Bechdel at the Box Office: Gender Inequality and Cinema Success in 58 Countries

We here establish a link between various country-level measures of gender inequality and the relative success (as measured by Box Office Receipts) of films across different countries. We establish the “gender-equality” of each film using the Bechdel test (which is passed for films with at least two named women in, who talk to each other about something other than a man). In most countries we find that films that pass the Bechdel test have significantly higher box-office receipts (controlling for the film budget). The cinema success of gender-equal films is correlated with a number of established measures of gender equality, establishing a link between reported attitudes and multiple-item lists, on the one hand, and revealed preference in each country as measured by the choice of different types of films.

Immigration and Government Spending in OECD Countries

This paper evaluates the fiscal effect of international migration. It first estimates a structural Vector Autoregressive model on a panel of 19 OECD countries over the period 1980-2015, in order to quantify the impact of a migration shock. Empirical results suggest that international migration had a positive impact on the economic and fiscal performance of OECD countries. It then proposes an original theoretical framework that highlights the importance of both the demographic structure and the intergenerational public transfers. Hence, OECD countries seems to have benefit ted from a "demographic dividend" of international migration since 1980.

About the first presenter

Andrew Clark holds a PhD from the London School of Economics. He is currently a CNRS Research Professor at the Paris School of Economics (PSE), and previously held posts at Dartmouth, Essex, CEPREMAP, DELTA, the OECD and the University of Orléans. His work has largely focussed on the interface between psychology, sociology and economics; in particular, using job and life satisfaction scores, and other psychological indices, as proxy measures of utility, and thus to help us to understand the structure of individual preferences and therefore of behaviour. In addition to his Paris position, he is research associate at the London School of Economics, IZA (Bonn) and the University of Kent. He is on the Editorial Board of eight journals, and has acted as referee for almost 200 different journals in Economics, Sociology, Psychology and Statistics.

About the second presenter

Hippolyte d’Albis is senior researcher at CNRS and professor at the Paris School of Economics. He is specialized in Demographic Economics, and more precisely on population ageing, generational economics and migration issues. He is the director of the French team of the National Transfers Accounts project and serves as an associate editor at the Journal of the Economics of Ageing, the Journal of Demographic Economics and Public Finance Review. He has completed his Ph.D. studies in Economics at the University of Paris I in 2003 and then has been recruited as an Assistant Professor at the University of Toulouse I, and as a Professor at the University of Montpellier I and at the University of Paris I. Between 2015 and 2017, he was deputy director for science at the National Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities of the National Centre for Scientific Research.