



### **Cognitive and non-cognitive costs of daycare 0–2 for girls**

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Martedì 26 Gennaio 2016, ore 12.30, Aula della Scuola di Dottorato, Palazzo Cà Borin, Via del Santo 22, Padova

Exploiting admission thresholds in a RDD, we study the causal effects of daycare at age 0-2 on cognitive and non-cognitive outcomes at age 8-14. One additional month in daycare reduces IQ by 4.5% of a standard deviation. Effects for school test scores are negative but imprecisely estimated, and are absent for conscientiousness. Psychologists suggest that children in daycare experience fewer one-to-one interactions with adults, which should be particularly relevant for girls who are more capable of exploiting cognitive stimuli at an early age. In line with this interpretation, losses for girls are larger and more significant, especially in affluent families.