

Review of: "Could governmental interventions improve subjective well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic? Findings from 750 street vendors in Cali, Colombia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The study investigates the effects of government interventions during covid-19 on well-being of street vendors, namely mental health, dissatisfaction with job, dissatisfaction with life, yesterday unhappiness / worries / depression. The authors find that economic support from the government assisted in some aspects of well-being such as yesterday depression, but was not as effective for mental disorders.

The focus of the paper is relevant to topics in the development literature related to the role of government in citizens' welfare. However I believe the quality of the study can be still be improved substantially.

1. In the Introduction, the authors' last paragraph leads the reader to believe that their contribution is examining government intervention on mental outcomes of informal workers during the pandemic, as this is an area that has been overlooked in the literature (which is plausible). But their analysis focusses on various other outcomes besides mental disorders. The authors need to either clarify that statement or adapt their analysis to focus on mental disorders and depression, then maybe use one other well-being like happiness as a robustness check.
2. The literature review is very limited. Th authors only discuss evidence from Colombia. In fact, the discussion under the literature review should ideally be part of the Introduction as it provides context of the environment in Colombia and hence serves as a motivation for conducting their study in Colombia. The literature review should contain a discussion on previous literature related to the focus of the study. What has been done before? What does past evidence show about government interventions and well-being during pandemics? Where are the empirical gaps in the past literature?
3. Last paragraph of the Literature review: "In this study we guess.....". "guess" is not a suitable word in this context. Maybe "in this study, we show that..."
4. Study settings and sampling methods: "With 4 pages and 56 questions....". This sentence is not necessary.
5. The authors should expand briefly on the estimation technique. Why is logistic regression a suitable estimator? What is logistic regression?
6. In the tables, what is the difference between Models 1, 2, 3 and 4? This is not clearly explained in the discussion, especially given that the factors are not consistent across the Tables?