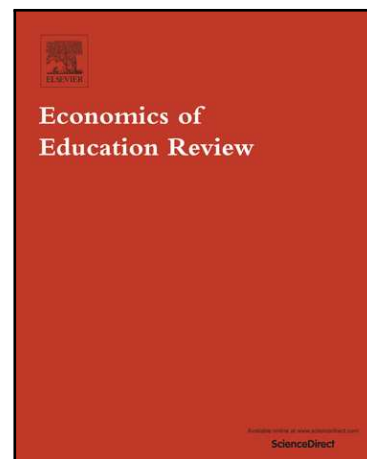


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The Bad End of the Bargain?: Revisiting the Relationship between Collective Bargaining Agreements and Student Achievement

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Running Head: THE BAD END OF THE BARGAIN?

Highlights

- We revisit the relationship between collective bargaining agreement (CBA) restrictiveness or strength and student achievement using data from three bargaining cycles in California.
- We build on prior, cross-sectional work by controlling for unobserved fixed and time-varying confounders.
- Our results demonstrate a negative bias in the naïve pooled OLS estimates of CBA restrictiveness on student achievement due to omitted variables.
- When controlling for unobserved fixed and time-varying confounders, the relationship between CBA strength and student achievement is persistently negative and small, or null, but never significantly positive.
- These results extend to specific CBA subareas and to subgroups of students.

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