

Lucienne Talba Papité

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

Université de Montréal 2014-2020
Ph.D. in economics
Thesis title: Culture, Gender and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Regional Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISSEA) 2009-2012
M.Sc. in economics and statistics

University of Yaoundé 1 2005-2008
B.Sc. in mathematics

CURRENT POSITIONS

McGill University 2020-present
Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre on Population Dynamics-CAnD3

African School of Economics 2020-present
Visiting Assistant Professor

CERTIFICATION

Emeritus Institute of Management 2020
Postgraduate Diploma in Data Science

RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary fields: Economic History, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics
Secondary fields: Labor Economics, Gender Economics, Political Economics

WORKING PAPERS

- The Historical Determinants of Gender Roles in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Job Market Paper (2019)*.
- Disease, Drought, and Development: Effects of the 1890s Cattle Plague in Sub-Saharan Africa, joint with *Raphael Godefroy and Joshua Lewis (2020)*.
- Sibling Gender and Marriage Patterns in Sub-Saharan Africa *(2020)*.
- Confinement et Qualité de Vie Reliée à la Santé: Analyse des Effets et des Facteurs de Risque, joint with *Thomas G. Poder, Elise Dufresne, Roxane Borgès Da Silva, and Jie He (2020)*.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- The Impact of COVID-19 on Economies, Social Cohesion, and Governance in Africa: Evidence from Benin, Burkina Faso and South Africa, joint with *Leonard Wantchekon, Ian Heffernan, Hugo Van Der Merwe, and Damien Iankoande*.

- Social Policies and Redistribution of Wealth in Quebec, joint with *Amélie Quesnel–Vallée and Jaunathan Bilodeau*.
- Pfizer and Trust in Medicine in Nigeria, joint with *Nchare Fogam*.
- Witchcraft and Gender Roles, joint with *Nchare Fogam*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

African School of Economics

- African Economic History *Winter 2020*
- Industrial Organization *Winter 2020*

Université de Montréal

- ECN 1901-E: Introduction to Economics *Fall 2018*
- ECN 3650-A: Social and Behavioural Economics *Fall 2017*
- ECN 1160: Economic Data Analysis *Fall 2016*

Teaching Assistant

- ECN 6233-A: Microeconometrics, University of Montreal *Winter 2018-2019*
- ECN 1260-A: Introduction to Econometrics, University of Montreal *Winter 2019*
- ECN 2160-A: Econometrics, University of Montreal *Winter 2016-2019*
- ECN 1040-A: Introduction to Microeconomics, University of Montreal *Fall 2016*

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Referee: Insurance and Risk Management Journal *2020*
- Conference: CIREQ Graduate Seminar (co-organizer) *2016-2018*

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

- Université de Montréal, Research Assistant for Emanuela Cardia and Andriana Bellou *2019*
- HEC Montreal, Research Assistant for Decio Caviello *2016-2017*
- Senior Economist, Ministry of Finance, Cameroon *2013-2014*
- External Consultant, ISSEA-World Bank, Cameroon *2013-2014*

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- Eastern Economic Association, Boston *2020*
- Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society, Rabat, Morocco *2019*
- 53rd Annual Conference of Canadian Economics Association, Banff, Alberta *2019*
- 59th Congress – Société Canadienne de Science Economique, Quebec, Canada *2019*
- 58th Congress – Société Canadienne de Science Economique, Montreal, Canada *2018*
- 13th CIREQ PhD Students' Conference, Montreal, Canada *2018*
- Canadian Network for Economic Historians (CNEH), Toronto, Canada *2017*
- University of Montreal Brown Bag Seminars, Montreal, Canada *2017-2018*

DISCUSSIONS

- World War II, the Baby Boom and Employment: County Level Evidence *2019*
(Abel Brodeur and Lamis Kattan), 53rd Annual Conference of Canadian Economics Association

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Université de Montréal Fellowship, CIREQ and Department of Economics	<i>2014-2019</i>
CIREQ Association Graduate Travel Grant	<i>2014-2019</i>
Central African Economic and Monetary Fellowship, Yaoundé	<i>2009-2012</i>
Government of Cameroon Scholarship	<i>2005-2008</i>

MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Economics Association, Société Canadienne de Science Economique, American Economic Association, Eastern Economic Association, Center for Interuniversity Research and Quantitative Economics (CIREQ), Eastern Economic Association

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Statistical Software	R, Python, Stata, ARCGIS
Protocols & Databases	XML, JSON, MySQL
Languages	French (native language), English (fluent)

REFERENCES

Joshua Lewis Department of Economics University of Montreal joshua.lewis@umontreal.ca	Raphael Godefroy Department of Economics University of Montreal raphael.godefroy@umontreal.ca	Andriana Bellou Department of Economics University of Montreal andriana.bellou@umontreal.ca
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The Historical Determinants of Gender Roles in Sub-Saharan Africa (Job Market Paper)

In this paper I examine an anthropological hypothesis, first proposed by Engels (1884), that the origin of differences in gender roles across societies in Sub-Saharan Africa was the historical domestication of cattle. I investigate the relationship between historical cattle presence and women's outcomes in both pre-colonial and contemporary Africa. To address potential endogeneity in historical cattle adoption, I adopt an instrumental variables approach that leverages geo-climatic factors affecting the suitability of ethnic homelands for cattle-raising. The results show that cattle-based societies had more historical gender inequality, as measured by female participation in agriculture, inheritance rules, and other marriage customs. This gender inequality persisted among the descendants of these societies: I find that women from cattle-based societies had lower labour force participation rates, married at younger ages, had higher fertility rates, and were less likely to participate equally in household decision-making. I estimate large effects on women's outcomes even among descendants who lived in areas where cattle were not present, suggesting an important role for cultural persistence. The findings are consistent with the introduction of cattle having created a large gender-imbalance in wealth holdings, which ultimately led to shift towards patriarchal norms that have persisted to present day.

Disease, Drought, and Development: Effects of the 1890s Cattle Plague in Sub-Saharan Africa (with Raphael Godefroy and Joshua Lewis)

The great African cattle plague epidemic of the 1890s is considered to be the worst natural disaster that wiped out more than 90 percent of cattle in Africa. In this paper, we examine the short- and long-run effects of this cattle plague epidemic on African development. To identify variation in exposure, we combine an index of drought severity during early 1890 with an index of cattle suitability areas. We adopt a difference-in-differences approach, relating variation in rinderpest severity to ethnic-group outcomes in the post-rinderpest period from Murdock (1967). The results show that societies exposed to the cattle plague outbreak were significantly less likely to own cattle in the early 20th century. In addition, we find that the outbreak had lasting effects on individual wealth and that an important mechanism may be distressed migration. We believe the results from the analysis will shed light on the ability of agents to respond to negative environmental shocks, and how the presence of coercive institutions may hamper agents' ability to respond.

Sibling Gender and Marriage Patterns in Sub-Saharan Africa

This paper examines how sibling gender composition affects women's transition to first marriage in sub-Saharan Africa. To address potential endogeneity in the final sibling gender composition, I exploit the random assignment of the second child's gender in a household with at least two children. Combining ethnographic data with current variation in an individual's age at first marriage, I causally estimate the effect of having a sister relative to a brother on women's age at marriage. The results show that females with a younger sister get married younger, with negative consequences for her education and literacy. The effects are stronger within countries that traditionally pay bride price at marriage. These patterns cannot be attributed to sibling rivalry theory. Instead, the findings support theories of family-level resource constraints and raise the interest to understand how the interaction of household resource constraints and traditional cultural norms affects the transition to marriage and human capital.