

CARMEN VILLA

Revised November 18, 2024

carmen.villa-llera@warwick.ac.uk

<https://www.carmenvilla.net>

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics , University of Warwick (UK)	2019 - 2025
Enrichment scholar at Institute for Fiscal Studies	2024
Fulbright Visiting Scholar at University of Chicago, hosts Jeff Grogger and James Heckman	2023
MRes in Economics , <i>Distinction</i> , University of Warwick (UK)	2019 - 2025
MA in European Law and Economic Analysis , College of Europe (Belgium)	2015 - 2016
BA International Business & Economics , University Pompeu Fabra (Spain)	2011 - 2015
Exchange student at City University of Hong Kong	

JOB MARKET PAPER

The Effects of Youth Clubs on Education and Crime

Youth clubs are community-based after-school programmes, typically offered free of charge to teenagers in underprivileged neighbourhoods. I provide the first causal estimates of their effects on education and crime, leveraging quasi-experimental variation from austerity-related cuts, which led to the closure of 30% of youth clubs in London between 2010 and 2019. I use difference-in-differences research designs and novel data to compare neighbourhoods affected by closures with those unaffected. Teenagers in areas affected performed nearly 4% worse in national high-school exams. Youths aged 10 to 17 became 14% more likely to commit crimes. Youth clubs provide key support in a lasting manner, particularly to teenagers from low-income backgrounds. The effects are due to youth clubs offering unique amenities that support positive behaviours rather than mere incapacitation. Closing youth clubs was not cost-effective; for every £1 saved from closures, there are associated losses of nearly £3 due to forgone returns to education and crime costs.

REFERENCES

Prof. Manuel Bagues University of Warwick manuel.bagues@warwick.ac.uk	Prof. Mirko Draca University of Warwick mirko.draca@warwick.ac.uk	Prof. Jeff Grogger University of Chicago jgrogger@uchicago.edu	Prof. Marta Santamaria University of Warwick marta.santamaria@warwick.ac.uk
--	--	---	---

PUBLICATIONS

Specialized Courts and the Reporting of Intimate Partner Violence: Evidence from Spain

(with J. Garcia-Hombrados and M. Martinez-Matute) - Journal of Public Economics (2024)

WORKING PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

Gangs of London: Bombs, Public Housing and Crime

(with R. Disney, S. Machin and T. Kirchmaier)

Minimum Legal Drinking Age and Educational Outcomes

(with M. Bagues)

Money for nothing? Short- and long-run effects of paying disadvantaged teenagers in full-time education

(with J. Britton, N. Ridpath, and B. Waltmann)

PRESENTATIONS IN ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2025 (*scheduled*): University of Birmingham, Virtual Crime Economics (ViCE), University of Copenhagen, IZA - Institute of Labor Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- 2024: RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics (University of Duisburg-Essen), IFS/UCL/IOE Human Capital & Labour Seminar, IFS Work In Progress (internal), Essex PhD Conference, AL CAPONE 2024 (Harvard), UEA (Aalborg University), 8th Workshop on the Economics of Organized Crime (Collegio Carlo Alberto), PhD Conference on Income and Wealth Inequality (UCL), 13th Workshop on the Economics of Risky Behavior, EEA (Erasmus University Rotterdam), EALE (NHH), University of Leicester, Université Paris-Saclay, Southern Economic Association
- 2023: Universities @ the Met, Center for Spatial Analysis (UChicago), Oviedo Economic Seminars, Harris School of Public Policy (UChicago - internal), Urban Labs (UChicago), RES PhD Conference (University of Glasgow), Center for the Economics of Human Development (UChicago), PSE-CEPR Policy Forum, Understanding Society Scientific Conference (University of Essex), Meeting of Young Economists (Collegio Carlo Alberto), Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime (University of Michigan), RUSH Graduate Student Brownbag, SAEe (University of Salamanca)
- 2019 - 2022: RES Annual Conference, Policing and Crime Workshop (LSE), CSEW Conference (ONS), Applied Young Economists Webinar, CEP Annual Conference, Royal-Holloway & Queen Mary Workshop on the Political Economy of Violence, Summer School on Economics of Crime over Time and Space, CAGE-AMES Workshop (Warwick - internal)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

<i>Selected for the EALE Tour</i>	2025
<i>British Spanish Society Scholarship</i>	2024
<i>Runner up for Best Paper Award at the RES PhD Conference</i>	2023
<i>Fulbright All Disciplines Award (\$25,000)</i>	2023
<i>Fundacion Ramon Areces PhD student grant to SAE</i>	2023
<i>Open Philanthropy sponsorship to NBER Innovation Bootcamp</i>	2022
<i>Warwick Outstanding Tutor Award</i>	2022
<i>Banco Santander Full Scholarship to the College of Europe (€25,000)</i>	2016
<i>Banco Santander PYMES Scholarship</i>	2014
<i>Merit scholarship from Fundación Desarrollo en Zonas del Carbón (€5,000)</i>	2011

TEACHING

Imperial College London	2020 - 2022
Online Economics Tutor - Managerial Economics (GMBA, WMBA)	
University of Warwick	2021 - 2022
Senior Teaching Assistant - Industrial Economics (Undergraduate)	
The London School of Economics & Political Science	2017 - 2019
Graduate Teaching Assistant - Industrial Economics (Undergraduate)	

REFeree

Journal of Development Effectiveness

POLICY WORK

Police Home Visits to High-Incidence Offenders: Evidence from London, 2023
(with G. Barnes and A. Murray)

Comparing Misconduct Hearings Chaired by Chief Officers and Legally Qualified Chairs, 2023
with L. Sherman, G. Barnes and M. Roner | [Cambridge Journal of Evidence-Based Policing N.7](#)

Covid-19 and changing crime trends in England and Wales, 2020 - updated in 2022
with T. Kirchmaier and S. Agrawal | [CEP Covid Analysis N.13](#) | [CEP Covid Analysis N.27](#)

Cities still matter: the impact of Covid-19 on regional structure, 2021
with M. Draca and M. Nathan | [CAGE Research Centre](#)

From mutual need to growing rift, 2019
with L. Cornago and J. Padilla | [Policy Network](#)

An economic analysis of liability of hosting services online, 2017
with J. Hornik | [Bruges European Economic Research, N.37](#)

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Metropolitan Police Service, (London, UK) 2022 - present
Lead Research Analyst (*contractor*)

University of Warwick, (Coventry, UK) 2020 - 2021
Research Assistant to Prof. Mirko Draca

The London School of Economics & Political Science, (London, UK) 2017 - 2022
Research Assistant to Prof. Tom Kirchmaier

Boston Consulting Group, (London, UK) 2016
Associate Researcher

OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer European Young Economist Meeting (2024), Reviewer Warwick PhD conference (2022-2024), Panelist in "Quality in Academic Research" seminars (UniOvi) (2023), Panelist in RES Discover Economics (2022), Statistics Manager (volunteer) to Global Drug Survey (2019-2020)

SKILLS

STATA (advanced), GIS (intermediate), L^AT_EX (advanced), R (familiar), Python (beginner)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native), English (TOEFL 116), French (DALF C1), Catalan (intermediate), Italian (beginner)

OTHER PERSONAL DETAILS

Nationality: Spanish

Born: 17/08/1993