

Aaron J. Chalfin

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

University of Pennsylvania
Department of Criminology
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PRIMARY APPOINTMENT

2016-present Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

2018-present Senior Scholar, Penn Injury Science Center
2018-present Affiliated Researcher, California Policy Lab @ UCLA
2016-present Research Affiliate, University of Chicago Crime Lab

PRIOR POSITIONS

2014-2016 Research Director, University of Chicago Crime Lab
2013-2014 Assistant Professor, School of Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati
2006-2008 Research Associate, Justice Policy Center, Urban Institute

EDUCATION

2013 Ph.D., Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley
2004 M.A., International and Development Economics, Yale University
2003 B.S., Industrial & Labor Relations (concentration in Economics), Cornell University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Criminal Justice Policy, The Economics of Crime, Economic Demography, Applied Econometrics

WORKING PAPERS

"Community Infrastructure and Crime: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment of Street Lighting in New York City" (with Ben Hansen, Jason Lerner and Lucie Parker)

"New Evidence on Mexican Immigration and Crime in the United States: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Immigration Enforcement" (with Monica Deza)

"More Sneezing Less Crime? Health Shocks and the Market for Offenses" (with Shooshan Danagoulian and Monica Deza)

"Administrative Data Linking and Statistical Power Problems in Randomized Experiments" (with Ben Hansen, Zubin Jelveh, Sarah Tahamont and Shi Yan)

“Re-Examining the Relationship Between Immigration and Crime: Evidence from Mexico’s Demographic Transition”

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Minimum Legal Drinking Age and Victimization” (with Ben Hansen and Rachel Ryley)

“Ambient Lighting and Crime: Evidence from Street Light Outages in America’s Three Largest Cities” (with Jacob Kaplan and Michael Laforest)

“Using Wide Data to Target Crime Control: Selecting High Risk Domestic Violence Victims Using Machine Learning” (with Zubin Jelveh and Melissa McNeill)

“Making Case Studies More Credible: Matching, Machine Learning and Model Selection” (with Val Gilbert and Zubin Jelveh)

GRANTS

Co-Principal Investigator. “Using Machine Learning to Identify High Risk Domestic Violence Offenders in New York City,” National Institute of Justice, Award No. 2017-VA-CX-0033, \$452,553. (with Zubin Jelveh and Jens Ludwig)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“More Cops, Fewer Prisoners?,” accepted, *Criminology & Public Policy* (with Jacob Kaplan)

“The Effect of Parental Education on Children’s Drug and Alcohol Use,” *American Economic Review, Papers & Proceedings* 108(5): 373-37. (with Monica Deza)

“The Intergenerational Effects of Education on Delinquency,” forthcoming, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* (with Monica Deza)

“Are U.S. Cities Underpoliced? Theory and Evidence,” *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 100(1): 167-186 (with Justin McCrary)

⇒ Formerly “The Effect of Police on Crime: New Evidence from U.S. Cities, 1960-2010,” NBER Working Paper #18815

“Criminal Deterrence: A Review of the Literature” *Journal of Economic Literature* 55(1): 5-48 [Lead Article] (with Justin McCrary)

“Estimating the Effects of Raising the Age of Majority: Evidence from Connecticut,” *Criminology & Public Policy* 16(1): 45-71 (with Charles Loeffler)

“Productivity and Selection of Human Capital with Machine Learning,” *American Economic Review, Papers & Proceedings* 106(5): 124-127 (with Oren Danieli, Andrew Hillis, Zubin Jelveh, Mike Luca, Jens Ludwig and Sendhil Mullainathan)

"Can Rational Choice Be Considered a General Theory of Crime? Evidence from Individual-Level Panel Data," *Criminology* 54(1): 86-112 (with Tom Loughran, Ray Paternoster and Theodore Wilson)

"The Long-Run Effect of Mexican Immigration on Crime in U.S. Cities: Evidence from Variation in Mexican Fertility Rates," *American Economic Review, Papers & Proceedings* 105(5): 220-225

"The Effect of Federal Immigration Enforcement on Local Crime and Policing: Evidence from Secure Communities," *Criminology & Public Policy* 13(2): 285-322 (with Charles Loeffler and Elina Treyger)

"What is the Contribution of Immigration to U.S. Crime Rates? Evidence from Rainfall Shocks in Mexico," *American Law & Economics Review* 16(1): 220-268

"What Do Panel Studies Tell Us About a Deterrent Effect of Capital Punishment? A Critique of the Literature," *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 29(1): 5-43 (with Amelia Haviland and Steve Raphael)

"Reassessing the Cost of the Death Penalty Using Quasi-Experimental Methods: Evidence from Maryland," *American Law & Economics Review* 11: 530-574 (with John Roman and Carly Knight)

"The DNA Field Experiment: A Randomized Controlled Trial of the Cost-Effectiveness of Using DNA to Solve Property Crimes," *Journal of Experimental Criminology* 5(4): 345-369 (with John Roman, Shannon Reid and Carly Knight)

⇒ Awarded Best Field Trial, American Society of Criminology, 2011

⇒ Urban Institute President's Award for Best Annual Research Publication, 2009

"The Relation of the Perceived Environment to Fear, Physical Activity and Health in Public Housing Developments: Evidence from Chicago," *Journal of Public Health Policy* 30(1) 286-308 (with Caterina Roman, Carly Knight and Susan Popkin)

"Fear of Walking Outdoors: A Multilevel Analysis of Crime and Disorder," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 24(1): 36-48 (with Caterina Roman)

"What Does Cost-Benefit Analysis Add to Decision Making? Evidence from the Criminal Justice Literature," *Journal of Experimental Criminology* 4(2): 117-125 (with Kevin Marsh and John Roman)

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Capital Punishment Research," forthcoming in *The Encyclopedia of Research Methods and Statistical Techniques in Criminology and Criminal Justice* (with Val Gilbert and Lucie Parker)

"Economic Theory" in Frank Cullen, Daniel Nagin and Cheryl Lero Jonson, (eds.), *Deterrence, Choice and Crime: Contemporary Perspectives* (with Sarah Tahamont)

"Prisons and Crime Control" in Michael Tonry, (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook on Prisons and Imprisonment* (with Sarah Tahamont)

"The Economic Costs of Crime" in Wesley Jennings, (ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2014

"Work and Crime" in Michael Tonry (ed.), *Oxford Handbook of Crime and Criminal Justice*, Oxford University Press, 2011 (with Steve Raphael)

"From Impact Evaluation to Cost-Benefit Evaluation: Methodological Issues in the Joint Estimation of Costs and Benefits" in Terrence Dunworth and John Roman (eds.), *Cost-Benefit Analysis and Crime Control*, Washington DC: Urban Institute Press, 2009

OTHER WRITING

"Has Demand for Crime Increased? The Prevalence of Personal Media Devices and the Robbery Spike in 2005 and 2006," *American Criminal Law Review* 45: 1149-1166 (with John Roman)

"Impact and Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Anchorage Wellness Court," Urban Institute Research Report, July 2008 (with John Roman, Jay Reid and Shannon Reid)

"To Treat or Not to Treat: Evidence on the Prospects of Expanding Treatment to Drug-Involved Offenders," Urban Institute Research Report, April 2008 (with Avinash Bhati and John Roman)

PRESENTATIONS

American Economic Association, American Society of Criminology, AL CAPONE, APPAM, California Policy Lab Policing Conference (scheduled), Case Western Reserve University (Economics), Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Inter-American Development Bank, International Community Corrections Association, NBER Summer Institute (Crime/Labor Studies), NIJ Crime Mapping Conference, Population Association of America, Public Policy Institute of California, RAND Corporation, Rutgers University (School of Criminal Justice), Stockholm Criminology Symposium, UC Berkeley (Demography, Goldman School of Public Policy), UCLA (Public Policy), University of Chicago Crime Lab, University of Cincinnati (Criminal Justice), University of Maryland (Workshop on Crime and Economics, Criminology), University of Oregon (Economics), University of Pennsylvania (Criminology), University of Pennsylvania Law School, University of Rochester (Economics), University of South Florida (Criminology), UT Dallas (Economics & Criminology), West Virginia University (Economics - scheduled)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2014	<i>Economic Journal</i> Referee Prize
2012	NSF/NBER Doctoral Fellowship, Program on the Economics of Crime
2012	National Institutes of Health, NICHD Doctoral Training Grant
2011	Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley
2009	NSF IGERT Fellowship in Politics, Economics and Public Policy

TEACHING

University of Pennsylvania, Department of Criminology

Instructor: Statistics for Policy Analysis (graduate), Pro-Seminar in Criminal Justice (graduate), Introduction to Criminal Justice (undergraduate)

University of Cincinnati, School of Criminal Justice

Instructor: Applied Statistics (graduate), Research Methods (undergraduate)

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Economics

Head Graduate Student Instructor to Ron Lee, Course: Introduction to Economic Demography (undergraduate)

ADVISING

Doctoral Advising:

Li Sian Goh (In Progress, Advisor)

Jacob Kaplan (In Progress, Committee Member)

Ruth Moyer (In Progress, Committee Member)

Pre-Doctoral Advising:

Valentine Gilbert (Ph.D. candidate, Harvard Kennedy School)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Manuscript Reviewer:

American Economic Review

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy

American Political Science Review

Criminology

Economic Inquiry

Industrial Relations

Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization

Journal of the European Economic Association

Journal of Law & Economics

Journal of Policy Analysis & Management

Journal of Quantitative Criminology

Justice Quarterly

Management Science

Oxford Economic Bulletin

Quarterly Journal of Economics

The Review of Economic Studies

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics

American Law & Economics Review

Crime Science

European Economic Review

Economic Journal

International Review of Law & Economics

Journal of Economic Development

Journal of Human Resources

Journal of Labor Economics

Journal of Public Economics

Journal of Urban Economics

Latin American Journal of Economics

Nature

PLoS ONE

The Review of Economics and Statistics

Social Problems

Other Reviewing: National Science Foundation (Program on Economics), Israel Science Foundation, Praeger Publishers (Public Economics: The Government's Role in American Economics)

University Service: Undergraduate Chair, Department of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania (2016-present)

Professional Service: American Society of Criminology, Methods & Workshops Committee (2018)

Advisory Positions: Data Science Working Group, Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity, Columbia Law School (2016-2017)

REFERENCES

Steve Raphael
Goldman School of Public Policy
2607 Hearst Avenue
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720
E-Mail: stevenraphael@berkeley.edu

Justin McCrary
Columbia Law School
435 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10025
E-Mail: jmccrary@law.columbia.edu

Jens Ludwig
Harris School of Public Policy
1155 East 60th Street
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