

**“The Career Decisions of Juvenile Offenders: Incarceration and Desistance from Crime” (Job Market Paper)**

This paper provides structural estimates of a dynamic model of criminal participation, work, and schooling, based on 7 years of observations on a sample of juvenile offenders from Maricopa County (Phoenix) and Philadelphia County (Philadelphia). I find that an extended human capital model that accounts for the effects of incarceration does a good job of fitting the observed data on school attendance, work, and criminal participation.

My results indicate that criminal capital accumulates faster than human capital, which reduces the deterrent effects of detention, education, and employment. I discuss the consequences of school and wage subsidies on employment and criminal engagement, and find that, depending on the age of the intervention, both policies can generate long-run crime reduction.