

This PDF is a selection from an out-of-print volume from the National Bureau of Economic Research

Volume Title: Risky Behavior among Youths: An Economic Analysis

Volume Author/Editor: Jonathan Gruber, editor

Volume Publisher: University of Chicago Press

Volume ISBN: 0-226-31013-2

Volume URL: <http://www.nber.org/books/grub01-1>

Publication Date: January 2001

Chapter Title: Front matter, acknowledgments, table of contents

Chapter Author: Jonathan Gruber

Chapter URL: <http://www.nber.org/chapters/c10684>

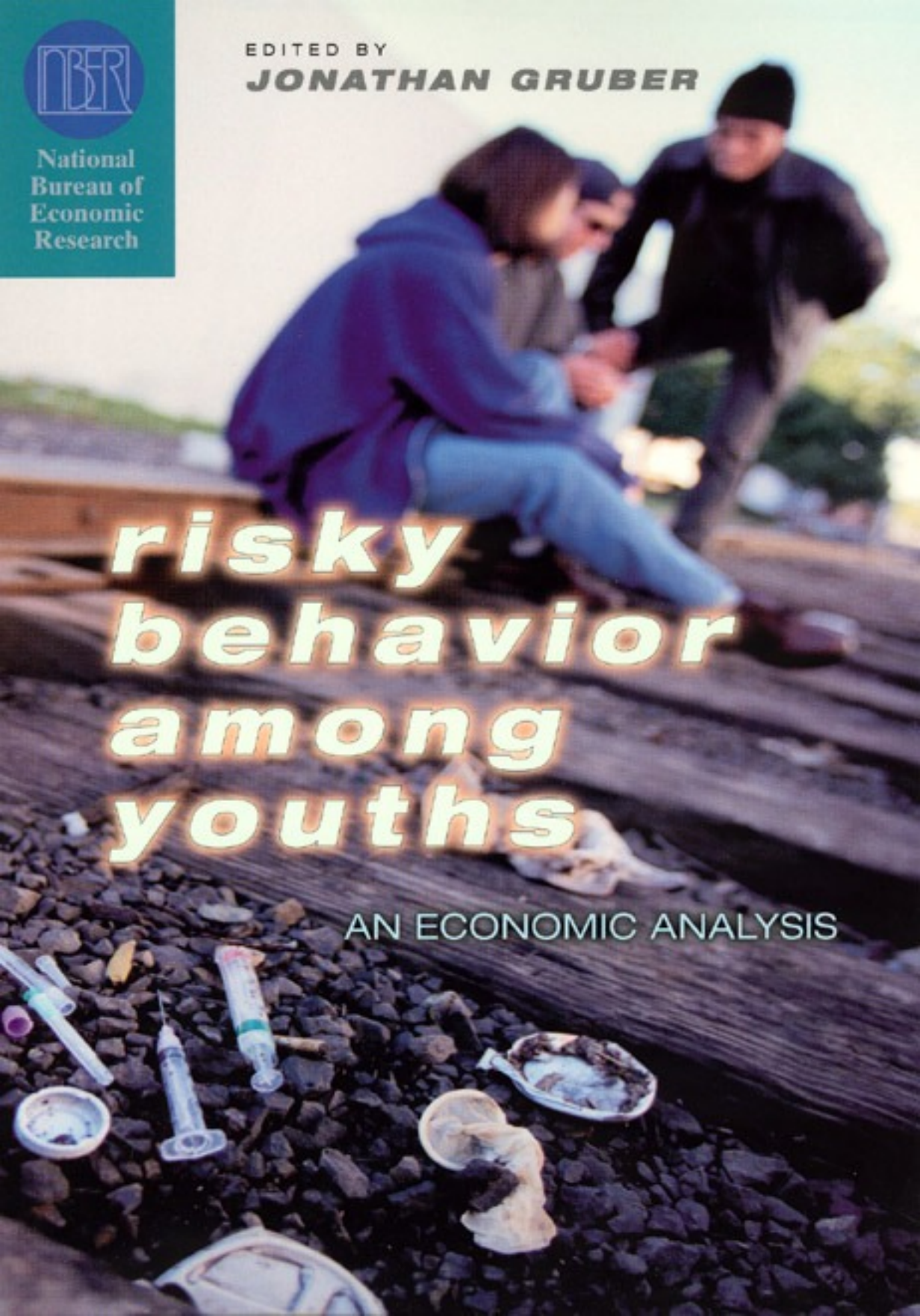
Chapter pages in book: (p. -12 - 0)



National
Bureau of
Economic
Research

EDITED BY

JONATHAN GRUBER

The background of the cover is a photograph of three young people sitting on a wooden roof. The person in the foreground is wearing a purple hoodie and blue jeans. In the background, another person is wearing a black beanie and a dark jacket. The foreground is filled with dark gravel and various pieces of drug paraphernalia, including several syringes, a small metal container, and a piece of paper.

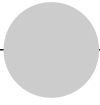
*risky
behavior
among
youths*

AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Risky Behavior among Youths



**A National Bureau
of Economic Research
Conference Report**



Risky Behavior
among Youths
An Economic Analysis

Edited by **Jonathan Gruber**

The University of Chicago Press

Chicago and London

JONATHAN GRUBER is professor of economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a research associate of and director of the Program on Children at the National Bureau of Economic Research.

The University of Chicago Press, Chicago 60637
The University of Chicago Press, Ltd., London
© 2001 by the National Bureau of Economic Research
All rights reserved. Published 2001
Printed in the United States of America
10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 1 2 3 4 5
ISBN: 0-226-31013-2 (cloth)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Risky behavior among youths : an economic analysis / edited by Jonathan Gruber.

p. cm.—(A National Bureau of Economic Research conference report)

“Papers presented at a conference held at the South Seas Plantation, in December 1999”—Ack.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-226-31013-2 (cloth : alk. paper)

1. Youth—Psychology—Economic aspects—Congresses.
2. Risk taking (Psychology) in adolescence—Economic aspects—Congresses. 3. Decision making in adolescence—Economic aspects—Congresses. I. Gruber, Jonathan. II. Conference report (National Bureau of Economic Research)

HQ796.R554 2001

305.235—dc21

00-047973

© The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of the American National Standard for Information Sciences—Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1992.

National Bureau of Economic Research

Officers

Carl F. Christ, *chairman*

Kathleen B. Cooper, *vice-chairman*

Martin Feldstein, *president and chief
executive officer*

Robert Mednick, *treasurer*

Susan Colligan, *corporate secretary*

Kelly Horak, *controller and assistant
corporate secretary*

Gerardine Johnson, *assistant corporate
secretary*

Directors at Large

Peter C. Aldrich

Elizabeth E. Bailey

John H. Biggs

Andrew Brimmer

Carl F. Christ

Don R. Conlan

Kathleen B. Cooper

George C. Eads

Martin Feldstein

Stephen Friedman

George Hatsopoulos

Karen N. Horn

Judy C. Lewent

John Lipsky

Leo Melamed

Michael H. Moskow

Rudolph A. Oswald

Robert T. Parry

Peter G. Peterson

Richard N. Rosett

Kathleen P. Utgoff

Marina v.N. Whitman

Martin B. Zimmerman

Directors by University Appointment

George Akerlof, *California, Berkeley*

Jagdish Bhagwati, *Columbia*

William C. Brainard, *Yale*

Glen G. Cain, *Wisconsin*

Franklin Fisher, *Massachusetts Institute
of Technology*

Saul H. Hymans, *Michigan*

Marjorie B. McElroy, *Duke*

Joel Mokyr, *Northwestern*

Andrew Postlewaite, *Pennsylvania*

Nathan Rosenberg, *Stanford*

Michael Rothschild, *Princeton*

Craig Swan, *Minnesota*

David B. Yoffie, *Harvard*

Arnold Zellner, *Chicago*

Directors by Appointment of Other Organizations

Marcel Boyer, *Canadian Economics
Association*

Mark Drabenstott, *American Agricultural
Economics Association*

Gail D. Fosler, *The Conference Board*

A. Ronald Gallant, *American Statistical
Association*

Robert S. Hamada, *American Finance
Association*

Robert Mednick, *American Institute of
Certified Public Accountants*

Richard D. Rippe, *National Association for
Business Economics*

John J. Siegfried, *American Economic
Association*

David A. Smith, *American Federation of
Labor and Congress of Industrial
Organizations*

Josh S. Weston, *Committee for Economic
Development*

Gavin Wright, *Economic History
Association*

Directors Emeriti

Moses Abramovitz

Thomas D. Flynn

Lawrence R. Klein

Franklin A. Lindsay

Paul W. McCracken

Bert Seidman

Eli Shapiro

Since this volume is a record of conference proceedings, it has been exempted from the rules governing critical review of manuscripts by the Board of Directors of the National Bureau (resolution adopted 8 June 1948, as revised 21 November 1949 and 20 April 1968).

To my wife, Andrea, whose constant support was very helpful in making this project a reality, and to my children, Ava, Jack, and Sam

Contents

	Acknowledgments	xi
	Introduction	1
	Jonathan Gruber	
1.	Risky Behavior among Youths: Some Issues from Behavioral Economics	29
	Ted O'Donoghue and Matthew Rabin	
2.	Youth Smoking in the United States: Evidence and Implications	69
	Jonathan Gruber and Jonathan Zinman	
3.	Teens and Traffic Safety	121
	Thomas S. Dee and William N. Evans	
4.	The Sexual Activity and Birth-Control Use of American Teenagers	167
	Phillip B. Levine	
5.	Explaining the Rise in Youth Suicide	219
	David M. Cutler, Edward L. Glaeser, and Karen E. Norberg	
6.	Marijuana and Youth	271
	Rosalie Liccardo Pacula, Michael Grossman, Frank J. Chaloupka, Patrick M. O'Malley, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Matthew C. Farrelly	
7.	The Determinants of Juvenile Crime	327
	Steven D. Levitt and Lance Lochner	

8.	Environment and Persistence in Youthful Drinking Patterns	375
	Philip J. Cook and Michael J. Moore	
9.	Dropout and Enrollment Trends in the Postwar Period: What Went Wrong in the 1970s?	439
	David Card and Thomas Lemieux	
10.	Youths at Nutrition Risk: Malnourished or Misnourished?	483
	Jay Bhattacharya and Janet Currie	
	Contributors	523
	Author Index	525
	Subject Index	533

Acknowledgments

This project is part of the National Bureau of Economic Research's Program on Children, which seeks to bring economists together to study the range of issues related to child well-being. I am grateful to Martin Feldstein, president of the NBER, for having the vision to put together this general program and for his support for this project in particular. The idea for this project grew out of work I did at the U.S. Treasury Department and in particular out of conversations with Larry Summers, for which I am also grateful.

The project was supported by generous funding from the Smith Richardson Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. I am very grateful to Phoebe Cottingham at Smith Richardson and Tracy Orleans at RWJ for guiding the proposal through the funding process.

The papers in this volume were presented at a conference at the South Seas Plantation in December 1999. The NBER conference department staff, and in particular Kirsten Foss Davis and Joel Whalen, worked tirelessly to make this a terrific experience for everyone involved. Helena FitzPatrick patiently guided us through the difficult terrain of the review process and was instrumental in turning this project into an actual volume.

