Economics Seminar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

SPEAKER: Laura Zimmermann (University of Michigan)

TITLE: Remember When It Rained: The Elusiveness of Gender Discrimination in Indian School Enrollment

TIME: 11:30-1:00

DAY & DATE: Friday, 11th November

PLACE: Seminar Room 2

Abstract:

Indian girls have significantly lower school enrollment rates than boys. Anecdotal evidence suggests that gender-differential treatment is the main explanation, but empirical support is often weak and seemingly inconsistent. I propose that this may be due to age-specific forms of discrimination. I analyze school enrollment using rainfall shocks, a plausibly exogenous source of income variation. Girls's school enrollment is more vulnerable to rainfall shocks than that of boys, with 6-10 year olds driving these effects. This is consistent with young girls being out of school because boys's education is prioritized, whereas older girls suffer from low perceived benefits of education.

http://www.isid.ac.in/~pu/seminar.html