



## EINLADUNG ZUR NÄCHSTEN VERANSTALTUNG DES POTSDAM RESEARCH SEMINAR IN ECONOMICS

Wir laden Sie herzlich zur nächsten Veranstaltung des Potsdam Research Seminar in Economics am **02.05.2017** ein. Das Seminar findet von **14.00 bis 16.00 Uhr** (c.t.) in Raum **3.01.231** statt.

*Referentin:* **Dr. Jana Friedrichsen** (DIW und HU Berlin)

## Thema des Vortrages: Welfare Stigma in the Lab: Evidence of Social Signaling

## Abstract:

Social stigmatization is often invoked to explain incomplete take-up of welfare benefits but empirically the stigma hypothesis is difficult to test. Our experiment is the first to present evidence that stigmatization through public exposure causally reduces the take-up of a privately beneficial transfer. Based on a theoretical framework that links stigma to inferences about the claimant, our design exogenously varies the informativeness of the take-up decision by varying whether transfer eligibility is based on ability or luck, and how the transfer is financed. We find that subjects avoid the inference both of being low-skilled and of being willing to live off others. The total effect implies a reduction in the take-up rate of 30 percentage points due to social stigmatization. Further, we do not find evidence that meritocratic concerns affect the take-up rate, and public exposure does not affect the take-up rate if it is uninformative about the claimant.

Wir freuen uns auf Ihre Teilnahme.