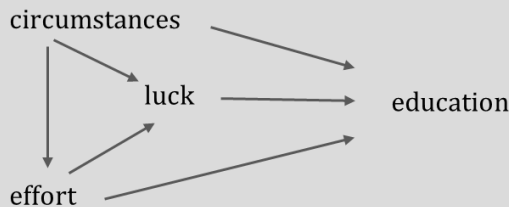


Genetic Ability and Equality of Opportunity (EoP) in Education

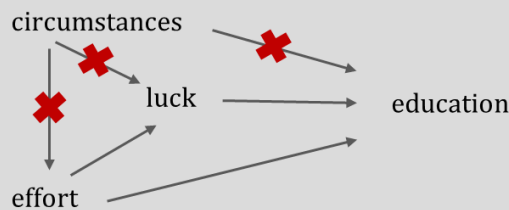
Is access to education fair?

1. Background

Equality of Opportunity theory postulates that outcomes are a result of **Circumstances**, **Effort** and **Luck**¹



EOP is attained when circumstances are **independent** of outcomes and **de-correlated** from effort and luck

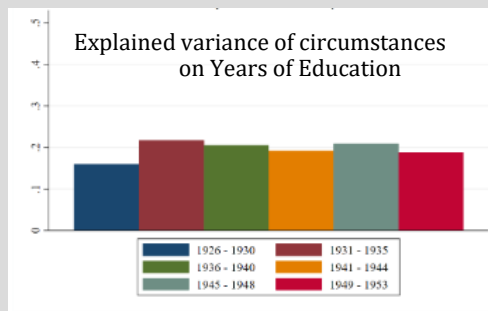


3. Contribution

1. New conceptualization of Ability in EoP
2. Derive novel testable implications
3. New proxy for ability in the literature of EoP:
Educational Attainment Polygenic Score

5. Empirical results

1. Data set: Health and Retirement Study
2. Outcome Years of Education
- 3: Compared younger with older cohorts.



Equality of Opportunity decreased (16 to 19%)

2. Gaps in the literature

1. Conceptual Issue: No consensus on how to classify ability

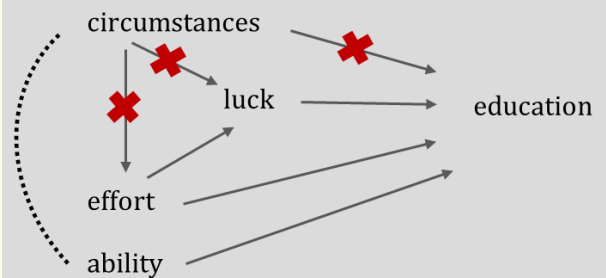
Some classify **ability as effort**^{1,2}; others **circumstance**^{4,5}; a **mixture of both**⁶; or **luck**^{1,7}

2. Measurement Issue

IQ and test scores underestimate ability for the underprivileged^{8,9,10}

4. New EoP definition

Equality of Opportunity recognizes different inborn ability that is correlated with parental social economic class; the absolute level of ability is allowed to influence educational outcomes



6. Conclusion

1. Agreeing on a definition of EoP is fundamental
2. ~20% decrease in EoP is found
3. The decreased in EoP contrasts with the increase in education

7. Contact and References

diaspereira@ese.eur.nl

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