

# Catharina Behrens

## EDUCATION

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- PRESENT    PhD Economics, **Berlin School of Economics**  
*Humboldt University of Berlin*
- 2020 - 2022    MPhil Economics, **University of Oxford**  
*Distinction*  
*Master's Thesis: Exploring Substitutability and Labour Market Impacts of the 2015 Influx of Asylum Seekers in Germany | Abstract included below | Thesis Mark: Distinction*
- 2017 - 2020    BSc Economics (Hons), **University of Warwick**  
*1st Class with overall average of 77.5%*  
*Bachelor's Thesis: To what extent do abduction experiences impact individual-level economic outcomes? | Abstract included below | Thesis Mark: 78%*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 2018 - 2022    Private tutor covering Mathematics, Economics and Physics  
*Lanterna Education*
- JUN-AUG 2019    Internship at the Government Economic Service  
*Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, London*

## VOLUNTARY EXPERIENCE

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- 2017 - 2020    Advanced First Aider with St John's Ambulance

## SKILLS

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Languages: GERMAN (Native), ENGLISH (Native), FRENCH (Intermediate), DANISH (Basic)

Software: STATA,  $\LaTeX$ , MATLAB, R

## BACHELOR'S THESIS ABSTRACT

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This paper builds on previous work by Blattman and Annan (2010) that investigates the impact of child abduction in Northern Uganda, perpetrated by the LRA, on abductees. An extension to this initial research is brought by employing a quantile regression method in combination with a Heckman correction, in order to identify where in the population of the selected individual-level economic outcome variables abduction effects are taking place. Additionally, the abduction treatment effect is broken down into four further treatment effects quantifying violent acts witnessed, experienced, perpetrated and received in an attempt to produce results more generalisable to other contexts. It is found that negative effects on years of education from witnessing violence are concentrated in upper quantiles. Similarly, negative effects on monthly wages from experiencing violence and negative effects on days worked in the past month as a result of receiving violence are both concentrated in the upper quantiles of the distribution. Overall, these findings point to a need to develop policy responses that concentrate on ensuring the continued development of high earners and the more educated within the community, while maintaining a balance of supporting all of those affected by violence.

## MASTER'S THESIS ABSTRACT

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This thesis explores the labour market impacts of the 2015 Refugee Crisis on German labour markets. To do so, I take a national skill cell approach and calculate the elasticity of substitution between native Germans and migrants, instead of assuming perfect substitutability between migrants and natives in education-experience cells. Using this methodology, I am able to shed light on how elasticity between different migrant groups and natives varies. I consider the substitutability between native Germans and migrants, native Germans and pre-2015 and post-2015 migrants, and finally native Germans and pre-2015 migrants without a forced migration background and post-2015 migrants with a forced migration background. Across the board I find that migrants

are more substitutable with other migrants than natives, and that when explicitly defined as having a forced migration background (implying they are refugees) post-2015 migrants are the group least substitutable with native Germans. I also consider how migrant share within an education-experience cell impacted German labour market outcomes, and find negative impacts overall, with the negative effect on hours as an outcome variable being far greater than the negative effect on wages. This reflects the labour market rigidity characteristic of Germany. When explicitly taking into account the impacts of migrant share in a cell pre and post-2015, I find that post-2015 the previously negative impacts are largely counteracted, potentially implying that in the period following 2015, negative labour market impacts of migration were no longer concentrated on native Germans and their labour market outcomes, but on other migrants which would be in line with my substitutability results.