

Pencavel, John H. *Diminishing returns at work: the consequences of long working hours*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2018. 272 p. HD5124 .P46 2018. Cloth, \$39.95. ISBN: 978-0-190-87616-6

Pencavel's *Diminishing returns at work* is written for academic economists, but may also be relevant to an interdisciplinary audience of researchers, policymakers, and employers interested in understanding the relationship between hours worked, labor markets, and productivity in the United States and the United Kingdom over the past two centuries. The author compares different theoretical frameworks for incorporating hours worked into the production function and reviews empirical economic historical analyses of working hours across different industries in the two countries. Included in the book are new results from the author's re-evaluation of his past empirical analysis of the plywood industry, using an alternative theoretical framework that explains diminishing returns of long working hours by distinguishing between nominal and effective hours worked.