

PRACHI SHUKLA

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EDUCATION

Duke University

2022-Present

PhD Public Policy (Economics), Sanford School of Public Policy

MA Economics, Department of Economics (awarded at graduation)

Committee: Lisa Gennetian (Chair), Marcos Rangel, Erica Field, Sarah Komisarow

London School of Economics and Political Science

2017-18

MSc in Development Studies (Applied Development Economics)

St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

2014-17

BA Economics and Sociology (Minor: Statistics)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Alcohol Access and Household Welfare: Evidence from India's Highway Liquor Ban

This paper studies India's 2017 highway liquor ban, which prohibited liquor outlets within a fixed distance of national and state highways. I construct treatment intensity using spatial data and combine it with monthly household expenditure data and health outcomes. I find that more exposed households reduce liquor purchases and alcohol expenditure share after the ban, with no corresponding change in total expenditure or total income. I also find significant declines in spending on other temptation goods, including tobacco and snack foods. Despite these reductions in alcohol spending and a significant increase in female labour force participation, reported intimate partner violence increases, particularly among poorer and rural households.

Primary School Expansion and Girls' Life Trajectories: Long-Run Evidence from India

I study the long-run impacts of India's District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)—the world's largest school expansion initiative launched in the 1990s. Using a district-by-cohort difference-in-differences design, I estimate both direct and indirect effects on educational attainment, marriage, fertility, and social connections. I find substantial and persistent gains in schooling among girls, as well as delayed marriage, lower fertility, and stronger natal family linkages.

Impact of Inheritance Laws on Marriage Markets and Education Investment in India

I study the effects of amendments to the Hindu Succession Act that granted women equal inheritance rights to ancestral property. Using a difference-in-differences approach that exploits staggered state-level reforms and legal exclusions for minorities, I find that families respond through compensatory investments: girls with brothers receive more schooling and lower dowries, while boys without sisters gain both in education and marriage market premiums.

De Jure Policy Design and De Facto Implementation of Cash Assistance Programs: Evidence of Differential Receipt among Latino Families

With Lisa Gennetian, Marcos Rangel, Dana Thomson, Christina Padilla, Luis Basurto.

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=675759

Heterogeneous Receipt of Social Assistance Programs Among Families with Low Income in the U.S.: The Role of State Policy Design

With Lisa Gennetian, Marcos Rangel, Dana Thomson, Luis Basurto, Haocheng Yong.

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=712130

NGOs in India - where they work and what they do

With Sanjana Kadyan and Sai Pitre.

PAPERS

Shukla, P., & Srivastava, P. (2021). *The crisis behind closed doors: Domestic workers' struggles during the pandemic and beyond.* Economic & Political Weekly.

PRESENTING

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meeting 2024

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting 2024, 2025

TEACHING & MENTORING

TA: Empirical Methods for Social Progress (Prof Lisa Gennetian, Spring'26)

TA: PUBPOL810 Microeconomics and Public Policy-Making (Dr Matthew Johnson, Fall'25)

TA: Math Camp (Economics and Mathematics) for incoming Masters in Public Policy (Fall'25)

Head TA: PUBPOL303 Microeconomic Policy Tools (Prof Lisa Gennetian, Spring'24)

Mentor for Economics Mentoring Program (joint Duke, Harvard, MIT, and Stanford)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

von der Heyden Global Fellowship - \$59,281

APPAM Equity & Inclusion Fellowship 2025 - value over \$1,000

Summer Research Fellowship for Research on Women and Girls of Color (2025) - \$10,000

Duke India Initiative Graduate Student Grant (2024) - \$2,000

Sanford Research and Travel Small Grant (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025) - \$1,000 each

AWARDS

Royal Society of Arts

Nominated and accepted as a Fellow (2020)

St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

First rank in Economics, Sociology and Statistics (2017)

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

World Bank

Consultant, Development Impact Evaluation

May 2021 - July 2022

New Delhi & Mumbai, India

Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Research Associate to Dr Erin Kelley

April 2019 - April 2021

Mumbai, India

Save the Children International

Award (Grant) Management Intern

July 2018 - January 2019

London, UK

Reserve Bank of India

Intern, International Department's G20 Division

July 2017 - September 2017

Mumbai, India

NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission of India)

Intern to the CEO, Mr Amitabh Kant

June 2017 - July 2017

Mumbai, India

K.C. Mahindra Education Trust

Intern

May 2016

Mumbai, India

Teach for India

Volunteer Teaching Assistant

August 2014 - March 2015

Mumbai, India

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

R, Stata, SurveyCTO, L^AT_EX