

Prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri

2016 Edition

In compliance with the statutory prescriptions, the Committee in charge of awarding the prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri, sixth edition (2016), was composed as follows:

- Prof. Michele Bernasconi, as the President of the Società italiana di economia pubblica (SIEP);
- Prof. Daniela Del Boca, as the Director of the Centre for Household, Income, Labour and Demographic economics (CHILD);
- Prof. Claudio Lucifora, as the President of the Associazione italiana economisti del lavoro (AIEL);
- Prof. Tullio Jappelli, designated by the Centre for Studies in Economics and Finance (CSEF);
- Prof. Ernesto Longobardi, on behalf of the Comitato premio Etta Chiuri.

The members of the Committee met online systematically in the months of June and July 2016 and examined the 22 articles submitted for the prize. The quality of the papers submitted was very high.

Eventually, after a careful scrutiny, the Committee unanimously decided to award the *2016 Etta Chiuri Prize* to Lucia Corno and Alessandra Voena for their joint paper “Selling daughters: age of marriage, income shocks and the bride price tradition” (May 24, 2016).

The motivation for this decision is as follows:

<< The Corno-Voena paper investigates the economic aspects of a practice still dramatically widespread in the world: the female early marriage against the payment of a bride price. The paper addresses the issue both theoretically and empirically. First, a model is developed showing that girls have a higher probability of marrying early when their parents experiment an adverse income shock. Then, the theoretical prediction of the model is tested, with reference to the Tanzania case, using variations in rainfall as idiosyncratic income shocks. Running counterfactual simulations, the authors show that credit market imperfections are a key determinant of the age of marriage. Although access to the credit market *per se* is not sufficient to eliminate the usage of bride price payments, it may nevertheless contribute to making the banning of such a practice more acceptable to families.

The Committee in charge of awarding the 2016 Etta Chiuri Prize unanimously concludes that the Corno-Voena paper highly deserves the prize in consideration of (a) the high quality of the paper in terms of both theoretical modeling and empirical strategies; (b) the great relevance of the issue considered, on social, ethical and human rights’ grounds; (c) the closeness of a theme regarding the role of women in the family and in the society with the research interests of Etta Chiuri; (d) the importance of the policy implications of the results, considering that the eradication of child marriages is a very high priority the agenda of the main international organizations. >>