

# Report on Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Bc. Tadeáš Kopecký</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Doc. Julie Chytilová, Ph.D.</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Education and HIV: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa</b>

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT** (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

The aim of the diploma thesis is to study the relationship between education and HIV/AIDS. This is an important research question which has been explored by previous studies which documented mixed results. To contribute to this stream of literature, Tadeáš uses established methods to analyze large dataset covering 21 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, he studies the link between education and knowledge about HIV and sexual behavior, which may be both important channels via which education may affect HIV prevalence. Another contribution is the question whether the strength of the link between education and HIV depends on wealth and prevalence of HIV.

The thesis is clearly written and organized. Tadeáš clearly has a sound knowledge of the relevant literature and uses appropriate methods to analyze the data. I would also like to appreciate careful interpretation of the results. Tadeáš is aware of a number of potential limitations of the data, including the difficulty to identify causal impact of education, and details them in the thesis. Further, he complements the main analysis by a series of robustness checks to verify whether the results are robust when using alternative measures of education and alternative estimation strategies.

To summarize, I believe the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES FSS, Charles University, and suggest grade A (1).

## **SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED** (for details, see below):

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	25
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	25
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>90</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	<b>1</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** Julie Chytilová

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** January 12, 2017

  
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Referee Signature

**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

**LITERATURE REVIEW:** *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong            Average            Weak  
20                10                0

**METHODS:** *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong            Average            Weak  
30                15                0

**CONTRIBUTION:** *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong            Average            Weak  
30                15                0

**MANUSCRIPT FORM:** *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong            Average            Weak  
20                10                0

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě