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The Causal Effects of School Bullying Victimization as an Adolescent on Later Life Outcomes

Abstract

We use a large and rich cohort of recent English adolescents to analyse the long-term effects of having been bullied in junior high school. The data contains self-reports of five types of bullying behaviour, including the intensity of bullying, for three waves of the data covering the period up to the minimum school leaving age. Using a variety of estimation strategies - least squares, matching, inverse probability weighting and instrumental variable - we analyse a number of outcomes including educational achievement obtained from matching administrative data, and earnings at age 25. We test for selection on unobservables and

importantly the data contains independent cross-reports of each bullying type from the main parent, which we exploit to resolve endogeneity arising from unobservables and from measurement error in the self-reports. Since we have many bullying treatments derived from within year intensity, repetition across years, and different types of bullying, we also conduct factor analysis to exploit this richness of the data in a practical way. The pattern of results strongly suggests there are important long run effects on victims - stronger than correlation analysis would otherwise suggest.

Thursday 4th October
from 1pm to 2pm
Campus Luigi Einaudi

Seminar room n. 36
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