Online Appendix for "Effects of Parental Disability on Children's Schooling: The Surprising Role of Parental Education"

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1 Additional Results

Robustness Checks. We use a very similar estimating sample and strategy as Lakdawala and Bharadwaj (2022). The only difference is that we focus on children with a veteran father (rather than a veteran parent). This is because we explore the effects of the earnings of the disabled parent as the primary mechanism, for which we must focus on a specific parent rather than overall parental disability.

Given the nearly identical samples, we do not repeat the robustness checks in Lakdawala and Bharadwaj (2022) here but note that they provide evidence that parental SCDR appears to be uncorrelated with important predetermined household characteristics, does not appear to drive selection into parenthood, or other types of sample selection. Additionally, they test for heterogeneous effects by race and gender but find no evidence that the effects of parental disability varies along these dimensions, suggesting that any correlation between race and parental education does not drive our results.

We perform some additional robustness checks in Table A.3. In columns 1-2, we demonstrate that the effects of father's disability are similar when we split the sample by father's completion of high school (as opposed to father's completion of college, as in our main results). In columns 3-4, we show that the patterns in the effects of father's disability on hours worked are similar when we restrict the sample to working fathers. However, we interpret these results with caution as our main results indicate that father's employment is affected by disability and thus the sample for columns 3-4 is selected endogenously. Finally, we rule out one form of endogenous family structure as a mechanism in columns 5 and 6. In particular, we find that father's disability does not impact the likelihood that an adult female (above age 26) is present in the

household for either education group. This suggests that female partners / co-parents do not move in or out of the household in response to a father's disability.

Effects of mother's disability. In columns 1-2 Table A.4 we examine the effects of mother's disability on children's private school attendance, separately for children with less or highly educated mothers (defined by whether a mother has completed at least 4 years of college). We find that the effects of mother's SCDR are very different than of father's SCDR; mother's disability has a much smaller impact than father's disability. This finding echoes the results in Lakdawala and Bharadwaj (2022), who find that private school attendance is strongly affected by father's but not mother's disability, but where the reverse is true when using child disability as an outcome. Second, we find that there is little heterogeneity in the effects of mother's disability across high and low parental education groups.

One potential explanation for these findings is that parental disability affects schooling investment primarily through an income channel, which affects the budgetary aspects of schooling decisions (e.g. private versus public education). If many mothers are secondary earners, the impacts of mother's disability on the financial resources available for private schooling will be smaller. The results in columns 3-8 of Table A.4 are consistent with this explanation. We find that the patterns of effects disability on mother's employment probability and work hours are very similar to those for fathers (columns 3-6); namely, effects on the extensive and intensive margin of labor supply are larger for less educated mothers. However, when we examine the effects of maternal disability on overall household income (columns 7-8), we find that the effects are generally much smaller than the effects of paternal disability and in many cases are not statistically significant. Furthermore, the effects do not appear

to be substantively larger for highly educated mothers than for less educated mothers, in contrast to the findings for fathers. Thus it appears that the lack of effects of mother's disability on children's private schooling are driven by the relatively small contribution that mothers make to household income, on average.

2 Online Appendix Figures and Tables

Table A.1: Summary Satistics

		Low Parental Education (1)	High Parental Education (2)	p-value for H0: (1)=(2) (3)
Female		1.49	1.49	0.010
Age		12.04	11.90	0.000
		3.86	3.86	
Birth Order		1.71	1.71	0.287
		0.90	0.90	
White		0.73	0.77	0.000
Black		0.11	0.08	0.000
Hispanic		0.12	0.11	0.000
Household Size		4.52	4.53	0.371
		1.39	1.31	
Number of Siblings in HH		1.45	1.48	0.000
		1.21	1.19	
Number Grandparents in HH		0.04	0.03	0.004
		0.21	0.21	
Mother's Age		41.07	43.32	0.000
		7.53	6.73	
Mother's Education				
	High School or Less	37.75	14.28	*p- value for the joint*
	1 Year of College	19.42	11.62	*test that distribution*
	2 Years of College	13.98	10.41	*is the same across*
	4 or More Years of College	22.46	59.08	*groups = 0.000*
	Missing	6.39	4.62	*0.000*
		100.00	100.00	
Father's Age		44.56	46.55	0.000
		8.90	8.08	
Any Parental Disability		0.18	0.11	0.000
Father's SCDR				
	No Disability Rating	80.39	76.19347879	*p- value for the joint*
	10 to 20 percent	6.93	8.27	*test that distribution*
	30 to 40 percent	3.77	5.16	*is the same across*
	50 to 60 percent	2.78	3.77	*groups = 0.000*
	70 percent or more	6.13	6.61	
		100.00	100.00	
Household Income Per Capita		14679.08	25560.37	0.000
		10559.91	20251.68	
Household Poverty Status		306.36	406.79	0.000
		144.00	124.37	
In School (Previous 3 Months)		1.000	1.000	
Attending Private School		0.097	0.185	0.000
N		287,312	131,632	

Data: American Community Survey (2008-2019). Standard deviations in parentheses below means. Household income per capita trimmed at the bottom and top 1% within each survey year and is expressed in 1999 dollars using the CPI-U multiplier published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Column 3 reports the p-value for the test that the means across high and low parental education samples are the same. Due to large sample sizes, p-values are almost always 0, even when the difference in means is not economically meaningful. Thus, we interpret these p-values with caution.

Table A.2: Effects of Father's Disability on Schooling Attendance by Father's Education

| | Currently Attending School | |
	Low Parental Education (1)	High Parental Education (2)
Father's SCDR		
10 to 20	0.001	-0.000
	(0.001)	(0.002)
30 to 40	-0.001	-0.003
	(0.002)	(0.002)
50 to 60	0.000	0.002
	(0.002)	(0.003)
70+	0.002	-0.000
	(0.002)	(0.002)
Observations	298,730	135,173
Mean for no disability	0.0986	0.193
p-value for test that		
SCDR 10-20=SCDR 70+	0.523	0.988
p-value for test that		
High Ed = Low Ed	0.835	

Household-level clustered standard errors in parentheses. Significance levels denoted by: *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1 Omitted group: Children living with fathers without a disability rating (SCDR=0). The sample includes all children ages 5-18 living with a veteran father. The sample is split by whether the father has completed at least 4 years of college. Controls: age FE, gender, dummy variables for single race categories, indicators for whether mothers and fathers served in 2001 and later as well as fixed effects for mother's and father's age, education, and marital status; household size; birth order; number of siblings; number of grandparents in household; metro status; state; and survey year. Mean is reported for children living with veteran fathers without an SCDR rating. The final row of the table gives the p-value for the joint test of the equality of all pairs of SCDR coefficients across the high and low parental education groups (i.e., the joint test of $\beta_1^{LowEd} = \beta_1^{HighEd}$ and $\beta_2^{LowEd} = \beta_2^{HighEd}$, and so forth).

Table A.3: Robustness Checks

	In Private School		Hours Worked (Conditional)		Adult Female in Household	
	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Father's SCDR						
10 to 20	-0.003	-0.004	-17.7**	-30.5***	0.000	-0.000
	(0.004)	(0.003)	(7.494)	(9.099)	(0.001)	(0.001)
30 to 40	-0.008	-0.015***	-79.0***	-59.2***	0.001	-0.000
	(0.005)	(0.004)	(10.438)	(11.623)	(0.001)	(0.001)
50 to 60	-0.017***	-0.018***	-116.4***	-147.3***	-0.001	0.000
	(0.006)	(0.005)	(13.070)	(14.782)	(0.001)	(0.001)
70+	-0.006	-0.022***	-278.6***	-208.6***	-0.001	0.000
	(0.004)	(0.003)	(12.465)	(13.428)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Observations	146,482	272,462	254,097	123,878	287,312	131,632
Mean for no disability	0.0873	0.151	2167	2271	0.938	0.959
p-value for test that						
SCDR 10-20=SCDR 70+	0.532	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.253	0.634
p-value for test that						
High Ed = Low Ed	0.064		0.000		0.625	

Household-level clustered standard errors in parentheses. Significance levels denoted by: *** $p<0.01$, ** $p<0.05$, * $p<0.1$ Omitted group: Children living with fathers without a disability rating (SCDR=0). The sample includes all children ages 5-18 living with a veteran father. The sample is split by father's education: in (1) and (2), low education is defined as ¡= high school completion, in (3) - (6) by ¡4 years of college. Controls: age FE, gender, dummy variables for single race categories, indicators for whether mothers and fathers served in 2001 and later as well as fixed effects for mother's and father's age, education, and marital status; household size; birth order; number of siblings; number of grandparents in household; metro status; state; and survey year. Mean is reported for children living with veteran fathers without an SCDR rating. The final row of the table gives the p-value for the joint test of the equality of all pairs of SCDR coefficients across the high and low parental education groups (i.e., the joint test of $\beta_1^{LowEd} = \beta_1^{HighEd}$ and $\beta_2^{LowEd} = \beta_2^{HighEd}$, and so forth).

Table A.4: Effects of Mother's Disability on Private School Status, by Mother's Education

	In Private School		Mother is Employed		Mother's Work Hours		HH Income (per capita)	
	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education	Low Parental Education	High Parental Education
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Mother's SCDR								
10 to 20	-0.001	0.014	-0.031***	-0.007	-89.4***	-10.8	-45.5	-708.8*
	(0.007)	(0.010)	(0.012)	(0.011)	(25.491)	(27.363)	(199.609)	(416.708)
30 to 40	0.002	-0.003	-0.079***	-0.015	-221.6***	-60.3*	-166.8	-290.6
	(0.009)	(0.011)	(0.015)	(0.012)	(31.149)	(31.465)	(222.464)	(464.382)
50 to 60	-0.026***	0.005	-0.155***	-0.033**	-391.6***	-127.7***	143.6	231.3
	(0.009)	(0.013)	(0.019)	(0.014)	(36.746)	(36.227)	(258.755)	(568.350)
70+	0.007	-0.018*	-0.369***	-0.248***	-787.5***	-625.6***	1,031.4***	-1,084.7**
	(0.008)	(0.010)	(0.014)	(0.016)	(27.575)	(33.894)	(240.306)	(427.429)
Observations	42,948	27,841	44,676	28,607	44,676	28,607	44,665	28,593
Mean for no disability	0.0892	0.162	0.766	0.853	1346	1595	13089	24026
p-value for test that SCDR 10-20=SCDR 70+	0.425	0.016	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.496
p-value for test that Low Ed = High Ed	0.029		0.000		0.000		0.000	

Household-level clustered standard errors in parentheses. Significance levels denoted by: *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1 Omitted group: Children living with mothers without a disability rating (SCDR=0). The sample includes all children ages 5-18 living with a veteran mother. Controls: age FE, gender, dummy variables for single race categories, indicators for whether mothers and fathers served in 2001 and later as well as fixed effects for mother's and father's age, education, and marital status; household size; birth order; number of siblings; number of grandparents in household; metro status; state; and survey year. Mean is reported for children living with veteran fathers without an SCDR rating. The final row of the table gives the p-value for the joint test of the equality of all pairs of SCDR coefficients across the high and low parental education groups (i.e., the joint test of $\beta_1^{LowEd} = \beta_1^{HighEd}$ and $\beta_2^{LowEd} = \beta_2^{HighEd}$, and so forth).

References

Lakdawala, L. K. and P. Bharadwaj (2022). The relationship between parental disability and child outcomes: Evidence from veteran families. *PLoS ONE 17*.