Exercise Session to Labor Economics Katrin Sommerfeld Summer term 2011

Paper Discussion No. 2

M. Caliendo, K. Wrohlich (2010) Evaluating the German 'Mini-Job' reform using an natural experiment. Applied Economics, 42, pp. 2475-2489.

General Overview

1.) What is the paper about? Why is the topic of interest?

2.) What are the main conclusions?

Detailed Questions

3.) What is the goal of the reform? How does the regulation change under the reform?

4.) How is the reform designed in order to achieve positive labor supply effects? For whom could there be negative labor supply effects?

5.) Illustrate the incentives for taking up a mini-job graphically in a static labor supply model.

6.) Explain the fundamental evaluation problem.

7.) How is the fundamental evaluation problem addressed here? Consider: Who is in the Treatment group? Who is in the Control group?

8.) Explain the regression equation shown in equation no. (4). Why is it necessary to control for covariates?

9.) Explain the estimation results shown in

- table 3.
- table 4.
- table 5.

Discussion

10.) What are workfare policies?

11.) As a policy maker, how would you design a labor market reform in order to increase the labor supply of individuals with low earnings potential?