

Case-Based Seminar 2

Next Friday (Sept. 29th) is the second case-based seminar. Since you will not have a Stata assignment in the same week for this seminar, the expectations are somewhat higher. This time, you will be reading two papers both using the "difference-in-differences" time series approach.

The first paper is "Minimum Wages and Employment: A Case Study of the Fast-Food Industry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania," which is a classic paper by David Card and Alan Krueger published in the *American Economic Review* (1993).

The second paper is "Mortality Risk and Human Capital Investment: The Impact of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa," written by Jane Fortson and published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics* (2011).

The format will be similar to the first case-based seminar. For each paper, you should be able to analyze:

1. Any tables in the paper.
2. What is the subject of the paper? What is the research question?
3. What is the sample population that is used to answer the research question?
4. What is the basis for *identification* (i.e. why does the author argue they are able to estimate a causal effect?)
5. What are the threats to validity of the identification strategy and how does the author address these threats?

Finally, you will be expected to explain what you think are the strengths and weakness (or potential concerns) about the empirical strategy that is employed.

Students are encouraged to prepare for the seminar within their assignment groups. However, all students are expected to prepare for and attend the case-based seminar unless they have a valid excuse that is agreed upon with the seminar teacher (Andrew) beforehand. Any students that fail to attend will receive a grade of 0 for this seminar. Similarly, students must attend their assigned seminar unless they receive approval from Andrew beforehand.