

# Ylva Moberg

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Applied microeconometrics, Labor Economics, Family Economics and the Economics of Gender.

## CURRENT POSITION

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Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Uppsala University 2011– present  
Affiliations: Uppsala Center for Labor Studies (UCLS) and Uppsala Center for Fiscal Studies (UCFS).

## EDUCATION

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Ph.Lic. Economics, Uppsala University	2014
M.Sc. Economics, Lund University	2011
Intermediate level courses in Statistics, Lund University	2010
B.Sc. Political Science & Economics, Lund University	2005 – 2008

## REFERENCES

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### **Professor Eva Mörk (supervisor)**

Department of Economics  
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### **Associate professor Anna Sjögren**

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## **JOB MARKET PAPER**

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*“Speedy responses: Effects of higher benefits on take-up and division of parental leave”*

The length of parental leave entitlements is known to affect take-up rates, division of parental leave between parents and the mother's decision to return to work. So far however the importance of the level of benefit has received little attention in the literature. Using population wide register data I exploit the “speed premium” rule in the Swedish parental leave system as a source of random variation in the benefit level. A fuzzy RD strategy is used to estimate the causal effect of a change in the level of benefits per day on the utilization of parental leave among Swedish parents. The results suggest that parents’ take-up of benefits is highly sensitive to the benefit level. A 1% (5 SEK  $\approx$  0.54\$) increase in the mother's benefit level is found to increase her length of leave by about 1% (2.6 days). This translates into an elasticity of take-up duration (length of spell) with respect to the benefit level of 1, a parameter that has not been estimated before. The fathers respond to the increase in mothers’ take-up by reducing their time on leave by an almost equivalent number of days (2 days). In other words, the change in benefit level affects not only the individual’s take-up, but the division of parental leave between parents.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

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*“Does the gender composition in couples matter for the division of labor after childbirth?”* IFAU (2016:8).

In this paper I compare the effect of entering parenthood on the spousal income gaps in lesbian and heterosexual couples using Swedish population wide register data. Comparing couples with similar pre-childbirth income gaps, a difference-in-differences strategy is used to estimate the impact of the gender composition of the couple on the spousal income gap after childbirth. The results indicate that the gender composition of the couple does matter for the division of labor after having children. Five years after childbirth the income gap is smaller in lesbian than in heterosexual couples also when comparing couples with the same pre-parenthood income gap. Heterosexual couples’ division of labor seems to be influenced by traditional gender norms, regardless of their pre-childbirth income gap. In lesbian couples the partners’ relative earnings before parenthood and a principle about fairness may be more important, as well as the partners’ preferences for giving birth as the birth giving partner typically spends more time on parental leave.

*“The Anatomy of the Extensive Margin Labor Supply Response”* (with Håkan Selin and Spencer Bastani), Uppsala University, Department of Economics (2016:11).

No previous quasi-experimental paper has systematically examined the relationship between the extensive margin labor supply response to taxation and the employment level. We model the labor force participation margin and estimate participation responses for married women in Sweden using population-wide administrative data and a solid identification strategy. The participation elasticity is more than twice as large in the lowest-skill sample (with relatively low employment) as compared with the highest-skill sample (with high employment). Our analysis suggests that cross- and within country comparisons of participation elasticities always should be made with reference to the relevant employment level.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

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*“Biology or social norms: Why do mothers take more parental leave?”*

The skewed division of parental responsibilities during a child's infancy is sometimes assumed to be a "natural" consequence of the mother giving birth to the child. In this paper I investigate to what extent the tendency to let the mother be the main caregiver of an infant can be explained by the fact that she is the one to be pregnant, not the father. I use the division of parental leave as a proxy for division of parental responsibilities, and compare the behavior of biological parents (where the mother gave birth) to adoptive parents (where she did not) in Swedish populations wide register data. Results suggest that adoptive parents, both mothers and fathers, spend less time on parental leave than biological parents but that the mother's share of leave is almost the same.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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2016: ASSA Conference (San Francisco), IFAU, UCLS annual meeting, UCFS workshop.  
2015: CWF Conference (Malmö), Stockholm-Uppsala Doctoral Students Workshop in Economics (Uppsala), Department of Economics at Uppsala University, UCLS Doctoral Workshop.  
2014: The Swedish National Conference in Economics (Umeå), EEA Conference (Toulouse), Nordic Summer Institute in Labour Economics (Helsinki), Work-Family Research Conference (Stockholm), UCLS Doctoral Workshop (Uppsala).  
2013: IIPF Conference (Taormina), Department of Economics at Uppsala University.

## **TEACHING & PEDAGOGICAL COURSES**

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Guest lecturer, Microeconomics (intermediate level), Uppsala University.	2014 – 2016
Academic Teacher Training Course, Uppsala University (5 weeks).	2013
Teaching Assistant, Principles of Micro- and Macroeconomics (basic level), Uppsala University.	2012 – 2013
Teaching Assistant, Basic course in Statistics (basic level), Lund University.	2010 – 2011

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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At the Department of Economics, Uppsala University:

Member of the Equality Committee	2013 – 2016
Member of the PhD Student Association Board	2013 – 2015
Organizer, Brown Bag Seminar series	2013 – 2014
Mentor in the PhD student Mentorship Program	2013 – 2014

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

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2.5 year stipend from the Wallander-Hedelius-Browaldh Foundation (Handelsbanken)	2014 – 2017
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## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

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STATA, LaTeX, SAS, SPSS, EViews, R.

## **LANGUAGES**

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Swedish (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic).

Last updated: April 2017