

JORGE CUARTAS

Harvard Graduate School of Education
14 Appian Way, Office 412, Cambridge MA.

Email: jcuartas@g.harvard.edu
Homepage: scholar.harvard.edu/jorgecuartas

EDUCATION

Expected 2023	Ph.D. Education, <i>Harvard University</i>
2020	Ed.M. Human Development and Psychology, <i>Harvard University</i>
2016	M.Sc. Economics, <i>Universidad de los Andes</i>
2011	B.Sc. Economics, <i>Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2018 – current	Research Assistant, <i>Harvard Graduate School of Education</i>
2020 – current	Consultant, <i>UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean</i>
2019 – 2020	Consultant, <i>Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF)</i>
2017 – 2018	Research Assistant, <i>School of Education, Universidad de los Andes</i>
2014 – 2018	Research Assistant, <i>School of Government, Universidad de los Andes</i>
2011 – 2012	Research Assistant, <i>Department of Economics, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>
2011	Research Assistant, <i>Center for Studies on Economic Development, Universidad de los Andes</i>

RESEARCH

Peer-reviewed publications

1. **Cuartas, J.** (In press). The effect of spanking on early social-emotional skills. *Child Development*.
2. **Cuartas, J.** (In press) The Effect of Maternal Education on Parenting and Early Childhood Development: An Instrumental Variables Approach. *Journal of Family Psychology*.
3. Hanno, E., **Cuartas, J.**, Miratrix, L., Jones, S., Lesaux, N. (In press). Changes in children's behavioral health and family well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics*.
4. **Cuartas, J.**, Weissman, D., Sheridan, M., Lengua, L. & McLaughlin, K. (2021). Corporal punishment and elevated neural response to threat in children. *Child Development*, 92(3), 821-832.
5. McCoy, D., **Cuartas, J.**, Behrman, J., Cappa, C., Heymann, J., López Boo, F., Lu, C., Raikes, A., Richter, L., Stein, A. & Fink, G. (2021). Global estimates of the implications of COVID-19-related preprimary school closures for children's instructional access, development, learning, and economic wellbeing. *Child Development*, 92(5), e883-e899
6. **Cuartas, J.** (2021). Corporal punishment and early childhood development in 49 low- and middle-income countries. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 120, 105205-105205
7. Richter, L., Behrman, J., Britto, P., Cappa, C., Cohns, C., **Cuartas, J.**, Daelmans, B., Dervecelli, A., Fink, G., Fredman, S., Heymann, J., Lopez Boo, F., Lu, C., Lule, E., McCoy, D., Naicker, S., Rao, N., Raikes, A., Sten, A., Vazquez, C., Yoshikawa, H. (2021). Measuring and forecasting progress in education: what about early childhood? *npj Science of Learning*, 6, 1-7.
8. **Cuartas, J.** & McCoy, D. (2021). Causal mediation in developmental science: a primer. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 45(3), 269-274
9. Ward, K. P., Grogan-Kaylor, A., Pace, G., **Cuartas, J.** & Lee, S. (2021). Multilevel ecological analysis of the predictors of spanking across 65 countries. *BMJ Open*, 11:e046075, 1-8.
10. Waldman, M., McCoy, D., Seiden, J., **Cuartas, J.**, CREDI Field Team, Fink, G. (2021). Validation of motor, cognitive, language, and socioemotional subscales using the caregiver reported early development instruments: an application of multidimensional item factor analysis. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 45(4), 368-377
11. **Cuartas, J.**, McCoy, D., Grogan-Kaylor, A. & Gershoff, E. (2020). Physical punishment as a predictor of early cognitive development: evidence from econometric approaches. *Developmental Psychology*, 56(11), 2013-2026.

12. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Heightened risk of child maltreatment amid the COVID-19 pandemic can exacerbate mental health problems for the next generation. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, Policy*, 12(S1), S195-S196.
13. Lu, C., **Cuartas, J.**, Fink, G., McCoy, D., Liu, K., Li, Z., Daelmans, B., & Ritcher, L. (2020). Inequalities in early childhood care, education, and development in low- and middle-income countries: 2009-2018. *BMJ Global Health*, 5(2), e002314-e002314.
14. **Cuartas, J.**, Jeong, J., Rey-Guerra, C., McCoy, D., & Yoshikawa, H. (2020). Maternal, paternal, and other caregivers' stimulation in low- and middle-income countries. *PLOS One*, 15(7), e0236107-e0236107.
15. **Cuartas, J.** & Leventhal, T (2020). Exposure to community violence and children's mental health: A quasi-experimental examination. *Social Science and Medicine*, 246, 112740-112740.
16. **Cuartas, J.**, Ward, K., Ma, J., & Grogan-Kaylor, A. (2020). Physical punishment and Colombian children and adolescents' cognitive and behavioral outcomes. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 68, 101140.
17. **Cuartas, J.**, Rey-Guerra, C., McCoy, D. & Hanno, E. (2020). Maternal knowledge, stimulation, and early childhood development in low-income families in Colombia. *Infancy*, 25(5), 526-534.
18. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Improving the measurement of children's mental health problems in Colombia with item response theory. *Revista Colombiana de Psicología*, 29(1), 87-103.
19. García, S. & **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Can poverty alleviation programs crowd-in private support? Short- and middle-run effects of a conditional cash transfer program on inter-household transfers. *Journal of Social Policy*, 50(3), 511-532.
20. **Cuartas, J.**, McCoy, D., Rey-Guerra, C., Britto, P., Beatriz, E. & Salhi, C. (2019). Early childhood exposure to non-violent discipline and physical and psychological aggression in low- and middle-income countries: national, regional, and global prevalence estimates. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 92, 93-105.
21. **Cuartas, J.**, Grogan-Kaylor, A., Ma, J. & Castillo, B. (2019). Civil conflict, domestic violence, and poverty as predictors of corporal punishment in Colombia. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 90, 108-119.
22. García, S., Harker, A. & **Cuartas, J.** (2019). Building dreams: the short-term impacts of a conditional cash transfer program on aspirations for higher education. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 64, 48-57.
23. **Cuartas, J.** & Roy, A. (2019). The latent threat of community violence: indirect exposure to local homicides and adolescents' mental health in Colombia. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 64(1-2), 218-230.
24. McCoy, D., **Cuartas, J.**, Waldman, M. & Fink, G. (2019). Contextual variation in young children's acquisition of social-emotional skills. *PLOS One*, 14(11), e0223056-e0223056.
25. **Cuartas, J.**, Liévano, L., Martínez, M.A., Hessel, P. (2019). The invisible wounds of five decades of armed conflict: inequalities in mental health and their determinants in Colombia. *International Journal of Public Health*, 64(5), 703-711.
26. Hessel, P., Martínez, M.A. & **Cuartas, J.** (2019). Acute exposure to violent neighborhood crime and depressive symptoms among older individuals in Colombia. *Health and Place*, 59, 102162-102162.
27. **Cuartas, J.** & Rey-Guerra, C. (2019). Ecological predictors of perceiving scarcity in childhood. *Child Indicators Research*, 12(1), 99-113.
28. **Cuartas, J.** (2018). Physical punishment against the early childhood in Colombia: national and regional prevalence, sociodemographic gaps, and ten-year trends. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 93, 428-440.
29. **Cuartas, J.**, McCoy, D. & Molano, A. (2018). The acute effect of community violent crime on maternal engagement in cognitive and socioemotional stimulation. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 45, 143-154.
30. **Cuartas, J.** (2018). Neighborhood crime undermines parenting: Violence in the vicinity of households as a predictor of aggressive discipline. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 76, 399-399.
31. **Cuartas, J.** (2016). ¿Desigualdad y pobreza como determinantes de la confianza generalizada? Análisis con datos panel. *Revista Desarrollo y Sociedad*, 76, 91-121.

Policy briefs and other publications

1. **Cuartas, J.** & Rey-Guerra, C. (2020). Guidance for families to prevent violence in early childhood in the time of COVID-19: Toolkit. *United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)*. ([Link](#))
2. **Cuartas, J.** (2021). Ending corporal punishment in the early years of childhood: an essential right and need of every young child. *Early Childhood Development Action Network., End Violence Against Children, & End Corporal Punishment* ([Link](#)).

3. **Cuartas, J.** (2021). Los castigos físicos pueden afectar el desarrollo cerebral de los niños. *Interamerican Development Bank*. ([Link](#))
4. **Cuartas, J.** & Rey-Guerra, C. (2021). Un paquete de herramientas para prevenir la violencia contra los niños y niñas en tiempos de COVID-19. *Interamerican Development Bank*. ([Link](#))
5. Jones, S, Brush, K... **Cuartas, J.** & Bailey, R. (2021). Navigating SEL from the inside out. Looking inside & across 33 leading SEL programs: a practical resource for schools and OST providers. *EASEL lab, Harvard Graduate School of Education*. ([Link](#))
6. Gonzalez, K., Hanno, E., **Cuartas, J.**, Jones, S. & Lesaux, N. (2020). *How are they faring? Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the lives of families and young children in Massachusetts*. Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative, Harvard Graduate School of Education. ([Link](#))
7. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Cuatro cosas que debes saber sobre el castigo físico infantil en América Latina y el Caribe. *Interamerican Development Bank*. ([Link](#))
8. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Tres razones para nunca utilizar el castigo físico, de acuerdo con la ciencia. Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF). ([Link](#))
9. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). El regreso de los jardines infantiles también debe ser prioridad. *Revista Semana*. ([Link](#))
10. **Cuartas, J.** (2020). Criar a correazos: una práctica común en Colombia. *Revista Semana*.
11. Black, M., Bromley, K., Cavallera, V., **Cuartas, J.**, Dua, T., ... Weber, A. (2019). The Global Scale for Early Development (GSED). *Early Childhood Matters*. ([Link](#))
12. **Cuartas, J.** (2019). Estimating the global prevalence of violent and non-violent discipline in early childhood. *Global Initiative to End all Corporal Punishment of Children*, Guest Feature, 4 July. ([Link](#))
13. **Cuartas, J.** (2019). Los riesgos de criar con palmadas y correazos. *Revista Semana*. ([Link](#))
14. Maldonado-Carreño, C., Rey-Guerra, C., **Cuartas, J.**, Plata, T., Rodríguez, J., Largacha, E., Yoshikawa, H. & Dirección de Primera Infancia – MEN. (2018). Medición de la calidad de la educación inicial en Colombia en la modalidad institucional. *Notas de Políticas en Educación*, Universidad de los Andes. ([Link](#))

AWARDS & HONORS

2020-2021	Science and Innovation Fellowship (10,000 USD), <i>Harvard Center on the Developing Child</i>
2020-2021	Knowledge Fellowship (2,000 USD), <i>Early Childhood Development Action Network – ECDAN</i>
2021	SECC Dissertation Funding Award (2,000 USD), <i>Society for Research in Child Development - SRCD</i>
2021	Marta Arango Montoya Award for best research study in early childhood development in Colombia (2000 USD), <i>Fondo Acción</i> .
2021	Jeanne Humphrey Block Dissertation Award (2,500 USD), <i>Henry A. Murray Research Archive</i>
2021	Research Award (2,550 USD), <i>Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science</i>
2021	Brazil Research Grant (1,200 USD), <i>Harvard David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies</i>
2021	Summer Research Travel Grant (1,200 USD), <i>Harvard David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies</i>
2021	GSAS Professional Development Fund (2,500 USD), <i>Harvard GSAS</i>
2020	Early Career Scholar Program (1,200 USD), <i>International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development</i>
2020	Doctoral research grant (1,500 USD), <i>Harvard Graduate School of Education</i>
2020	Student Travel Award (300 USD), <i>Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science</i>
2020	Student Travel Award (250 USD), <i>Harvard David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies</i>
2019	Research Award (2,400 USD), <i>Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science</i>
2019	Student Travel Award (750 USD), <i>Harvard GSAS Student Council</i>
2019	Student Travel Award (750 USD), <i>Harvard Graduate School of Education</i>
2019	Student Travel Award (650 USD), <i>Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science</i>
2017	Travel Award (1,700 USD), <i>Universidad de los Andes</i>
2016	Research Award (40,000 USD), <i>Universidad de los Andes</i>
2009	Research Award (7,500 USD), <i>Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>
2009	Full Scholarship, <i>Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>

BROADER IMPACT

- 2020 I testified in the Colombian [Senate](#) and [House of Representatives](#) as they discussed a bill to prohibit corporal punishment.
- 2019 My research on corporal punishment was cited in a [bill](#) (*Proyecto de Ley Número 212 de 2019 Cámara*) to prohibit corporal punishment in Colombia.

PRESENTATIONS

Academic conferences

- 2021 *International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect*, Milan, Italy.
- 2021 *Society for Research in Child Development*; Virtual Meeting.
- 2019 *Society for Research in Child Development*; Baltimore, USA.
- 2017 *Latin American Studies Association*; Lima, Perú.
- 2016 *Colombian Economics Conference*; Bogotá, Colombia.

Invited

- 2021 *Corporal punishment of children and public health: what does the research tell us?* World Health Organization (WHO) and End Violence Against Children. ([Link](#))
- 2021 *IDB Regional Policy Dialogue 2021 – Innovations during the pandemic in health, social protection, and child development*. Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) and Harvard School of Public Health.
- 2021 *IX International Symposium on Early Childhood Development*, Núcleo Ciência Pela Infância (NCPI), Brazil.
- 2021 *Ending corporal punishment in the early years of childhood: an essential right and need of young children*, End Violence Against Children and Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN). ([Link](#))
- 2021 *Congreso Nacional de Pediatría*, Sociedad Colombiana de Pediatría, Bogotá, Colombia. ([Link](#))
- 2021 *COVID-19 y violencia en la primera infancia en América Latina y el Caribe*, Alianza de Cónyuges de Jefes de Estado (ALMA). Latin America & The Caribbean.
- 2020 *Prohibir el castigo físico y humillante, imperativo para eliminar la violencia contra la niñez*, Red Papaz, Bogotá, Colombia. ([Link](#))
- 2019 *Primer Encuentro Nacional para el Acompañamiento y Fortalecimiento a las Familias desde la Primera Infancia*, Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF), Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2019 *Encuentro Internacional sobre Castigo Físico*, Universidad de la Sabana, Chía, Colombia.

AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

- 2019 – current Ad Hoc Reviewer, *The Lancet*; *Child Development*; *Developmental Psychology*; *Development & Psychopathology*; *Child Abuse & Neglect*; *Psychology of Violence*; *Children & Youth Services Review*; *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences*; *Developmental Child Welfare*
- 2021 – current Member, *Child Well-Being Research Network*
- 2019 – current Graduate Student Affiliate, *Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science*
- 2018 – current Co-Founder and Co-Director, *Apapacho* (apapacho.com.co)
- 2020 Member, Advisory Board, Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF)
- 2009 Student Representative, *Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2021 Teaching Fellow, Science-Driven Innovation in the Early Childhood Ecosystem, *Harvard University*
- 2021 Teaching Fellow, Early Childhood Development in Global Contexts, *Harvard University*

2021	Teaching Fellow, Latent Variable Analysis: Structural Equation Modeling, <i>Harvard University</i>
2020	Teaching Fellow, Understanding Today's Educational Testing, <i>Harvard University</i>
2017 – 2018	Adjunct professor, Public Policy Evaluation, <i>Universidad de los Andes</i>
2015 – 2016	Adjunct professor, Poverty and Inequality, <i>Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>
2014 – 2016	Adjunct professor, Introduction to Economics, <i>Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano</i>

SKILLS

Software: Stata, R, Mplus, ArcGIS, EndNote, Covidence

Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (native).

SELECTED MEDIA MENTIONS

- 2021 [How spanking may affect brain development in children](#), *The Harvard Gazette*
- 2021 [Landmark study shows spanking alters children's brain development](#), *End Violence Against Children*
- 2021 [Should parents use corporal punishment to discipline children? Never, says one doctor. Yes, but don't use your hand, says another](#), *South China Morning Post*
- 2021 [Ideia de que palmada nos faz fortes é ultrapassada, diz pesquisador de Harvard](#), *Folha de S.Paulo*, Brazil
- 2021 [Palmadas comprometem desenvolvimento cerebral de crianças, mostra estudo](#), *Folha de S.Paulo*, Brazil
- 2021 [The effect of spanking on the brain](#), *Harvard Graduate School of Education Usable Knowledge*
- 2021 [Effect of spanking on kids' brains similar to abuse](#), *WebMD*
- 2021 [Smacking kids could affect brain development in a way similar to more severe violence](#), *9News Melbourne*, Australia
- 2021 ['Las palmadas afectan el cerebro de los niños': Harvard](#), *El Tiempo*, Colombia
- 2021 [Study reveals spanking may affect brain development of a child](#), *Hindustan Times*, India
- 2021 [Smacking children can affect their brain development, Harvard study says](#), *The Independent*, The United Kingdom
- 2021 [Spanking may change children's brains like more severe forms of violence](#), *The Academic Times*, United States
- 2020 [Students awarded fellowships by the Center on the Developing Child](#), *The Harvard Gazette*
- 2020 [Castigos físicos afectan hasta el cerebro](#), *El País de Cali*, Colombia
- 2019 [The consequences of corporal punishment – connecting research and policy action to reduce the harmful practice in Colombia and around the world](#), *Harvard Graduate School of Education News*
- 2019 [Conozca las consecuencias del castigo físico en los niños](#), *Canal RCN*, Colombia
- 2019 [Conozca las consecuencias que tendría el castigo físico, según la ciencia](#), *Blu Radio*, Colombia
- 2019 [El largo camino que queda para prohibir definitivamente el castigo físico en menores de edad](#), *Revista Semana*, Colombia