Curriculum Vitae – Fall 2021

Family name: Melo
Given name: Caíque
Gender: Male
Date of birth: 20/03/1994
Citizenship: Brazilian
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Qualifications

2020-present Bocconi University, Italy
  Ph.D. in Social and Political Science

2017-2019 Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil
  M.Sc. in Economics

2011-2016 Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil
  B.Sc. in Economics

Awards and Scholarships

2021-2025 Bocconi University - Ph.D. student full fellowship
2017-2019 CNPQ - Brazilian Ministry of Education - Master's student fellowship
2014 CAPES (MEC) - Undergraduate teaching assistant of Macroeconomics
2013 CAPES (MEC) - Undergraduate teaching assistant of Microeconomics

Research Interests

Political Economy, Development Economics, Economics of Education, Migration.

Working papers

"Are Educated Candidates Less Corrupt Bureaucrats? Evidence from Randomized Audits in Brazil", with Robson Tigre (2021). R&R at Economic Development and Cultural Change.

ABSTRACT: In this paper, we test whether more educated candidates make into less corrupt public managers. Leveraging on electoral RDD and on a randomized inspection program, we show that college-degree candidates commit 19% fewer infringements than their less-educated peers. Exploiting data on judicial records, we show that this effect does not stem from differences in corrupt behavior and might be explained by differences in managerial skills. In addition, more educated mayors have the same chance of re-running and of being reelected as their less-educated peers. Taking advantage of administrative labor records, our examination of possible mechanisms shows that educated candidates have more previous experience in the public sector and in high-skill positions, confirming our hypothesis. Finally, we show that there is no differential in the provision of public goods between these two groups.

Work in Progress

"The Kids Aren't Alright: Parental Job Loss and Children's Education in Brazil", with Diogo Britto and Breno Sampaio (2021)

ABSTRACT: We study the impacts of parental job loss and unemployment benefits on children's school outcomes in Brazil, using individual-level data on employment, school enrollment and social insurance for the entire population. Leveraging mass layoffs for identification, we find that parental job loss has a substantial negative impact on children's education. Specifically, job loss increases the probability that children move to lower quality schools and raises dropout rates by 3 percentage points for children 13-16 years old. Using survey data, we show that the children 14-17 years old are more likely to informally work following parental job loss, indicating that income is a relevant mechanism. Using a clean regression discontinuity design, we find that access to unemployment benefits mitigates the adverse impact of parental job loss on children's outcomes.

Work Experience

Ministry of Justice of Brazil, 2020
Research Assistant, Departamento Penitenciário Nacional (DEPEN).

Ministry of Culture of Brazil 2019 - 2020
Data Scientist Consultant, Centro de Artes e Esportes Unificados (CEUS) Report.

Public and Economic Policy Evaluation Group (Gappe) 2018 - Ongoing
Research Fellow. Graduate Program in Economics, UFPE.

Research Assistant 2020 - 2021
Profs. Breno Sampaio (UFPE), Marco Gonzalez-Navarro (UC Berkeley), Dimitri Szerman (University of Mannheim), and Vítor Pereira (PUC-Rio)

Research Assistant 2019 - 2021
Profs. Breno Sampaio (UFPE) and Sonia Bhalotra (University of Essex)

Language Skills

Portuguese: Mother tongue
English: C1 (TOEFL: 98)

IT Skills

Stata: Advanced
R: Basic
Python: Basic
LaTeX: Advanced