

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Self-Control and Peer Groups: An Empirical Analysis

Author: Marco Battaglini Carlos Díaz Eleonora Patacchini

PII: S0167-2681(16)30300-6

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jebo.2016.12.018>

Reference: JEBO 3948



To appear in: *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*

Received date: 5-11-2015

Revised date: 17-12-2016

Accepted date: 19-12-2016

Please cite this article as: Marco Battaglini, Carlos Díaz, Eleonora Patacchini, Self-Control and Peer Groups: An Empirical Analysis, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* (2016), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2016.12.018>

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11 Marco Battaglini* Carlos Díaz† Eleonora Patacchini‡

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18 **Abstract**

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20 We exploit the exogenous variation in peer groups generated by high school to college tran-
21 sitions to study the theoretical predictions of Battaglini, Bénabou and Tirole's (2005) model
22 of self-control in peer groups. We find evidence consistent with the two key predictions of
23 this theory regarding the relationship between an agent's expected level of self-control and
24 the size and composition of his or her social circles: (i) students embedded in social circles
25 have more self-control than those who are alone and their self-control is increasing in the size
26 of their social group; (ii) students' self-control is, however, a non-monotonic hump-shaped
27 function of the average self-control of their friends.
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31 **Key words:** Peer effects, self-control.

32 **JEL Classification:** C31, D71, D85, I21, Z13.
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*Cornell University and EIEF. E-mail: battaglini@cornell.edu

58 †CERES and Universidad ORT Uruguay. E-mail: cddiazgu@syr.edu

59 ‡Cornell University, EIEF, IZA and CEPR. E-mail: ep454@cornell.edu
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