

Erica Benton

1735 N. Hermitage
Chicago, Illinois 60622
Home Phone: (773) 645-1623

ebenton@uchicago.edu
<http://home.uchicago.edu/~emlandes>
Cell Phone: (773) 251-1175

Education	Ph.D. Economics University of Chicago June 2005 B.A. Economics/Mathematics Columbia University June 1997, cum laude honors in economics
Fields	<i>Primary:</i> Demographic Economics, Labor Economics <i>Secondary:</i> Applied Econometrics
Dissertation	<i>Female Occupational Choice and Family Migration</i> Dramatic changes in women's occupational choices during the past 50 years have in turn affected many aspects of family dynamics. This paper addresses the effect of female occupational choice on family migration, by examining the specific forces through which occupations affect mobility. While a woman's occupation may indeed increase the household's cost of moving, it may also generate more opportunities that would induce the household to relocate. This paper categorizes these occupational characteristics as "mobility supply", the occupational cost of moving, and "mobility demand" the potential occupational benefit from moving. I develop a model of occupational mobility that examines the effects of these characteristics on the household migration decision. To test the model empirically, I isolate specific occupations with particular mobility supply and demand characteristics. The results show that married individuals in occupations that are more easily transferred across geographic areas (higher "mobility supply") are more likely to move than their single counterparts, as they are "pulled" by spouses with larger geographic job markets (higher "mobility demand"). The results also show that women employed in occupations with high costs to relocating are much less likely to be pulled by their husbands. Finally, to examine the dual nature of occupational mobility in a more general context, I create specific measures of both general occupational mobility and occupational mobility supply and demand. The observed effects from these measures on household mobility confirm that families in which members are employed in occupations characterized by high costs/low gains from moving are less likely to relocate. Since the major shift in women's occupational choice has been towards these occupations with high costs, the results imply that joint-migration decisions will continue to have a significant effect on household relocation.
Teaching Experience	<i>Lecturer</i> Elements of Economic Analysis I Spring 2003 UofC, College Lecturer <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Elements of Economic Analysis I Spring 2004 UofC, College T.A. for Victor Lima Labor Economics Fall 2003 UofC, College T.A. for Patricia Pierotti Elements of Economic Analysis I Fall 2002 UofC, College T.A. for Grace Tsiang Price Theory I Fall 2001 UofC, Ph.D. Program T.A. for G. Becker/K. Murphy Empirical Analysis III Spring 2001 UofC, Ph.D. Program T.A. for Jeffrey Campbell Empirical Analysis II Winter 2001 UofC, Ph.D. Program T.A. for James Heckman
Professional Experience	Post-Doctoral Fellow, Univeristy of Chicago 2005-2006 Transfer Pricing Consultant, PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP 1997-1999 Performed analyses to establish appropriate inter-company pricing for multi-national firms as specified under tax authority guidelines.
Referee	Journal of Political Economy
Presentations	Applications Workshop, University of Chicago (Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Fall 2004) Empirical Microlunch Seminar, University of Chicago (Fall 2002)
Fellowships & Awards	Margaret Reid Memorial Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-2005 William Rainey Harper Fellowship Department Nominee, 2004 National Science Foundation Fellowship, 2001-2004 University of Chicago Unendowed Fellowship, 2000-2001 David Romaine Award for best senior honors thesis in economics, 1997
References	Gary Becker (chair) (773) 702-8168 gbecker@uchicago.edu Casey Mulligan (773) 702-9017 c-mulligan@uchicago.edu Kevin Murphy (773) 702-7280 murphy@chicagogsb.edu