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**MIT PLACEMENT OFFICER**

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**MIT PLACEMENT ADMINISTRATOR**

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**DOCTORAL STUDIES:**     Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)  
PhD, Economics, Expected completion June 2008  
DISSERTATION: "Essays on the Youth and Entry Level Labor Markets"

**DISSERTATION COMMITTEE AND REFERENCES**

Professor David Autor MIT Department of Economics 50 Memorial Drive, E52-371 Cambridge, MA 02142-1347 617-258-7698 <a href="mailto:dautor@mit.edu">dautor@mit.edu</a>	Professor Joshua Angrist MIT Department of Economics 50 Memorial Drive, E52-353 Cambridge, MA 02142-1347 617-253-8909 <a href="mailto:angrist@mit.edu">angrist@mit.edu</a>
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**PRIOR EDUCATION**     B.S., with Honors     Industrial and Labor Relations     Cornell University, School of Industrial and Labor Relations     2003

**CITIZENSHIP**     United States     **GENDER:** MALE     **DATE OF BIRTH**     04/29/81

**RESEARCH & TEACHING FIELDS**     Primary Fields: Labor Economics  
Secondary Fields: Public Finance

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**     Microeconomic Theory and Public Policy (undergraduate, MIT course 14.03), Teaching Assistant to Professor Panle Jia     Fall 2006  
Public Finance and Public Policy (undergraduate, MIT course 14.41), Teaching Assistant to Professor Jonathan Gruber     Fall 2006, Fall 2005  
Labor Economics and Public Policy (undergraduate, MIT course 14.64), Teaching Assistant to Professor Joshua Angrist     Spring 2006

**RELEVANT POSITIONS**     Research Assistant to Professor Joshua Angrist     2004, 2005  
Research Assistant to Professor David Autor     2006

**FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS** MIT Undergraduate Economics Association Teaching Award, 2006  
 Goodwin Medal nominee (University-wide teaching award), 2006  
 MIT Presidential Fellow (2003-2005)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES** Referee for *Journal of Development Economics*

**PUBLICATIONS:** **“International Experience with Worker-side and Employer-side Wage and Employment Subsidies, and Job Search Assistance Programmes: Implications for South Africa.”** *Human Sciences Research Council, Employment Growth and Development Initiative, South Africa.* November 2006.

**“Why Do School District Budget Referenda Fail?”** *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, Summer 2004 (with R.G. Ehrenberg, R.A. Ehrenberg, and Liang Zhang).

**“Analyzing the Success of Student Transitions from 2-to-4 Year Institutions Within a State,”** *Economics of Education Review*, February 2004 (with Ronald G. Ehrenberg).

**“The Sources and Uses of Annual Giving at Selective Private Research Universities and Liberal Arts Colleges,”** *Economics of Education Review*, June 2003 (with Ronald G. Ehrenberg).

**RESEARCH PAPERS:** **“ ‘Dude, Where’s My Job?’ The Impact of Immigration on the Youth Labor Market”** (Job Market Paper)

Most immigrant research finds limited effects of immigration on native labor market outcomes, but these studies limit their analyses to the adult native population. This paper finds that the youth labor market is more responsive to immigration and establishes low-skilled immigration growth as an important cause of declining teen employment rates since the mid-1990s. Using variation in immigrant share across metropolitan areas between 1980 and 2000, I show that the impact of immigration on youth employment participation is at least twice as large as the impact on adults, and that immigration affects school enrollment decisions as well as the type of jobs that native youth hold. These effects are strongest for youth most at risk of dropping out of school. My primary estimates suggest that a 10 percentage point increase in the low-skilled immigrant share of a city reduces the teen employment rate by 5 percentage points, implying that half of the fall in teen employment over the last 10 years can be explained by low-skilled immigrant growth.

**RESEARCH IN PROGRESS: “Human Capital Implications of High School Exit Exams and Graduation Requirements”**

Over the last twenty years, the number of states which require their high school students to pass exit exams in order to graduate has doubled. This paper demonstrates that the introduction of exit exam requirements increases summer enrollment rates by 2.5 percentage points on average, and reduces weekly hours worked in the summer by 6%. These effects are strongest for youth from more disadvantaged backgrounds. Further work seeks to understand how exit exam and other graduation requirements differentially affect later life outcomes for advantaged and disadvantaged youth.

**“Do Workers Value a Smoke-free Workplace? Evidence from Smoking Bans in Restaurants and Bars” (with Neil Bhutta, MIT)**

Hedonic wage theory suggests workers are compensated for accepting workplace risk. Bar and restaurant workers face potentially severe health risks associated with second hand smoke. We test for the existence of a compensating differential by examining the impact of smoking bans on wages for restaurant and bar employees. We assemble a comprehensive dataset on smoking bans at the county level and draw wage data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Exploiting cross-county and intertemporal variation in the enactment of smoking bans, we find smoking bans negatively affect bar workers' wages. This result, however, may be due at least in part to a ban's negative impact on demand for bar services. Ongoing work seeks to evaluate the role of lower demand as an explanation for reduced wages.