LEARNING FOR COLLABORATION, TRUST AND INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

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We know a lot about the impact of human capital (education, skills) on economic growth.

We know something about the impact of education on measures of social capital and social progress.

We know actually very little on what exactly explains the impact of education on measures of social capital and social progress.

We know very little about the educational approaches and interventions which optimise the impact on social progress.
1. Impact of education on measures of social capital, trust and tolerance

2. Disentangling the impact of education: the role of cognitive and non-cognitive skills

3. How can education improve fostering skills that matter for collaboration and trust?
IMPACT OF EDUCATION ON SOCIAL CAPITAL, TRUST AND TOLERANCE
Social capital measures by gender, age, education and income

Percentage of people reporting they have someone to count on in times of need (2010) – source: Gallup World Survey
Levels of interpersonal trust (Europe)
Proportion of adults expressing interpersonal trust, by level of educational attainment (2008)

Countries are ranked in descending order of the proportion of adults expressing interpersonal trust among those who have attained upper secondary education.

Source: www.oecd.org/edu/eag2010

Years of schooling and levels of interpersonal trust

Borgonovi, 2012
Years of schooling and levels of tolerance towards migrants

Borgonovi, 2012
Education effects on trust and tolerance

Figure 3.5c. Marginal effects of education on interpersonal-trust and tolerance (Europe), 2002-06
Incremental differences in interpersonal trust associated with an increase in the level of educational attainment (2008)

Countries are grouped by those in which the incremental differences in interpersonal trust are higher at a higher level of education (Group 1) and others (Group 2). Countries are ranked in descending order of the incremental differences in interpersonal trust associated with a shift from upper secondary to tertiary education attainment.

• Levels of interpersonal trust and tolerance are strongly linked to educational attainment
• Individual’s education explains 8% of cross-country differences in levels of interpersonal trust
• Extra year of schooling accounts for an increase in the level of interpersonal trust of 3 to 4% and an increase in tolerance of even 6%.
• But impact is not linear: different models of impact according to levels of education
• What are the skills that specifically contribute to interpersonal trust and how can education develop them more effectively?
DISENTANGLING THE IMPACT OF EDUCATION: COGNITIVE AND NON-COGNITIVE SKILLS
Education impacts on measures of social capital by fostering various sets of skills:

- Cognitive skills
  - Basic foundations skills (literacy, numeracy, etc.)
  - Civic information
  - Critical thinking

- Non-cognitive skills (social, emotional, etc.)
  - Self-efficacy, self-determination, sense of control
  - Social communication skills
  - Resilience, patience, consciousness, will power
Cognitive skills matter for economic outcomes in life (PIAAC data)

Increased likelihood (16-65 year olds)

- In lowest two quintiles of personal income
- Unemployed
- Received social assistance in last year
- Did not receive investment income in last year

Number of skills domains with low performance
Cognitive skills also matter for social outcomes in life (PIAAC data)

Odds ratios

- Red: Has fair to poor health
- Brown: Does not volunteer for charity or non-profit organizations
- Blue: Poor understanding of political issues facing country
- Black: Poor level of general trust
- Green: Higher propensity of believing people try to take advantage of others
- Yellow: Lower propensity to reciprocate
- Orange: Poor political efficacy

Odds are adjusted for age, gender, and immigration status.
Cognitive foundation skills are moderately associated with interpersonal trust.
Effect of cognitive skills on impact of education on health indicators
OECD/CERI project on measuring education and skills for social progress

Cognitive skills

• Mental capacity to acquire knowledge through thought, experience, and the senses

• Interpret, reflect and extrapolate based on the knowledge acquired

Non-cognitive skills

• Relatively enduring patterns of thoughts, feelings and behaviours that reflect the tendency to respond in certain ways under certain circumstances
Non-cognitive skills matter for crime

Ever Been in Jail by Age 30, By Ability (Males)

Note: This figure plots the probability of a given behavior associated with moving up in one ability distribution for someone after integrating out the other distribution. For example, the lines with markers show the effect of increasing noncognitive ability after integrating the cognitive ability.

OECD/CERI project on measuring education and skills for social progress

Secondary analysis of longitudinal data sets
Preliminary results - Germany

Causal effects of skills on health

Source: ZEW 2012

Δstandard deviation in outcomes due to Δstandard deviation of skills
Preliminary results - Germany

Effects of skills on obesity

- Only non-cog skills matter for obesity.
- Non-cognitive skills matters for everybody.
HOW CAN EDUCATION IMPROVE FOSTERING SKILLS THAT MATTER FOR COLLABORATION AND TRUST?
Teaching matters...

TALIS Teachers' preference for structuring practices vs. Interpersonal trust.
Pedagogies matter...

Science score

Interest in Science Topics
Effective pedagogies for trust and tolerance

- Early development of non-cognitive skills in early childhood education
- Raising foundation skills in school
- Continuous focus on relevant non-cognitive skills: resilience, self-control, consciousness, etc.
- Situated learning at school and community:
  - ‘Democracy in action’ on school level
  - Active engagement with ‘otherness’ and diversity
  - Real-world communication skills development
  - Fostering active civic participation
- Continuity of learning from school into families, local communities and workplaces
21st Century Skills

- **Subject-based skills**
  (know-what and know-how)

- **Skills in thinking and creativity**
  (Critical thinking, ability to make connections, imagination, curiosity,...)

- **Behavioural and social skills**
  (Self-confidence, energy, perseverance, passion, leadership, collaboration, communication)
Thank you!

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