

Prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri

2017 Edition

In compliance with the statutory prescriptions, the Committee in charge of awarding the prize in memoriam of Etta Chiuri, seventh edition (2017), 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. Tullio Jappelli, designated by the Centre for Studies in Economics and Finance (CSEF);
- Prof. Ernesto Longobardi, on behalf of the Comitato premio Etta Chiuri.
- Prof. Stefano Staffolani, as the President of the Associazione italiana economisti del lavoro (AIEL).

The members of the Committee met online in the months of June and July 2017 and examined the 16 articles submitted for the prize. On average, the quality of submissions to the seventh edition of the prize was high. After a careful scrutiny, the Committee unanimously decided to award the 2017 Etta Chiuri Prize to Michele Di Maio and Roberto Nisticò for their joint paper: The effect of parental job loss on child school dropout: evidence from the occupied Palestinian territories (CSEF Working Paper No. 456, October 2016).

The motivation for this decision is as follows:

The Di Maio – Nisticò paper investigates the effect of parental job loss on child school dropouts using data from the Palestinian Labour Force Survey. To identify the effect of parental job loss, the paper exploits conflict-induced job separations of Palestinian workers employed in Israel during the second Intifada. The results show that parental job loss increases the probability of school dropout by 9 percentage points. This large effect varies with the gender, grade and academic ability of the child, with parental education and the number of children in the household. The paper also finds that the drop in household income associated with the household head's job loss is the main motivation behind the household decision to withdraw the child from school.

The Committee in charge of awarding the 2017 Etta Chiuri Prize unanimously concludes that the Di Maio – Nisticò paper highly deserves the prize in consideration of: (a) the high quality of the paper in terms of the empirical strategy to identify the effect of parental job loss on school dropouts; (b) the importance of the policy implications of the paper, showing that negative shocks to household income can have dramatic long-run consequences in developing countries, by reducing investment in human capital; (c) the closeness of a theme regarding the role of the household in the society with the research interests of Etta Chiuri.