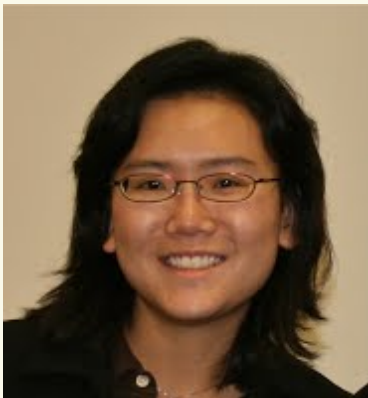


CFPR Lunchtime Seminar Series 2017

The Mommy Effect: The Impact of Parenthood on Employment and Gender-Role Attitudes

In many models of human capital investment, occupational choice and dynamic labor supply and savings, individuals are typically assumed to take into account expectations of future labor force attachment. Perhaps the most salient constraint on labor force attachment is motherhood. We find evidence that women do not fully anticipate the effect of motherhood. In an event-time framework using panel data from the UK, we replicate the large, negative effects of motherhood on labor supply but also show that the birth of a first child makes women significantly more conservative on questions relating to gender roles (e.g., “family life suffers if mother works”). The effect exhibits little to no pre-trend and shows no evidence of fadeout, suggesting that the effects of motherhood on gender-related attitudes are unexpected and long-lasting. While women in the UK are generally accurate at predicting whether they will work the following year, once they have children they systematically over-estimate the probability they will continue to work. Using repeated cross-sectional data from the US, we show that female high school seniors have been increasingly under-estimating the probability they will be home-makers by age thirty.



by **A/P Jessica Pan**

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PhD, University of Chicago

Jessica Pan is an Associate Professor of Economics at the National University of Singapore. Jessica's research focuses on applied topics in labor economics and the economics of education. Her current projects examine gender differences in labor market and educational outcomes; international migration and the labor market effects on source and host countries; and topics in labor economics such as discrimination, marriage markets, and the returns to education. Her work has been published in several leading peer-reviewed journals, including the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, the *Journal of Labor Economics*, and the *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. She received a Bachelor's in economics from the University of Chicago, followed by an MBA and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.

Chaired by: Prof Jean Yeung Wei-Jun, Director of CFPR

Date: 25 August 2017, Friday | Time: 12.00nn - 1.30pm

All are Welcome! Refreshments will be served. Registration is required.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yb3ggmm5> by 24 August 2017