0.013	0.010	0.010
N	268	265	542	270	272	542

Note: EQLOW(HIGH) serves as baseline. Standard errors are indicated in parentheses. Two-sided p-values: \* $p < 0.10$ , \*\* $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .

# Extensive and Intensive Margins

Margins

Table: P-Values of Six Predicted Differences in Labor Supply between Payment Schemes for Low-Wage Workers, Hurdle Model

Predicted Inequality BH Correction	Margin	Extensive		Intensive	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		No	Yes	No	Yes
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQFAIR		0.228	0.285	<b>0.044</b>	<b>0.087</b>
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQUNFAIR		0.208	0.312	0.168	0.210
EQLOW(HIGH) > UNEQDISCR		<b>0.003</b>	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.035</b>
UNEQFAIR > UNEQUNFAIR		0.501	0.501	0.787	0.787
UNEQFAIR > UNEQDISCR		<b>0.039</b>	<b>0.078</b>	0.138	0.206
UNEQUNFAIR > UNEQDISCR		<b>0.026</b>	<b>0.079</b>	<b>0.029</b>	<b>0.086</b>
	<i>N</i>	533	533	533	533

Note: One-sided p-values are presented, in the direction predicted. BH corrections account for multiple hypothesis testing.

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

J Stacy Adams. Inequity in social exchange. In Leonard Berkowitz, editor, *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, volume 2, pages 267–299. Academic Press, New York and London, 1965.

George A Akerlof and Janet L Yellen. The fair wage-effort hypothesis and unemployment. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 105(2): 255–283, 1990.

Joseph G Altonji and Rebecca M Blank. Race and gender in the labor market. In Orley C Ashenfelter and David Card, editors, *Handbook of Labor Economics*, volume 3c, chapter 48, pages 3143–3259. North Holland, Amsterdam, 1999.

Antonio A Arechar, Simon Gächter, and Lucas Molleman. Conducting interactive experiments online. *Experimental Economics*, 21(1):99–131, 2018.

Yoav Benjamini and Yosef Hochberg. Controlling the false discovery rate: a practical and powerful approach to multiple testing. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B (Methodological)*, pages 289–300, 1995.

Marianne Bertrand and Esther Duflo. Field experiments on discrimination. In Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee, editors, *Handbook of Economic Field Experiments*, volume 1, chapter 8, pages 309–393. North Holland, Amsterdam, 2017.

Marianne Bertrand, Claudia Goldin, and Lawrence F Katz. Dynamics of the gender gap for young professionals in the financial and corporate sectors. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2(3):228–255, 2010.

Truman Bewley. *Why Don't Wages Fall in a Recession*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1999.

Francine D Blau and Lawrence M Kahn. The gender wage gap: extent, trends, and explanations. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55(3):789–865, 2017.

Gary E Bolton, Jordi Brandts, and Axel Ockenfels. Fair procedures: Evidence from games involving lotteries. *Economic Journal*, 115(506):1054–1076, 2005.

Pedro Bordalo, Katherine Coffman, Nicola Gennaioli, and Andrei Shleifer. Stereotypes. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131(4): 1753–1794, 2016.

Anat Bracha, Uri Gneezy, and George Loewenstein. Relative pay and labor supply. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 33(2):297–315, 2015.

Emily Breza, Supreet Kaur, and Yogita Shamdasani. The morale effects of pay inequality. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(2): 611–663, 2018.

J Michelle Brock, Andreas Lange, and Erkut Y Ozbay. Dictating the risk: Experimental evidence on giving in risky environments. *American Economic Review*, 103(1):415–37, 2013.

Alexander W Cappelen, James Konow, Erik Ø Sørensen, and Bertil Tungodden. Just luck: An experimental study of risk-taking and fairness. *American Economic Review*, 103(4):1398–1413, 2013.

David Card, Alexandre Mas, Enrico Moretti, and Emmanuel Saez. Inequality at work: the effect of peer salaries on job satisfaction. *American Economic Review*, 102(6):2981–3003, 2012.

Elena Cettolin and Arno Riedl. Justice under uncertainty. *Management Science*, 63(11):3739–3759, 2016.

Jonathan De Quidt, Johannes Haushofer, and Christopher Roth. Measuring and bounding experimenter demand. *American Economic Review*, 108(11):3266–3302, 2018.

- Peter A Diamond. Cardinal welfare, individualistic ethics, and interpersonal comparison of utility: comment. *Journal of Political Economy*, 75(5):765, 1967.
- Arindrajit Dube, Laura Giuliano, and Jonathan Leonard. Fairness and frictions: the impact of unequal raises on quit behavior. *American Economic Review*, 109(2):620–63, 2019.
- Larry G Epstein and Uzi Segal. Quadratic social welfare functions. *Journal of Political Economy*, 100(4):691–712, 1992.
- Ernst Fehr and Klaus M Schmidt. A theory of fairness, competition, and cooperation. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114(3): 817–868, 1999.
- Dylan Glover, Amanda Pallais, and William Pariente. Discrimination as a self-fulfilling prophecy: evidence from french grocery stores. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(3):1219–1260, 2017.
- Claudia Goldin. A grand gender convergence: its last chapter. *American Economic Review*, 104(4):1091–1119, 2014.
- Claudia Goldin and Cecilia Rouse. Orchestrating impartiality: the impact of “blind” auditions on female musicians. *American Economic Review*, 90(4):715–741, 2000.

Motivation

Literature

Methodology

Framework

Hypotheses

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

References

Peter J Hammond. Ex-ante and ex-post welfare optimality under uncertainty. *Economica*, 48(191):235–250, 1981.

John J Horton, David G Rand, and Richard J Zeckhauser. The online laboratory: conducting experiments in a real labor market. *Experimental Economics*, 14(3):399–425, 2011.

Edi Karni and Zvi Safra. Individual sense of justice: a utility representation. *Econometrica*, 70(1):263–284, 2002.

Michał Krawczyk and Fabrice Le Lec. 'Give me a chance!' An experiment in social decision under risk. *Experimental Economics*, 13(4):500–511, 2010.

Roger B Myerson. Utilitarianism, egalitarianism, and the timing effect in social choice problems. *Econometrica*, 49(4):883–897, 1981.

Amanda Pallais. Inefficient hiring in entry-level labor markets. *American Economic Review*, 104(11):3565–99, 2014.

Amanda Pallais and Emily Glassberg Sands. Why the referential treatment? Evidence from field experiments on referrals. *Journal of Political Economy*, 124(6):1793–1828, 2016.



Christopher A Parsons, Johan Sulaeman, Michael C Yates, and Daniel S Hamermesh. Strike three: discrimination, incentives, and evaluation. *American Economic Review*, 101(4):1410–35, 2011.

Elizabeth A Pascoe and Laura Smart Richman. Perceived discrimination and health: a meta-analytic review. *Psychological Bulletin*, 135(4):531, 2009.

Jeffrey Pfeffer and Nancy Langton. The effect of wage dispersion on satisfaction, productivity, and working collaboratively: evidence from college and university faculty. *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 38(3):382–407, 1993.

Kota Saito. Social preferences under risk: Equality of opportunity versus equality of outcome. *American Economic Review*, 103(7):3084–3101, 2013.

Heather Sarsons. Gender differences in recognition for group work. *Working Paper*, 2019.

Erik Snowberg and Leeat Yariv. Testing the waters: Behavior across participant pools. *NBER Working Paper (24781)*, 2018.

Stefan T Trautmann. A tractable model of process fairness under risk. *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 30(5):803–813, 2009.

- Motivation
- Literature
- Methodology
- Framework
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- References

Matthew Wiswall and Basit Zafar. Preference for the workplace, investment in human capital, and gender. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(1):457–507, 2017.