Essays on Education, Wages and Technology

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Abstract
This dissertation consists of three chapters, which focus jointly on the effects of education policy on the functioning of labor markets. De-industrialization and technological progress have changed job markets fundamentally. The most fundamental change is that the concept of a worker as a unit of production relatively insensitive to inherent characteristics has been overthrown. Service sectors that have taken over from manufacturing as the engines of economic activity rely primarily on human capital for autonomous production. This is especially true for internationally tradable services, the mere existence of which was solely rendered possible by the information-communication revolution. Skills and talent, as well as their allocation to suitable tasks matter for production, now more than ever. We argue in this dissertation that the ability of education policy to facilitate optimal task allocation plays a role in maximizing aggregate production and in influencing education earnings premia, as well as employment volumes and technological adoption in various sectors of activity.