



Comments on

**“International Migration and
Global Development”**

by

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Objectives



- What is going

Issues



- Wages – What is the source of variation across countries?
 - Skill levels
 - Skill prices
 - Skill quality – observables/unobservables

Issues – How do we compute skill price/quality variation?



- Really Bad idea
 - Use GDP/capita or GDP/worker
- “Ok” idea
 - Use wages across same professions/jobs

Issues – How do we compute skill price/quality variation?



- Bad idea
 - Use GDP/capita or GDP/worker
- “Ok” idea
 - Use wages across same professions/jobs - Freeman
- Good idea
 - Use wages of migrants before and after migration (NIS)

Issues – How do we compute skill price/quality variation?



- Best idea
 - Use before/after wage correcting for migration selection effects

*The \$1 million JDE question:
“Which instruments should we use?”*

Issues – How does this help us?



- Tertiary Education policies
- Should developing countries develop their own institutions or send their students to the US?

What would I tell Francois & Danny?

Answer



It depends 😊

The cost and quality of education at home

Why is returns to schooling lower?

Bad schools or bad labor markets?

The premium paid to US education

The likelihood of students staying in the US

Age of migration & Return migration



Many students return and many stay

we need better data on age of migration and return rates

World Bank working on the first one. Second one is actually easier.

Age of migration & Return migration



Selection effects on returning

Do better ones stay in the US?

Should we even really worry if they stay?

Dani and Daron in Cambridge (Mass) vs Istanbul