



Building a Research Agenda in Behavioral Economics, Parenting, and Child Development: A RSF Workshop

Russell Sage Foundation
112 East 64th Street
New York, NY 10065

April 22, 2014

Agenda

- 9:30am Continental Breakfast
- 10:00am Welcome and Introductions
Ariel Kalil, Sheldon Danziger
- 10:30am **Session 1:** How does the context of poverty shape decision-making?
Lead Discussants: Marianne Bertrand, Eldar Shafir
- 11:15am **Session 2:** What do we know about low-income parents' decision-making? Time use? Preferences? Participation in programs/interventions? Is parenting behavior "irrational" and, if so, why? What is the role of hyperbolic discounting, stress, time constraints, and social norms?
Lead Discussant: Flavio Cunha
- 12:00pm **Session 3:** Why are parenting interventions in families so challenging and what can behavioral economics contribute? How applicable are the lessons we learned from other fields (finance, health) to parenting? What are the lessons learned from parenting interventions that help us make that translation? What are the behavioral tools that we can apply to family life, especially closing the gaps between children and parents in advantaged and disadvantaged families?
Lead Discussants: Lisa Gennetian, Larry Aber
- 12:45pm Lunch
- 1:15pm **Session 4:** What are the actual interventions that we would need to design to test some of these questions? What are the key elements of such interventions? What tools do we need? Families are not institutional settings – what special challenges does this pose? Is "light touch low cost" feasible or desirable? Where have efforts thus far failed and what have we learned from those failures?
Lead Discussants: Phil Oreopoulos, Todd Rogers
- 2:00pm Discussion of framing in the translation of these ideas to research, policy, and practice
Maya Shankar
- 2:45pm Wrap-up and Open Discussion
Susan Mayer
- 3:30pm Adjourn

Participant List

Larry Aber	New York University
Marianne Bertrand	University of Chicago
Leana Chatrath	Russell Sage Foundation
Aixa Cintron-Velez	Russell Sage Foundation
Flavio Cunha	University of Pennsylvania
Sheldon Danziger	Russell Sage Foundation
Lisa Gennetian	NBER and NYU
Daniel Goroff	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
Ariel Kalil	University of Chicago
Susan Mayer	University of Chicago
Phil Oreopoulos	University of Toronto
Todd Rogers	Harvard University
Eldar Shafir	Princeton University
Maya Shankar	White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
James Wilson	Russell Sage Foundation