

**PROPOSITIONS**  
attached to the thesis

**Essays in Empirical Development Economics**

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1. Boys and older children are advantaged over girls and later-born children in intra-household parental allocation of shadow education (or private tuition) expenditures. This leads to an elder son advantage in intra-household resource allocation. *This thesis.*
2. Intra-household disparities in resource allocation account for a substantial proportion of gender gaps in math test scores. *This thesis.*
3. Mothers are penalized in the Indian labor market. However, the existence and the magnitude of the penalty depends on community gender norms. Mothers from matrilineal communities are less likely to suffer from a motherhood penalty. *This thesis.*
4. The motherhood penalty eases if mothers can signal availability of childcare at home. *This thesis.*
5. Those who can afford to buy gray (or bought) undergraduate degree certificates have a labor market advantage as compared to those who have no degrees. The advantage is greater for women job candidates. *This thesis.*
6. Women are more likely to sacrifice income to work in firms that offer a less competitive work environment.
7. Noncognitive skills often rival cognitive skills in explaining economic success.
8. In general, students in private schools perform better in India, even at a lower per capita cost.
9. In many developing countries, dishonest individuals self-select into public services.
10. Colonial institutions have long term impacts on economic outcomes.
11. Life would be dull without research.