

ECON 460: Women, Work, and the World Economy

Reading Guide:

“Safety First: Perceived Risk of Street Harassment and Educational Choices of Women”

Read the abstract and the introduction carefully first. After reading the introduction, you should be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is the big-picture question this paper is exploring, and why is it important?
2. How will they seek to explore that question? What is their lever?
3. What is the context of their research? What time(s) and place(s) are they studying?
4. What is their empirical approach?
5. What are their main findings?

Now read the rest of the paper. You can skim Sections V and VI on the estimation of the model. After reading the article, you should be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is the University of Delhi, and why does it make sense to study the tradeoffs women make between safety and educational quality in that context?
2. What are the main sources of data used in the paper?
3. How does the University of Delhi decide which students are admitted? How does that allow the author to construct each students' choice set?
4. What does the descriptive evidence suggest about men's willingness to sacrifice school quality to avoid an unsafe commute? What about women?
5. Why are these findings important?