ABIGAIL R. BARKER

Personal Information

Home Address 29 Plant Avenue Webster Groves, MO 63119

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Major Fields of Concentration

Applied Microeconomics, Econometrics, Labor Economics, Public Economics

Education

Degree	Field	Institution	Year
Ph.D.	Economics	University of Minnesota	2004
M.A.	Economics	University of Minnesota	1998
B.A.	Economics	Pomona College	1994

Dissertation

Title: "Is there a Culture of Poverty? An Analysis of the Formation of Preferences for Work and Welfare"

Abstract: This paper investigates the possibility that the attitudes of children toward work and the welfare system are influenced directly by their parents' behavior, in addition to heredity. Few statistically significant behavioral effects are found – and those that are have a small magnitude with no impact on aggregate simulation results – suggesting that heredity of attitudes is the only real link. Therefore, expensive welfare reform measures that tie receipt of benefit to work or training performed will not have any offsetting reduction in expenditure over the course of future generations. The model is a structural model of multiple generations, with estimation by maximum likelihood. The estimated model is used to provide policy recommendations based upon cost/benefit comparison under various poverty alleviation measures. The most effective of these is found to be government-aided reduction in individual fixed costs, e.g. childcare or transportation. Another statistically significant variable may be interpreted as a neighborhood effect, suggesting that the norms in the area make a difference, although parental choices do not.

Dissertation Advisor: Professor Michael P. Keane

Honors and Awards

Spring 1997	Distinguished Instructor Award, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota.
Winter 1996	Distinguished Instructor Award, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota.
1995 - 1996	Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota.
1994 - 1995	Graduate School Fellowship.
May 1994	Graduated cum laude from Pomona College.

Research Experience

2016 -	Center Manager for Data and Methods, Institute of Public Health, Washington University.
2012 - 2016	Statistical Analyst III, working for the Rural Policy Research Institute's Center for Rural Health Policy
	Analysis.
2011 - 2012	Statistical Analyst II, working for the Rural Policy Research Institute's Center for Rural Health Policy
	Analysis.
2008 - 2010	Sloan Foundation grant co-recipient, with Sharon G. Levin.
1997 – 1998	Research Assistant for Michael P. Keane, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota.

Telephone and E-mail Contacts Home: (314) 961-3186 Work: (314) 935-3513 E-mail: arbarker@wustl.edu **Barker, A.R.**, Huntzberry, K.A., McBride, T.D., and Mueller, K.J. "Changing Rural and Urban Enrollment in State Medicaid Programs." January 2017. http://cph.ujowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2017/Changing%20Rural%20and%20Urban%20Enrollment%20in%20St

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McBride, T.D., **Barker, A.R.**, Kemper, L.M., Mueller, K.J. "Health Insurance Marketplaces in 2016: Premiums, Deductibles, Out-of-Pocket Costs, and the Role of Competition." Poster session presented at: Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, June 25-28, 2016; Boston, MA.

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Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., Wheeler, A.R. "Health Insurance Marketplaces: Early Findings on Changes in Plan Availability and Premiums in Rural Places, 2015-2016" Poster session presented at: 2016 Institute for Public Health Annual Conference, November 29, 2015; St. Louis, MO.

Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., Mueller, K.M. "Rural Enrollment in Health Insurance Marketplaces, by State." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, October 2015. <u>http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2015/Rural Enrollment in HIM.pdf</u>

Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., Mueller, K.M. "Rural Enrollment in Health Insurance Marketplaces." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, July 2015. <u>http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2015/FFM</u> Enrollment Brief.pdf

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Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., Mueller, K.M. "Geographic Variation in Premiums in Health Insurance Marketplaces." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, August 2014. <u>http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2014/Geographic Variation in Premiums in Health Insurance Marketplaces.pdf</u> Kemper, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, McBride, T.D., Mueller, K.M. "2014: Rural Medicare Advantage Enrollment Update." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, January 2015. <u>http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2014/2014 MA update.pdf</u>

Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., Mueller, K.M. "A Guide to Understanding the Variation in Premiums in Rural Health Insurance Marketplaces." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, May 2014. http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2014/Rural HIM.pdf

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Kemper, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, McBride, T.D., Mueller, K.M. "June 2012: Rural Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Premium Update." RUPRI Center for Health Policy Analysis, February 2013. http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2014/2012 MA Enrollment.pdf

Kemper, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, Ullrich, F., Pollack, L.M., McBride, T.D., Mueller, K.J. "Stand-Alone Prescription Drug Plans Dominated the Rural Market in 2011." RUPRI Policy Paper No. P2012-2, September 2012. http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policypapers/Part D Stand-Alone FINAL.pdf

McBride, T.D., **Barker, A.R.**, Kemper, L.M., Pollack, L.M., Mueller, K.J.. "Federal Employees Health Program Experiences Lack of Competition in Some Areas, Raising Cost Concerns for Exchange Plans." *Health Affairs*, vol.31, no.6, June 2012, pp1321-8.

McBride, T.D., Kemper, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, Delcau, R.. "A Geographic Analysis of FEHBP and Private Insurance by Network." Poster session presented at: Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, June 24-26, 2012; Orlando, FL.

McBride, T.D., **Barker, A.R.**, Kemper, L.M., and Delcau, R.: "A Geographic Analysis of Insurance Markets by Network Presence." Poster session presented at: Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, June 24-26, 2012; Orlando, FL.

Barker, A.R., McBride, T.D., and Kemper, L.M.. "The Impact of Uninsured Spell Transitions and Durations on Pent-Up Demand for Medical Care." Poster session presented at: 4th Biennial Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, June 10-13, 2012; Minneapolis, MN.

Kemper, L.M., Pollack, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, McBride, T.D., Mueller, K.J.. "March 2012: Rural Medicare Advantage Enrollment Update." Brief No. 2012-3, May 2012, <u>http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policybriefs/2012/March%202012%20one-pager.pdf</u>

Kemper, L.M., Pollack, L.M., **Barker, A.R.**, McBride, T.D., Mueller, K.J.. "Rural Medicare Advantage 2011: Enrollment Trends and Plan Characteristics." RUPRI Policy Paper No. P2011-9, October 2011. http://cph.uiowa.edu/rupri/publications/policypapers/NOV.MA%20Overview%20October%202011%20FINAL.pdf

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Barker, A.R., and Levin, S.G. "Leaving Science and Engineering Careers in the U.S. Workforce: A Comparison of Career Paths of U.S. and Foreign Scientists," Proceedings of the Midwest Economic Association Meetings, 2010; Chicago, IL.

Research Skills

- A strong background in econometrics/statistics, including discrete choice models, hierarchical/mixed models, cost effectiveness, and coding and estimating microsimulation models
- Additional technical skills such as coding in SAS, Stata, FORTRAN, and Matlab, and creating data visualizations using Tableau
- Strong written and oral communication skills, and in particular the ability to distill and condense technical information for a non-technical audience, as demonstrated through consistently high teaching evaluations as well as a large body of policy briefs

Teaching Experience

- 2009 2015 Adjunct Instructor, G.W. Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, teaching "Economics of Social Welfare," in the MSW program.
- 2006 2011 Adjunct Instructor of Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, Introduction to American Economy, and Intermediate Microeconomic Theory at the University of Missouri St. Louis.