The Shadow Pandemic:
COVID-19 and Violence against Adolescent Girls in LMICs

Sarah Baird (George Washington University) and Manisha Shah (UCLA)

Covid-19 has rapidly disrupted the lives of individuals across the globe. While the direct health effects are largely concentrated among the elderly, the virus will almost certainly have multi-dimensional effects on young people's well-being in both the short- and long-term. Of particular concern is the 'The Shadow Pandemic' of increased violence against women and girls. The gendered impact of crises is well-documented with increased burden of care-work, disruptions in access to sexual and reproductive health services and increases in domestic violence for women and girls (Smith, 2019; Peterman et al. 2020; Wenham et al. 2020). For adolescent girls in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) this increased risk of violence is particularly acute due to already existing poverty and gender based inequalities, as well as decreased access to existing social-safety nets including school-based resources. These short-term increases in violence are likely to persist with disruptions in education increasing both pressure to marry early and unintended pregnancies, both with long-term consequences for the well-being of the adolescent (Bandeira et al. 2019; Evans 2020).

The impact of Covid-19 on gender-based violence (GBV) will vary depending on the marital status of the adolescent girl. For married girls, intimate partner violence is likely to increase, due to both increased stress in the household as well as stay at home orders that isolate women with their abuser (Buller et al. 2016; UNWOMEN 2020). For non-married girls, school disruptions may expedite marriages, with stay at home orders increasing violence from caregivers in the household, and poverty increasing reliance on risky behaviors such as transactional sex (Boudreau, Rifkin and Baird 2020). Specific populations may also be particularly vulnerable such as adolescent refugee populations in crowded camp settings.

This proposed analysis, through the use of a rapid phone survey[1] combined with ongoing panel data collection, will provide timely evidence on the near-term impacts of COVID-19 on experience of violence by adolescent girls and its consequences across three diverse countries—Bangladesh, Jordan and Ethiopia—as well as across distinct contexts within each country (urban vs. rural; refugee vs. non-refugee). Specifically, we propose to answer the following four research questions: (1) Has the COVID-19 pandemic increased violence experienced by adolescent girls in LMICs? (ii) If so, by how much and what are the underlying mechanisms for this increase in violence? (iii) Does the data indicate the potential for long-run impacts on other domains (e.g. early marriage, not returning to school, etc.)? (iv) Are there important heterogeneities to consider based on marital status, age, and/or location? This analysis will add to the relative dearth of research on the impacts of health crises on adolescents' exposure to violence in LMICs. Importantly we already have recently collected baseline data on all these adolescents so we will be able to look at changes due to COVID-19. In addition, future (already funded) data collection will allow us to build on this work to explore the longer-term impacts through 2024 including planned in person data collection in all countries in 2021. Note that all data is required to be publicly archived in the UK data archive.

[1] We currently have funding for one round of rapid phone surveys, but are actively applying to grants for a second to better capture the dynamics of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Measurement

One important question is how to ethically measure violence in a phone survey, particularly given the vulnerability of our sample population. In addition to following suggested best practices, we propose to get at violence indirectly, as we do not feel we can guarantee privacy with direct questions on a phone survey given the vulnerability, and often cramped living situation of our respondents. First, we have developed vignettes (targeted to married and non-married girls) on the challenges faced by 'adolescent girls like you' to different dimensions of violence: psychological, physical and sexual, and ask specifically about increases in these challenges due to Covid-19. Second, we ask questions about how the adolescent and her household are coping with the pandemic, which includes questions related to increased exposure to violence. We can then combine these indirect measures with direct measures collected as part of the panel data, direct measures that we will collect again in 2021 when we return to the field—a time when we can also ask retrospective questions about direct exposure to violence during the pandemic, acting as a further validation to the vignettes. This violence data will be complemented with data on marriage, mental health, food security, access to safety nets, etc. to allow us to unpack mechanisms of interest, and potential for long-run harm. Note that rigorous qualitative data will be collected in parallel with a sub-sample of the quantitative sample, and can be used to provide further context to the quantitative findings.

Sample

Baird is currently the quantitative lead of the Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE)[2] research program in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Jordan. Fieldwork has been ongoing since 2017. A phone survey to understand the impact of COVID-19 on young people is scheduled for May/June 2020 in Bangladesh, Jordan and Ethiopia. The sample—and timing of surveys to date—is summarized in detail below. We are requesting funding through this NBER call to add an additional vignette on violence to the phone survey and for subsequent analysis and dissemination.

Bangladesh: The sample comprises over 5,280 adolescents and young adults from three distinct contexts within Bangladesh: adolescents living in three low-income neighborhoods around Dhaka (Duaripara, Mohammadpur, Tongi); Bangladeshi and Rohingya adolescents living in host communities and refugee camps in Cox's Bazar; and in-school adolescents in grades 7 and 8 in Chittagong and Sylhet Divisions. These adolescents were last interviewed in 2018, 2019 or 2020 (depending on the sample) and were aged between 10-17 at last survey.

Ethiopia: The GAGE urban sample in Ethiopia—which will be the focus of our phone survey – comprises over 2,300 adolescent girls and boys in Debre Tabor (South Gondar Zone), Batu (East Shewa Zone) and Dire Dawa City Administration. The sample consists of in-school and out-of-

[2] GAGE is a 9-year DFID-funded longitudinal research programme exploring the wellbeing of 20,000 adolescents across the course of adolescence (10-19 years) in six LMICs including Ethiopia, hosted by the Overseas Development Institute in London, and with research partners in each focal country. For more details see www.gage.odi.org.

school, married and unmarried adolescents, migrants and IDPs, as well as a sub-sample of young people with disabilities. These adolescents were initially surveyed between October 2017 and March 2018 when they were aged 10-12 and 15-17. A second round of data collection took place between October 2019 and March 2020.

Jordan: The GAGE sample comprises over 4,000 adolescents and young adults from five governorates in Jordan: Amman, Irbid, Mafraq, Zarqa, and Jerash in camps, host communities and ITS (informal tented settlements). The sample consists of both UNICEF's Makani program participants and non-participants and UNICEF's Hajati cash transfer program participants and non-participants, and includes vulnerable Jordanians and refugee populations (Syrian and Palestinian), including a subsample of adolescents with disabilities and married girls. These adolescents were initially surveyed between October 2018 and March 2019 when they were aged 10-12 and 15-17.

As part of the GAGE longitudinal data collection activities, we collected detailed contact information, including multiple phone number contacts that can be used to facilitate the phone survey. We estimate that we should be able to reach at least *80% of our sample* by phone, according to the most recent round of data collection conducted.

Analysis

Our primary analysis approach will be two-fold. First, for variables that we have over multiple time periods, we will exploit the panel nature of the dataset and utilize regression analysis to analyze changes in the outcomes of interest over 2017-2020, looking both at broader changes over time and then the specific impact of COVID-19. For the variables that are unique to the rapid virtual survey, we will analyze these in the cross section, paying particular attention to heterogeneity in our sample (marital status, age, location). Due to our rich baseline information on households from previous rounds of data collection, we will also be able to explore heterogeneity across baseline exposure to violence, as well as other measures of baseline vulnerability. Our detailed information on potential mechanisms from food insecurity to stress to limited voice and agency (largely in panel form) will be explored through mechanism analysis.

Significance and Conclusion

Thirty percent of ever-partnered 15-24 year-olds report experiencing intimate partner violence in the last 12 months, and the lifetime prevalence ranges from 19 to 66 percent depending on the country (Stöckl et al, 2014). Given the alarmingly high prevalence of gender-based violence faced by adolescents and young women, and its expected increase due to Covid-19, it is crucial we begin to understand the causes and consequences of violence in order to develop and advance interventions and policies to reduce this experience of violence. Funding this research will push this endeavor forward as we are working in three distinct countries where prevalence of gender-based violence is high, and importantly, we are doing this work in partnership with government, NGOs, and international agencies who are all interested in improving the plight of adolescent females.

Budget:

Total Requested: $20,000

1. $10,000 to add the vignettes to the survey. Survey costs are approximately $20 for a 60-minute survey. Vignettes add about 3 minutes to the survey, so $1 per survey additional cost.
2. 8,000 for Research Assistant to help with data analysis and writing up the results. The proposed RA is also an expert in gender based violence measures and processes.
3. $2,000 for Manisha Shah and Sarah Baird travel to conference to present findings. This would cover travel, conference registration, and hotel.

Department of Global Health
Milken Institute School of Public Health
George Washington University
950 New Hampshire Ave, NW, 409
Washington, DC 20052
Tel: 202-994-0270
Email: sbaird@gwu.edu

Sarah J. Baird

EMPLOYMENT

2015-Present	Associate Professor of Global Health and Economics and Vice Chair, Department of Global Health, George Washington University.
2019-Present	Non-Resident Fellow, Center for Global Development.
2009-2015	Assistant Professor of Global Health and Economics, Department of Global Health, George Washington University.
2013-2014	Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics/Preventive and Social Medicine, University of Otago.
2007-2009	Postdoctoral Scholar, School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, University of California at San Diego.

EDUCATION

PhD University of California at Berkeley. Agricultural & Resource Economics, 2007.
MS University of California at Berkeley. Agricultural & Resource Economics, 2002.
BA Claremont McKenna College. Economics, Environmental Science, & Politics, 2001.

PRIMARY RESEARCH FIELDS

Development Economics, Program Design and Evaluation, Applied Microeconomics, Health Economics

FORTHCOMING AND PUBLISHED PAPERS (SELECTION)

Kramon, E., Baird, S., Hicks, J., and Miguel, E. (forthcoming). "Deepening or Diminishing Ethnic Divides: The Impact of Urban Migration in Kenya." *American Journal of Political Science.*

Baird, S., *Ö*zler, B., Dell'Aira, C., and Us Salam, D. (2020). "Using Group Interpersonal Psychotherapy to Improve the Well-Being of Adolescent Girls" *Journal of Development Economics*, Registered Report Phase 1.

Baird, S., Hamory Hicks, J., Ozier, O. (2020). "Randomized control trial as social observatory: A case study." *World Development*, Vol. 127, 104787.

Baird, S., McIntosh, C., and *Ö*zler, B. (2019) "When the Money Runs Out: Do Cash Transfers Have Sustained Effects?" *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol. 140, pp. 169-185.

Baird, S., Bhutta, Z., Abu Hamad, B., Hamory Hicks, J., Jones, N., Muz, J. (2019) "Do Restrictive Gender Attitudes and Norms Influence Physical and Mental Health during Very Young Adolescence? Evidence from Bangladesh and Ethiopia." *Social Science and Medicine: Population Health*, Vol. 9, 100480.

Brauner-Otto, S., Baird, S., Ghimire, D. (2019). "Maternal employment and child health in Nepal: The importance of job type and timing across the child's first five years." *Social Science and Medicine*, Vol. 224, pp. 94-105.

Baird, S., Bohren, A., McIntosh, C., and *Ö*zler, B. (2018). "Optimal Design of Experiments in the

Presence of Interference." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 100 (5), pp. 844-860.

Baird, S., McKenzie, D., and Özler, B. (2018). "The Effects of Cash Transfers on Adult Labor Market Outcomes." *IZA Journal of Migration and Development*, Vol. 8 (1), pp. 1-20.

Baird, S., Hamory-Hicks, J., Kremer, M., and Miguel, E. (2016) "Worms at Work: Long Run Impacts of a Child Health Investment." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 131 (4), pp.1637-1680.

Ahuja, A., Baird, S., Hamory Hicks, J., Kremer, M., Miguel, E., and Powers, S. (2015), "When Should Governments Subsidize Health? The Case of Mass Deworming," *World Bank Economic Review*, Vol. 29 (suppl 1), pp. S9-S24.

Baird, S., de Hoop, J. and Özler, B. (2013) "Income Shocks and Adolescent Mental Health," *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 48(2), pp. 370-403.

Baird, S., Garfein, R., McIntosh, C., and Özler, B. (2012), "Effect of a cash transfer programme for schooling on prevalence of HIV and herpes simplex type 2 in Malawi: a cluster randomised trial," *The Lancet*, Vol. 379(9823), pp. 1320-1329.

Baird, S. and Özler, B. (2012), "Examining the Reliability of Self-Reported Data on School Participation," *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol. 98(1), pp. 89-93.

Baird, S., McIntosh, C., and Özler, B. (2011), "Cash or Condition: Evidence from a Randomized Cash Transfer Program" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 126(4), pp. 1709-1753.

POPULAR PRESS (SELECTION)

Ideas for India, "Cash transfers and adult labour outcomes in developing countries," December 7, 2018.

VoxDev, "Cash transfers and adult labor market outcomes in developing countries: Why does the Econ 101 labor-leisure trade-off model lead us astray?," October 19, 2018.

Quartz, "The transformative power of giving young women cash," June 21, 2018.

Innovations for Poverty Action, "Encouraging mixed methods in impact evaluations on women's empowerment: An economist's perspective," September 25, 2017.

The Guardian, "Cash transfers help Punjabi girls stay in school," September 14, 2016.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES (SELECTION)

Baird, S., Ahner-Mchaffie, T, and Özler, B. (2019). "Can Interventions to Increase Schooling and Incomes Reduce HIV incidence among Young Women in sub-Saharan Africa?" In R.A. Crosby and R.J. DiClemente (editors), *Structural Interventions for HIV Prevention: Optimizing Strategies for Reducing New Infections and Improving Care*, Oxford University Press. pp. 31-104

Ahuja, A., Baird, S., Hamory Hicks, J., Kremer, M., and Miguel, E. (2017). "Economics of Mass Deworming Programs." In D. A. P. Bundy, N. de Silva, S. Horton, D. T. Jamison, and G. C. Patton (editors). *Disease Control Priorities (third edition): Volume 8, Child and Adolescent Health and Development*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Baird, S. and Özler, B. (2016) "Transactional Sex in Malawi," in S. Cunningham and M. Shah (editors), *Handbook of the Economics of Prostitution*, Oxford University Press. pp. 165-187.

Baird, S., Chirwa, E., de Hoop, J., and Özler, B. (2016) "Girl Power: Cash Transfers and Adolescent Welfare. Evidence from a Cluster-Randomized Experiment in Malawi," in S. Edwards, S. Johnson, D. Weil (editors), *African Successes, Volume II: Human Capital*, University of Chicago Press. pp.

139-164.

Baird, S. and Özler, B. (2015) "Conditional Cash Transfers: Influence on Marriage and Fertility," in James D. Wright (editor in chief), *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2nd Edition, vol4.* Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 555-559

Baird, S., Beegle, K., and Friedman, J. (2012) "Economic Crisis and Adolescent Mental Health," in M. Lundberg and A. Wuermli (editors), *Children and Youth in Crisis: Protecting and Promoting Human Development in Times of Economic Shocks*, World Bank.

Baird, S., Beegle, K., and Friedman, J. (2012) "Shocks, Health and Nutrition during Early Childhood," in M. Lundberg and A. Wuermli (editors), *Children and Youth in Crisis: Protecting and Promoting Human Development in Times of Economic Shocks*, World Bank.

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Gender-norms, violence and adolescence: Exploring how gender norms are associated with experiences of childhood violence among young adolescents in Ethiopia." with Maureen Murphy, Workneh Yadete, and Nicola Jones.

"Building Businesses among the Vulnerable: Experimental Evidence from Tanzania." with Craig McIntosh, and Berk Özler.

"Worms and Wellbeing: 15 Year Economics Impacts from Kenya." with Joan Hamory Hicks, Michael Kremer and Edward Miguel.

"Determinants of Infant Survival: Revisiting the Role of Maternal Education," with Jed Friedman and Ellen Umapathi.

"Can Agricultural Technology Diffusion be Harnessed to Reduce Malnutrition? Experimental Evidence from Uganda," with Dan Gilligan and Scott McNiven.

FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS (SELECTION)

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Connecting young parents to PPFP through diverse platforms, (Total GWU $1,250,615) 2019-2024 (PI)

Cash Transfers for Child Health (CaTCH) Initiative (J-PAL South Asia at IFMR), (Total Award $44,614), 2018-2019, (co-PI)

Wellspring Advisors LLC, Incorporating Mental Health Programming into Adolescent Empowerment Programming, (Total Award $752,117), 2016-2021 (co-PI)

National Institute of Health R01, Experimental Evidence on the Long-run and Intergenerational Impacts of Human Capital Investments in Kenya (Total GWU Award: $138,333), 2016-2021 (co-investigator).

National Institute of Health R03, Female Labor Force Participation and Child Outcomes (Total GWU Award: $32,340), 2016-2018 (co-investigator).

Department for International Development (DfID), Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE) (Total Award: £26.4 million) 2015-2024, (Quantitative Lead).

PERSONAL INFORMATION

New Zealand Citizen, US Permanent Resident

Department of Public Policy
Los Angeles, CA 90095
O: (310) 825-2455
F: (310) 206-0337

E-mail: ManishaShah@ucla.edu
http://luskin.ucla.edu/manisha-shah/

Manisha Shah
University of California, Los Angeles

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

UCLA

Professor, Department of Public Policy	2018–
Vice-Chair, Department of Public Policy	2017–
Director, The Global Lab for Research in Action	2019–
Associate Professor, Department of Public Policy	2014–2018
Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy	2013–2014
UC Irvine, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics	2009–2012
Princeton, Visiting Assistant Professor, Center for Health & Wellbeing	2010–2011
University of Melbourne, Lecturer (Assistant Professor), Department of Economics	2006–2009

OTHER ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Editor, *Journal of Health Economics*	2018–
Faculty Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)	2014–
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)	2011–2014
Faculty Affiliate, Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)	2018–
Faculty Affiliate, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)	2017–
Faculty Chair in Health, Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)	2014–
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)	2009–
Faculty Affiliate, California Center for Population Research (CCPR)	2013–
Member, Center for HIV Identification, Prevention & Treatment Services (CHIPTS)	2013–
Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)	2008–

EDUCATION

UC BERKELEY

Ph.D. Agricultural & Resource Economics	2006
M.S. Agricultural & Resource Economics	2003
B.A. Economics and Development Studies	1995

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

M.Sc. Development Studies	1997

PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS

"Workfare and Human Capital Investment: Evidence from India," with B. Steinberg, NBER Working Paper 21543, September 2015. accepted *Journal of Human Resources*.

"The Right to Education Act: Trends in Enrollment, Test Scores, and School Quality," with B. Steinberg, *AEA Papers and Proceedings*. May 2019, 109: 232-38.

"Scaling Up Sanitation: Evidence from an RCT in Indonesia," with L. Cameron and S. Olivia, *Journal of Development Economics*. May 2019, 138:1-16.

"Decriminalizing Prostitution: Implications for Sexual Violence and Public Health," with S. Cunningham, *The Review of Economic Studies*. July 2018, 85(3):1683–1715.

"Drought of Opportunities: Contemporaneous and Long Term Impacts of Rainfall Shocks on Human Capital," with B. Steinberg, *Journal of Political Economy*. April 2017, 125(2):527–561.

"Risk-Taking Behavior in the Wake of Natural Disasters," with L. Cameron, *Journal of Human Resources*. Spring 2015, 50(2): 484-515.

"Can Mistargeting Destroy Social Capital and Stimulate Crime? Evidence from a Cash Transfer Program in Indonesia," with L. Cameron, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. January 2014, 62(2): 381–415.

"Intra-household Resource Allocation: Do Parents Reduce or Reinforce Child Ability Gaps?" with P. Frijters, D. Johnston, and M. Shields, *Demography*. December 2013, 50:6.

"Do Sex Workers Respond to Disease? Evidence from the Male Market for Sex," *American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings*, 2013, 103(3): 445–50.

"Compensated for Life: Sex Work and Disease Risk in Ecuador," with R. Arunachalam, *Journal of Human Resources.* Spring 2013, 48: 345–369.

"Handedness, Health and Cognitive Development: Evidence from Children in the NLSY" with D. Johnston, M. Nicholls, and M. Shields, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A (Statistics in Society).* 2013, 176: 841-860.

"Face Value: Information and Signaling in an Illegal Market" with T. Logan, *Southern Economic Journal.* 2013, 79(3): 529–564.

"The Prostitute's Allure: The Return to Beauty in Commercial Sex Work," with R. Arunachalam, *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy.* 2012, Contributions, 12:1.

"Sex Work and Infection: What's Law Enforcement Got to Do With it?" with P. Gertler, *Journal of Law and Economics.* 2011, 54.

"To Work or Not to Work? Child Development and Maternal Labor Supply," with P. Frijters, D. Johnston, and M. Shields, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics.* 2009, 1(3): 97–110.

"Nature's Experiment? Handedness and Early Childhood Development," with D. Johnston, M. Nicholls, and M. Shields, *Demography,* 2009, 46(2): 281–302.

"Prostitutes *and* Brides?" with R. Arunachalam, *American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings,* 2008, 98(2): 516–522.

"Risky Business: The Market for Unprotected Commercial Sex," with P. Gertler and S. Bertozzi, *Journal of Political Economy,* 2005, University of Chicago Press, 113(3): 518–550.

WORKING PAPERS

"Aggregate Effects from Public Works: Evidence from India," with J. Cook, 2020. reject and resubmit, *The Review of Economics and Statistics*

"Crimes against Morality: Unintended Consequences of Criminalizing Sex Work," with L. Cameron and J. Muz, 2020. revise and resubmit, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*

"Brain vs. Brawn: Child Labor, Human Capital Investment, and the Role of Dynamic Complementarities" with N. Bau, M. Rotemberg, and B. Steinberg, 2020.

"Including Males: Including Males: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for Female Adolescents" with J. Muz, 2020.

"How Does Health Promotion Work? Evidence From The Dirty Business of Eliminating Open Defecation," with P. Gertler, M. Alzua, L. Cameron, S. Martinez, and S. Patil, NBER Working Paper 20997, March 2015.

HANDBOOKS, CHAPTERS, AND BOOK REVIEWS

The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Prostitution. Scott Cunningham and Manisha Shah, editors, Oxford University Press, 2016.

"Sex Work and Risky Sex in Developing Countries," In: Anthony J. Culyer (editor), *Encyclopedia of Health Economics*, Vol 3. San Diego: Elsevier; 2014. pp. 311-315.

"Sex Work," with V. Rao, In *The New Oxford Companion to Economics in India* (Kaushik Basu and Annemie Maertens, editors), Delhi: Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2012.

"Risky Business: The Market for Unprotected Commercial Sex," with P. Gertler and S. Bertozzi, In *The Economics of Health Behaviours* (J.H. Cawley and D.S. Kenkel, editors) Elgar Publishers, 2008.

Review of "Sex Workers of India: Diversity in Practice of Prostitution and Ways of Life, by Moni Nag." *Economic Development and Cultural Change,* 2008, 57: 200.

Review of "Making Sex Work: A Failed Experiment With Legalised Prostitution, by Mary Lucille Sullivan." *Feminist Economics,* 2008, 14(4): 216–218.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH (SINCE 2010)

IST Research and Global Fund, Estimating Prevalence of Human Trafficking ($175,000)

National Science Foundation Grant #1658852 ($362,625), Investing in Human Capital Production: Evidence from India, co-PI with B. Steinberg. 2017–20.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation with Pathfinder ($350,000) Reducing Provider Bias in Adolescent Contraceptive Use, co-PI with W. Dow. 2017–19.

World Bank Gender Innovation Lab ($150,000) Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health Outcomes for Adolescents in Tanzania, PI Shah, 2016–17.

William & Flora Hewlett Foundation ($350,000) Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health Outcomes for Adolescents in Tanzania, PI Shah, 2015–17.

IGC Grant ($75,000) Marriage Institutions and Human Capital Investments: Experimental Evidence from Pakistan, co-PI with A. Mahajan and L. Bursztyn, 2015–16.

CCPR Small Seed Grant ($9400) Time, Risk and Social Preferences after the Cambodian Genocide, co-PI with A. Lleras Muney and P. Heuveline, 2014–15

JPAL-SEA Indonesia RCT Fund ($57,498) Promoting Public Health through Savings for Sex Workers, co-PI with L. Cameron, 2013–14.

Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Grant ($265,718) Combating HIV/AIDS in Indonesia: Understanding the Behavior of Sex Workers and their Clients, co-PI with L. Cameron, 2011–14.

Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Grant ($394,000) Community–Led Sanitation Interventions: The Role of Social Capital, co-PI with L. Cameron, 2009–11.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation/World Bank: Impact Evaluation of Total Sanitation & Sanitation Marketing in Indonesia, 2007–12.

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS (SINCE 2010)

Professor of the Year, Department of Public Policy, UCLA 2018.

Quartz Media award for best economics research for paper "Decriminalizing Prostitution: Implications for Sexual Violence and Public Health," 2017

Excellence in Refereeing Award, The World Bank Economic Review, 2017

Dean's Teaching Award for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Teaching, University of Melbourne, 2008.