

Ami Adjoh-Baliki, Ph.D.

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Most recent version available at:
[Curriculum Vitae](#)

Personal

Citizenship: USA

Languages: Fluent in English and French

Education

<i>Ph.D. in Economics, Washington, D.C.</i>	Howard University 2021–2025
<i>M.A. in Economics, Washington, D.C.</i>	Howard University 2021–2023
<i>M.A. in Economics, Los Angeles, CA</i>	University of Southern California 2012–2014
<i>B.A. in Economics, Los Angeles, CA</i>	University of Southern California 2008–2012

Research Interests

Economic Growth and Development
Economics of Gender

Job Market Paper

Intimate Partner Violence Exposure and Child Mental Health: Evidence from Ghana

Abstract: This paper examines the relationship between exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV) and children’s mental health in Ghana. While the mental health impacts of IPV exposure on children have been extensively studied in high-income countries, there is a lack of evidence from developing countries. The study employs nationally representative longitudinal data from the Ghana Socioeconomic Panel Survey (GSPS), which covers over 1,600 children, to test three hypotheses: IPV exposure has an adverse impact on the mental health of children; IPV exposure is the strongest predictor of child mental health compared to other explanatory variables; and maternal mental health mediates this relationship. Using propensity score matching, instrumental variable estimations, dominance analysis techniques, and mediation analysis, the results show that IPV exposure has a robust causal impact on child mental distress; it is the most significant predictor, explaining at least one-third of the variation. Additionally, maternal mental distress mediates this relationship, accounting for nearly one-fifth of the effect. A randomization-inference placebo test shows that the relationship between IPV exposure and child mental distress is not spurious. This paper is the first to provide a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between IPV exposure and child mental health: it is the first to establish a causal relationship, the first to emphasize the role of IPV exposure relative to other

variables in predicting child mental distress, and the first to use data from Sub-Saharan Africa. The results have important policy implications.

Publications

The Mental Health of Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence: A Systematic Literature Review, with Elizabeth Asiedu, *Developmental Child Welfare*, 7(1), 91-118 (2025)

Working Papers

Attitudes toward Female Genital Mutilation and the Intergenerational Transmission of the Practice in Nigeria (with Aisha Yusuf, Alexander Opoku, and Elizabeth Asiedu)

Abstract: This study analyzes data from 35,015 women collected in the 2013 and 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Surveys to examine attitudes toward female genital mutilation (FGM) and the intergenerational transmission of the practice. There are four key findings. First, mothers who have undergone circumcision are 7 to 14 times more likely to circumcise their daughters compared to those who are not circumcised. Second, dominance analysis and supervised machine learning models identify a mother's FGM status as the strongest predictor of her daughter's FGM status, explaining about 26 to 47% of the variation, followed by community-level approval of FGM, which accounts for about 10 to 21%. Third, mothers' approval of FGM mediates the intergenerational relationship: circumcised mothers are more likely to condone FGM, increasing the likelihood they will circumcise their daughters. Finally, we find that community-level FGM approval moderates the mother-daughter FGM relationship: the intergenerational correlation is stronger in communities with higher approval of FGM. All results are consistent across four subsamples: 2013, 2018, urban, and rural. These findings suggest that the persistence of FGM is rooted not only in personal history but also deeply embedded in social and gender norms.

Papers in Progress

Assessing the Effectiveness of Nigeria's Child Marriage Act (with Rebecca Hsu and Omoneka Adams)

Teaching Experience

Applied Statistics for Business and Economics
Instructor

Howard University
Spring 2025

Economic Growth and Development
Teaching Assistant

Howard University
Fall 2024

Work and Research Experience

Post Doctoral Fellow

American Institute for Research
July 2025 - Present

I conduct policy-relevant research on programs that promote women's economic empowerment, with a focus on self-help group initiatives in Nigeria. This work is part of the Opportunity Fund at the American Institutes for Research, which supports early-career scholars engaged in applied research on development and social policy.

Economic Analyst

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
June 2016 - June 2025

Compiled and analyzed U.S. international trade and services data for inclusion in the International Transactions Accounts (ITAs) and National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA).

Contributed to the estimation and publication of quarterly U.S. GDP statistics, with a focus on trade-related components.

Collaborated with internal and external partners to implement data revisions, improve methodologies, and ensure accuracy in official economic statistics.

Conducted quality assurance reviews and prepared briefing materials for senior leadership and external stakeholders.

Investment Performance Analyst

Wilshire Associates

September 2014 - June 2016

Conducted performance evaluations for retirement and pension funds, identifying risks and opportunities.

Delivered financial analyses, including cash management, asset pricing, and risk assessment.

Produced comprehensive client investment portfolio reports, advising on market trends.

Grants and Fellowships

June 2024: Howard University Graduate Student Travel Grant

November 2024: SEA Graduate Student Award

May 2024: World Bank/AAWE Travel Grant

January 2025: AEA CSMGEP 2025 Dissertation Award

2023-2025: American Institute for Research Fellowship

June 2025: AEA Mentoring Program Travel Grant

Invited Talks and Conference Presentations

December 2025: GLO Conference Job Market Sessions (Presenter and Discussant)

November 2025: SEA Annual Conference, Tampa (Presenter and Discussant)

July 2025: AFEA Annual Conference, Nairobi (Presenter)

July 2025: IAFFE Annual Conference, Amherst (Presenter)

June 2025: AEAMP Conference, Washington, D.C. (Presenter and Discussant)

June 2025: WEAI Annual Conference, San Francisco (Presenter and Discussant)

June 2025: CAAS Annual Conference, Toronto (Presenter)

April 2025: Towson International Development Economics Symposium (TIDES), Towson (Presenter and Discussant)

April 2025: Department of Economics, Allegheny College (Guest Lecturer)

February 2025: EEA Annual Conference, New York (Presenter)

January 2025: AEA ASSA Annual Conference, San Francisco (Presenter)

November 2024: SEA Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. (Presenter)

July 2024: WEAI Annual Conference, Seattle, WA (Presenter and Discussant)

June 2024: AEAMP Conference, Washington, D.C. (Presenter)

June 2024: Econometric Society (AFES), Abidjan (Presenter)

Professional Affiliations

African Finance and Economic Association (AFEA)

American Economic Association (AEA)

Association for the Advancement of African Women Economists (AAWE)

Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS)
Econometric Society
Global Labor Organization (GLO)
National Economic Association (NEA)

Skills

Programming: LaTeX, Machine Learning, Python, R, SAS, STATA

References

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Ama Baafra Abeberese, Ph.D.
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Garima Siwach, Ph.D.
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