

APPENDIX

I. Ratification (Table 1 and Figure 1)

Variable transformations

Because it is highly right-skewed, I log CHILD LABOR. I then rescale it so that it ranges from 0 (0% of children engaged in the labor force) to 8.867 (70% of children in the labor force). I transform each ‘democracy’ measure so that full democracies have a value of 0 and full non-democracies have a value of -1. For JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE and DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, this simply entails subtracting 1 from all original values. For CIVIL LIBERTIES, I reverse the original Freedom House values and rescale as follows:

| Original Value | Value in Table 1 Analyses |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 (e.g., Norway) | 0 |
| 2 | -.167 |
| 3 | -.333 |
| 4 | -.5 |
| 5 | -.667 |
| 6 | -.833 |
| 7 (e.g., North Korea) | -1 |

The rescaling of CHILD LABOR and each ‘democracy’ variable does not affect the substantive results, but it enables me to set intercepts at theoretically interesting values and to directly compare coefficients across models. The interaction terms are also based on these rescaled values.

Robustness checks

I include controls for presence of a LEFT-WING GOVERNMENT, (logged) GDP PER CAPITA, RECENT DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION, and separate RATIFICATION BARRIERS parameters for democracies and non-democracies. None is a significant predictor, although DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION comes close. The inclusion of these variables does not alter the other results notably.

Because the relationship between child labor and democracy is interactive, the

‘tipping point’ in Figure 1 depends somewhat on the simulated change in child labor. To get a better sense of what the average situation might look like, I re-run the simulation, this time estimating the marginal effect of a 100% increase above the mean of child labor (in practice, this means a rise in the percentage of children working from 3% to 8.5%). The resulting graphs look very similar to those displayed in Figure 1. Further simulations show (unsurprisingly, given the results in Table 1) that the larger the simulated increase in child labor, the lower the ‘tipping point’ on the relevant democracy measure.

II. Child Labor (Tables 2 and 3)

Variable transformations (Tables 2 and 3) and cutpoints (Table 2)

Being a proportion, the dependent variable can only assume values between 0 and 1. This can be a problem because OLS models can predict values out of these bounds. A common approach is to do a log, square root, or arcsine transformation of the dependent variable. Of the three, the square root transformation best improves model fit. I also log GDP PER CAPITA because it is highly right-skewed.¹

In split-sample analyses, I use the following cutpoints. For CIVIL LIBERTIES, I follow others, coding countries as protecting civil liberties if they have a score of 1, 2, or 3 in the original data. I consider a country to have an independent judiciary if it lies in the upper tercile of the distribution. There is obviously a degree of arbitrariness in this approach, but it has the benefit of eliminating bias that probably results from a subjectively determined cutpoint. Although there is substantial overlap in countries’ categorizations, there is certainly some variation. Table 1A in this appendix provides a list of which countries fit into each category on a yearly basis.

¹ Basu 1999; Heston et al. 2011. This variable controls for purchasing power parities.

In the analyses of all countries (Table 3), for ease of comparison with the other democracy measures, I rescale CIVIL LIBERTIES from its original Freedom House values by: (1) reversing the scale so that higher values indicate more (rather than fewer) civil liberties (as shown on p. 1 of the appendix); and (2) dividing all values by 6. All three measures now range from 0 (least democratic) to 1 (most democratic); hence, we can directly compare them.

Tests of Instrument Relevance and Validity

Democracies (Table 2, models 1, 3, and 5)

- RATIFICATION BARRIERS: weak → irrelevant. Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics are close to zero.
- REGIONAL RATIFICATION: weak (or even irrelevant). Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics range from 2.57 to 3.3.
- ISSUE-AREA EMBEDDEDNESS: not valid (not orthogonal). I initially include this variable in each model displayed in Table 2. The C ('difference in Sargan') statistics are significant at $p < .05$. This casts doubt on the validity of this instrument.
- INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDEDNESS, COMMON LAW: acceptable instruments. We can easily reject the hypothesis that these candidate instruments are irrelevant (F-tests range from 13.4 to 22.4 and Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics range from 16.6 to 20.8). Values fall in a conservative (10%) range of the Stock-Yogo (2004) critical cutpoints. This provides further evidence that the instruments are not weak. C statistics for the individual variables never approach statistical significance. Hansen's J is never statistically significant. Both suggest that the instruments are valid.

Non-democracies (Table 2, models 2, 4, and 6)

- RATIFICATION BARRIERS: weak (or even irrelevant). Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics range from 3.5 to 6.3.
- ISSUE-AREA EMBEDDEDNESS: Not valid (not orthogonal). This variable easily passes the tests of irrelevance/weakness. Hence, I initially include it in each model displayed in Table 3. However, in some of the analyses, *C* statistics are significant at $p < .10$. This raises some concerns about the instrument's validity, so I do not include it in the analyses.
- COMMON LAW: weak → irrelevant. Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics are close to zero.
- INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDEDNESS, REGIONAL RATIFICATION: acceptable instruments. We can easily reject the hypothesis that these candidate instruments are irrelevant (F-tests range from 13.3 to 21.5 and Kleibergen-Paap LM statistics range from 22.9 to 23.5). Values fall in a conservative (10%) range of the Stock-Yogo (2004) critical cutpoints. This provides further evidence that the instruments are not weak. *C* statistics for the individual variables never approach statistical significance. Hansen's *J* is never statistically significant. Both suggest that the instruments are valid.

One final test of interest for all models in Table 2 is the Anderson-Rubin Wald test, which is always significant at conventional levels for democracies and never significant for non-democracies. This latter finding tells us that for non-democracies, the effect of the endogenous regressor (RATIFIED MAC) is not statistically different from zero.

Combined with the knowledge that the instruments are relevant and valid (above), this suggests that ratification indeed has a null effect on child labor for non-democracies.

Pooled analyses (Table 3)

Based on the analyses of democracies and non-democracies separately, there are three candidate instruments: (1) COMMON LAW, (2) INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL

EMBEDDEDNESS, and (3) REGIONAL RATIFICATION. This is potentially problematic because (3) was weak/irrelevant in the analyses of democracies, and (1) was weak/irrelevant in the analyses of non-democracies. Eliminating both from the pooled analyses would leave us with one instrument (and its interaction with the relevant democracy variable), which is not ideal.² I proceed as follows. First, I estimate the models with just INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDEDNESS and REGIONAL RATIFICATION (and the interaction terms). Hansen's *J* p-values were .017, .103, and .064. *C* statistics for the interaction of REGIONAL RATIFICATION and the relevant democracy measure were .044, .123, and .093. These results are statistically significant (or fairly close) enough to cast considerable doubt on the instrument's validity. Consequently, I decide not to use REGIONAL RATIFICATION (or the related interaction terms) in the pooled analyses.

Next, I estimate the models with just INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDEDNESS and COMMON LAW (and the interaction terms). Hansen's *J* p-values never achieve statistical significance. *C* statistics for COMMON LAW, AS well as the interaction of COMMON LAW and the relevant democracy measures, are always far from statistically significant. Hence, these instruments appear to be valid.

For the results reported in Table 3, the Kleibergen-Paap statistic indicates that the instruments are strongly correlated with the endogenous variable. Values fall above a conservative range of the Stock-Yogo (2004) critical cutpoints for bias and size

² I conducted the analyses with only INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDEDNESS and its interaction with the relevant democracy measure. The analyses easily passed the test of relevance. By definition, Hansen's *J* cannot be rejected (because the equation is exactly identified). The findings with regard to ratification's impact are very similar to those in Table 3, except that the probability that ratification decreases child labor in countries with democratic elections becomes marginally non-significant ($p = .119$).

distortion (although in two specifications, the values for size distortion are between 10 and 15%, which is still acceptable). Overall, the instruments appear not to be weak.

Robustness checks

I perform several robustness checks. I rerun all of the analyses with the following variables, one by one:

- **AGRICULTURE AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP.** It is positively and significantly related to child labor when I run the analyses without GDP PER CAPITA. (The variables are highly correlated, as noted earlier). The main findings are unchanged.
- **PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT.** Consistent with the existing literature, I find that countries in which more children are enrolled in school typically have lower child labor. The main findings are unchanged.
- **BIRTH RATE.** Countries with high birth rates also have consistently higher child labor. Many of the findings become statistically non-significant. This appears to be due to the reduction in sample size (because of limited data availability for BIRTH RATES).
- **REGIONAL CHILD LABOR.** Not surprisingly, it is a positive and significant predictor of child labor levels in all specifications. The main findings are unchanged.
- I obtained data on the **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE.** Unfortunately, however, data availability for this variable is far too limited to include it in the analyses.
- **MANUFACTURING/GDP.** Manufacturing-dependent economies have lower child labor, but this relationship is never statistically significant at conventional levels. The main findings are unchanged.
- **LEFT-WING GOVERNMENT** is associated with lower child labor, but this is only statistically significant in one model. The main findings are unchanged.

As discussed in the article, I exclude from the analyses of child labor all countries that ratified when they had no child labor. When I include these countries in the

analyses of democracies, there is still substantial evidence of endogeneity. Although ratification still drives down child labor, its substantive impact declines and falls short of standard levels of statistical significance. This is not surprising given that the sample now includes countries where it is computationally impossible and theoretically not expected that ratification would decrease child labor. For non-democracies, in contrast, the results do not change notably when I include in the analyses countries that ratified when they had no child labor.

IV regression carries the well-known pitfalls of bias due to weak instruments and inefficiency, but neither appears to be problematic in the regressions reported in Table 2. Nonetheless, one could reasonably argue that if endogeneity is not a problem for the countries in models 2, 4, and 6, methods to mitigate it are unnecessary and inefficient. I obtained similar results when estimating each model using a more efficient – though possibly biased – OLS model. The coefficients on `RATIFIED` are still positive, but smaller and in any case not statistically significant. Hence, the findings are not an artifact of IV regression's inefficiency.

To address concerns about `CHILD LABOR` data quality, I use the following approach. Given the close relationship between economic development and child labor, one solution is to consider suspect any state whose child labor is substantially lower than its GDP per capita would predict. (In practice, I chose the top 10% as a cutoff point). Robustness checks confirm that none of the results depends on the inclusion of these 'suspicious' countries.

Table 1A. Countries Included in Analyses and Years of Categorization as ‘Democracies’

| Country | Judicial Independence | Civil Liberties | Elections | Entered data (if not 1980) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Afghanistan | None | None | None | |
| Albania | None | 1992, 2002 | 1991 | |
| Algeria | None | None | None | |
| Angola | None | None | None | |
| Argentina | 1984-1989, 1997-2002 | 1984-2002 | 1983-2002 | |
| Armenia | None | 1992 | 1992-2002 | 1992 |
| Australia | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Austria | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Bahamas | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Bahrain | None | None | None | |
| Bangladesh | 1992-1998 | 1991-1992 | 1986-2002 | |
| Barbados | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Belarus | 1991 | 1992 | None | 1991 |
| Belgium | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Belize | 1981-2002 | 1981-2002 | 1981-2002 | 1981 |
| Benin | 1992-1999 | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | |
| Bolivia | 1985-2002 | 1983-1994, 1996-2002 | 1982-2002 | |
| Bosnia | None | None | None | 1992 |
| Botswana | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | None | |
| Brazil | 1985-2002 | 1980-1992, 2000-2002 | 1985-2002 | |
| Brunei | 1984-2002 | None | None | 1984 |
| Bulgaria | 1989-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| Burkina Faso | None | None | None | |
| Burundi | None | None | 1993-1995 | |
| Cambodia | None | None | None | |
| Canada | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Cape Verde | 1989-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| Central African Rep | None | None | 1993-2002 | |
| Chad | None | None | None | |
| Chile | 1989-2002 | 1989-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| China | None | None | None | |
| Colombia | 1980-2002 | 1980-1988 | 1980-2002 | |
| Cameroon | None | None | None | |
| Comoros | 1992-1996 | 1991-1992 | 1990-1993 | |
| Congo Dem Rep | None | None | None | |
| Congo Republic of | None | 1992-1993 | 1992-1996 | |
| Costa Rica | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Côte d’Ivoire | None | None | None | |
| Croatia | 1999-2002 | 2000-2002 | 1992-2002 | 1992 |
| Cuba | None | None | None | |
| Cyprus | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1983-2002 | |
| Czech Republic | 1993-2002 | 1993-2002 | 1993-2002 | 1993 |
| Denmark | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Dominican Rep | 1999-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Ecuador | 1981-1999 | 1980-1995, 1997-2002 | 1980-1999, 2002 | |
| El Salvador | 1995-1999 | 1980-2002 | 1988, 1992-2002 | |
| Egypt | None | None | None | |

| Country | Judicial Independence | Civil Liberties | Elections | Entered data (if not 1980) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Equatorial Guinea | None | None | None | 1993 |
| Eritrea | None | None | None | 1993 |
| Estonia | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991 |
| Ethiopia | 2002 | None | None | |
| Fiji | 1980-2002 | 1980-1986, 1992-2002 | 1992-1999 | |
| Finland | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| France | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Gabon | None | 1991 | None | |
| Gambia | 1988-1991 | 1980, 1987-1993 | None | |
| Georgia | None | None | None | 1992 |
| (West) Germany | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Ghana | None | 1980, 1997-2002 | 1980, 1993-2002 | |
| Greece | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Guatemala | None | 1986-1989 | 1980-1981, 1986-2002 | |
| Guinea-Bissau | None | None | 2000-2002 | |
| Guyana | 1993-2001 | 1992-2002 | None | |
| Haiti | None | None | None | |
| Honduras | None | 1980-2002 | 1982-2002 | |
| Hungary | 1988-2002 | 1989-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| Iceland | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| India | 1980-2002 | 1980-1990, 1998-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Indonesia | None | None | 1999-2002 | |
| Iran | None | None | None | |
| Iraq | None | None | None | |
| Ireland | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Israel | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Italy | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Jamaica | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Japan | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Jordan | None | 1992 | None | |
| Kazakhstan | None | None | None | 1992 |
| Kenya | None | None | 1998-2002 | |
| Korea South | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | |
| Kuwait | 1983-2001 | None | None | |
| Kyrgyzstan | None | 1992-1994 | None | 1992 |
| Laos | None | None | None | |
| Latvia | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991 |
| Lebanon | 1980-2002 | None | None | |
| Lesotho | 1984-2002 | 2002 | None | |
| Liberia | None | None | None | |
| Libya | None | None | None | |
| Lithuania | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1991 |
| Luxembourg | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Macedonia | 1993-2002 | 1993-2000, 2002 | 1993-2002 | 1993 |
| Madagascar | 1990-1994 | None | 1993-2002 | |
| Malawi | 1996-2002 | 1994-2001 | 1994-2002 | |
| Malaysia | 1980-1993 | None | None | |

| Country | Judicial Independence | Civil Liberties | Elections | Entered data (if not 1980) |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Maldives | None | None | None | |
| Mali | None | 1992-1993, 1995-2002 | 1992-2002 | |
| Malta | 1990-2002 | 1980-1982, 1987-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Mauritania | None | None | None | |
| Mauritius | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Mexico | 1997-2002 | 1989, 1992, 1996, 2000-2002 | 2000-2002 | |
| Moldova | 1992-2002 | None | 1992-2002 | 1992 |
| Mongolia | 1992-2002 | 1991-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| Morocco | None | None | None | |
| Mozambique | None | None | None | |
| Myanmar | None | None | None | |
| Namibia | 1990-2002 | 1990-2002 | None | 1990 |
| Nepal | 1991-1999 | 1991-1992 | 1990-2001 | |
| Netherlands | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| New Zealand | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Nicaragua | 1995-2002 | 1990-1992, 1996-2002 | 1984-2002 | |
| Niger | None | None | 1993-1995, 2000-2002 | |
| Nigeria | 1980-1982 | 1980-1983, 1999 | 1980-1982, 1999-2002 | |
| Norway | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Oman | None | None | None | |
| Pakistan | None | 1988-1989 | 1988-1998 | |
| Panama | 1991-1999 | 1984-1986, 1990-2002 | 1989-2002 | |
| Papua New Guinea | 1980-2002 | 1980-1992, 1998-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Paraguay | 1993-2001 | 1989-2002 | 1989-2002 | |
| Peru | 1982-1986 | 1980-1988, 1996, 2001, 2002 | 1980-1989, 2001, 2002 | |
| Philippines | 1987-2001 | 1985-1992, 1996-2002 | 1986-2002 | |
| Poland | 1989-2002 | 1989-2002 | 1989-2002 | |
| Portugal | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Qatar | None | None | None | |
| Romania | 1994-2002 | 1994-2002 | 1990-2002 | |
| Rwanda | None | None | None | |
| Saudi Arabia | None | None | None | |
| Senegal | None | 1989-1992, 2002 | 2000-2002 | |
| Sierra Leone | None | None | 1996, 1998-2002 | |
| Singapore | None | None | None | |
| Slovakia | 1993-2002 | 1994-1995, 1998-2002 | 1993-2002 | 1993 |
| Slovenia | 1992-2002 | 1992-2002 | 1992-2002 | 1992 |
| Solomon Islands | 1980-2002 | 1980-1999, 2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| South Africa | 1980-2002 | 1994-2002 | 1994-2002 | |
| Spain | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Sri Lanka | 1980-2002 | 1980-1982 | 1989-2002 | |
| Sudan | None | None | 1986-1988 1988-1989, | |
| Suriname | None | 1988-1989, 1992-2002 | 1991-2002 | |

| Country | Judicial Independence | Civil Liberties | Elections | Entered data (if not 1980) |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Swaziland | None | None | None | |
| Sweden | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Switzerland | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Syria | None | None | None | |
| Tanzania | None | 2002 | None | |
| Thailand | 1989-2002 | 1986-1990, 1996-2002 | 1980-1990, 1991-2002 | |
| Togo | None | None | None | |
| Trinidad | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Tunisia | None | 1989 | None | |
| Turkey | 1980-2002 | 1989 | 1983-2002 | |
| Turkmenistan | None | None | None | 1992 |
| Uganda | None | None | 1980-1984 | |
| Ukraine | 1991-1992 | 1991-1992 | 1991-2002 | 1991 |
| UAE | 1986-1999 | None | None | |
| United Kingdom | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| United States | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | 1980-2002 | |
| Uruguay | 1983-2002 | 1985-2002 | 1985-2002 | |
| USSR/Russia | None | 1991 | None | |
| Uzbekistan | None | None | None | 1992 |
| Venezuela | 1980-1994 | 1980-1998 | 1980-2002 | |
| Vietnam | None | None | None | |
| Yemen | None | None | None | |
| Zambia | 1992-2002 | 1991-1992 | None | |
| Zimbabwe | 1980-1983, 1992-1995 | None | None | |