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## **Publications and Papers About Law, Economics, and Crime**

[A couple of those are downloadable free of charge. My PC did not show the exact status for each file. In case of interest, you therefore will have to check for yourself. Sorry for any inconvenience. HJ Kerner]

## **Scholarly Research**

### **Working Papers**

**Encouraging desistance from crime.** Revise & resubmit, *Journal of Economic Literature*.

First draft: February 2019. Current draft: [July 2020](#).

Previously circulated as: “Strategies to productively reincorporate the formerly-incarcerated into communities: A review of the literature.” 2018. [IZA Discussion Paper No. 11646](#).

Media coverage: [Bloomberg](#), [NPR’s The Indicator](#), [John Howard Society](#)

**Algorithmic Risk Assessment in the Hands of Humans** (with Megan Stevenson). [IZA Discussion Paper No. 12853](#).

First draft: September 2018. Current draft: [November 2019](#).

Media coverage: [Washington Post](#), [Slate’s What Next](#): TBD podcast, [Ipsedixit](#) podcast

**Access to Guns in the Heat of the Moment: The Effect of Gun Laws on Violent Crime** (with Jonathan Colmer).

First draft: June 2019. Current draft: November 2019 (available upon request).

**Women’s perceived safety and academic engagement: Can safety concerns create gender gaps in academia?** (with Sophie Trawalter, Lindsay Palmer, Kelly Hoffman, and Adrienne Carter-Sowell).

First draft: November 2018. Current draft: September 2019 (available upon request).

**The Moral Hazard of Lifesaving Innovations: Naloxone Access, Opioid Abuse, and Crime** (with Anita Mukherjee). [IZA Discussion Paper No. 11489](#).

First draft: March 2017. Current draft: [March 2019](#).

[Response to criticism](#)

Media coverage: [The Atlantic](#), [Washington Post](#), [The Times](#), [Globe and Mail](#), [Forbes](#), [Buzzfeed](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [CNN](#), [STAT](#), [Radio Health Journal](#), [Hidden Brain](#) podcast

**How do state crime policies affect other states? The externalities of state DNA database laws**

First draft: April 2016. Current draft: [December 2016](#).

[Data on state DNA database size](#)

**A Promising Alternative: How Making College Free Affects Teens' Risky Behaviors** (with Chloe Gibbs).

First draft: November 2014. Current draft: [May 2016](#).

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

**The effects of DNA databases on the deterrence and detection of offenders** (with Anne Sofie Tegner Anker and Rasmus Landersø). Forthcoming, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. Pre-print version: [April 2020](#). Media coverage: [Washington Post](#), [Undark](#)

**Which prisoner reentry programs work? Replicating and extending analyses of three RCTs** (with Chelsea Temple, David Pritchard, and Adam Roberts). 2020. *International Review of Law & Economics*, 62: 1-16. Pre-print version: [January 2020](#).

**Testing, Stress, and Performance: How Students Respond Physiologically to High-Stakes Testing** (with Jennifer Heissel, Emma Adam, David Figlio, and Jonathan Meer). Forthcoming, *Education Finance & Policy*. Preprint version: [November 2018](#). Media coverage: [Chalkbeat](#)

**The unintended consequences of “ban the box”: Statistical discrimination and employment outcomes when criminal histories are hidden** (with Benjamin Hansen). 2020. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 38(2): 321-374. Preprint version: [August 2018](#). Previously circulated as: “Does ‘ban the box’ help or hurt low-skilled workers? Statistical discrimination and employment outcomes when criminal histories are hidden”: [NBER Working Paper No. 22469](#) [NBER Digest summary](#)

Media coverage: [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel](#), [Overlawyered](#), [Vox](#) ([here](#) and [here](#)), [McClatchy News](#) (published by several local papers), [Weekly Standard](#), [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [Pacific Standard](#), [Fusion](#) ([here](#) and [here](#)), [The Atlantic](#), Michigan radio's [State of Opportunity](#), [The Economist](#), [NBC 29](#), [UVA Today](#), [Human Resource Executive Online](#), [The Guardian](#), [Politico](#) ([here](#) and [here](#)), [American Interest](#), [Washington Post](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Governing](#), [Washington Times](#), [National Review](#), [American Prospect](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Sacramento Bee](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Quartz](#), [Stateline](#), [WMRA](#), [NPR's The Indicator](#), [Freakonomics](#) podcast

**Keep the Kids Inside? Juvenile Curfews and Urban Gun Violence** (with Jillian B. Carr). 2018. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100(4): 609-618. Preprint version: [June 2017](#). [ShotSpotter data](#)

Media coverage: [Marginal Revolution](#), [Vox](#), [FiveThirtyEight](#), [Newsweek](#), [Washington Post](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [NewsRadio WINA](#), [WBEZ Chicago](#), [The Guardian](#)

**The Effects of DNA Databases on Crime**. 2017. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 9(1): 165-201. Preprint version: [August 2016](#). [Online appendix](#). [Data on state DNA database size](#)

Media coverage: [UVA Today](#), [NBC 29](#), [The Daily Beast](#), [Futurity.org](#), [BBC](#), [Police Professional](#) (subscription only), [WMRA's Virginia Insight](#) (radio interview), [Maryland v. King Supreme Court briefs](#) ([Petitioner](#) and [LA County amicus](#)), [NY Times](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Undark](#)

**Under the Cover of Darkness: How Ambient Light Influences Criminal Behavior** (with Nicholas J. Sanders). 2015. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 97(5), 1093-1103. [PDF](#) / The data used in this paper are available on [Dataverse](#)

Media and policy coverage: [Next City](#), [NPR Morning Edition](#), [Vox](#), [National Geographic](#), [Washington Post](#), [CNN](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Mother Jones](#), [Popular Mechanics](#), [Gizmodo](#), [Christian Science Monitor](#), [Significance Magazine](#), [BBC](#), [Report of the Special Commission on the Commonwealth's Time Zone \(Massachusetts legislature\)](#)

**The Visible Hand: Race and Online Market Outcomes** (with Luke C.D. Stein). 2013. *Economic Journal*, 123(572), F469-F492. [PDF](#)

Media coverage: [NY Times Freakonomics blog](#), [Stanford Report](#), [Wall Street Journal Real Time Economics blog](#), [USA Today](#), [Financial Times](#), a radio interview on [Crosscurrents \(KALW\)](#), [Daily Mail](#), [UVA Today](#), [The Root](#), [NY Times](#), [Financial Times](#)

## Other Publications

**Wrap-Around Services Don't Improve Prisoner Reentry Outcomes.** 2019. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 38(2): 508-514. Preprint version: [November 2018](#).

**The Roadblock to Reform** (with Megan T. Stevenson). 2018. [American Constitution Society research report](#).

**Increasing employment for individuals with criminal records.** 2016. [The Hamilton Project](#).

**The geography, incidence, and underreporting of gun violence: new evidence using ShotSpotter data** (with Jillian B. Carr). 2016. [Brookings Research Paper](#). [ShotSpotter data](#)

Media coverage: [UVA Today](#), [NewsRadio WINA](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Washington Post](#), [Vox](#), [Wisconsin Public Radio](#), [Seattle Times](#), [Forbes](#), [Undark Magazine](#), [The Atlantic](#)

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## Other Writing

[“The problem with ‘Clean Slate’ policies: Could broader sealing of criminal records hurt more people than it helps?”](#) (with Sarah Lageson) — Niskanen Center. August 31, 2020.

[“Body Cameras Don't Make Police More Accountable”](#) — Bloomberg Opinion. July 29, 2020.

[“A True Second Chance: A Natural Experiment on Diversion in Texas Reveals Big Benefits for Crime, Employment”](#) — Admissible Evidence, Council on Criminal Justice. July 22, 2020.

[“How to Fix Policing”](#) — Niskanen Center. July 9, 2020.

[“Investing in Children Breaks Cycles of Poverty and Criminal Justice Involvement”](#) — Admissible Evidence, Council on Criminal Justice. July 6, 2020.

[“How to Make a Police Force More Diverse”](#) — Bloomberg Opinion. July 1, 2020.

[“Changing Police Recruitment Messages Attracts a Larger and More Diverse Applicant Pool”](#) — Admissible Evidence, Council on Criminal Justice. June 22, 2020.

[“Making Fair and Respected Cops: Procedural Justice Training in Chicago Proves Successful”](#) — Admissible Evidence, Council on Criminal Justice. June 5, 2020.

[“Incarceration and the COVID-19 Crisis”](#) (with Anna Harvey and Jacob Kaplan) — Econofact. May 2020. Also published by the [Niskanen Center](#).

[“Returning Citizens Should Get Checks Too”](#) — Medium. March 29, 2020.

[“Empirical evidence on the effects of Ban the Box policies: The state of the literature in 2019”](#) — Written testimony submitted to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a [hearing on the Fair Chance Act](#). March 2019.

[“Research roundup: What does the evidence say about how to fight the opioid epidemic?”](#) — Brookings blog. December 7, 2018.

[“Gun Regulation Is Costly—and Not the Only Option”](#) — The Regulatory Review, University of Pennsylvania Law School. November 9, 2018.

[“Study after study shows ex-prisoners would be better off without intense supervision”](#) — Brookings blog. July 2, 2018.

[“Can employment-focused programs reduce reincarceration rates?”](#) — Econofact. June 29, 2018.

[“The moral hazard of life-saving innovations: Naloxone access, opioid abuse, and crime”](#) — IZA Newsroom. April 2018.

[“Using technology to fight sexual harassment in Economics”](#) — CSWEP newsletter (pages 7-8). April 2018.

[“New evidence that access to health care reduces crime”](#) — Brookings blog. January 3, 2018.

[“Empirical evidence on the effects of Ban the Box policies”](#) — Written testimony submitted to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for the hearing [“Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons and Inmate Reentry.”](#) December 2017.

[“Do police body-worn cameras reduce the use of force?”](#) — Econofact. November 2017.

[“Do body-worn cameras improve police behavior?”](#) — Brookings blog. October 2017.

[“The effects of ‘ban the box’ on the employment of black men”](#) (with Amanda Agan) — Econofact. June 2017.

[“New evidence that lead exposure increases crime”](#) — Brookings blog. June 2017.

[“Do databases of criminal offenders help reduce crime?”](#) — Medium (premium site, subscription required). May 2017.

[Quora Session](#) — Q&A on crime and discrimination — Quora. May 2017.

Quora responses syndicated by other outlets:

“What are the benefits of police-worn body cameras?” — [Apple News](#), [Huffington Post](#)

“Can DNA databases reduce crime rates?” — [Forbes](#), [Apple News](#)

“How can acoustic gunshot detection systems help law enforcement?” — [Forbes](#)

“How is our criminal justice system broken?” — [Huffington Post](#)

“How technology is impacting our criminal justice system” — [Forbes](#)

“How can the average person help improve our criminal justice system?” — [Huffington Post](#)

“[Let computers be the judge](#)” — Medium (premium site, subscription required). April 2017.

“[Are immigrants more likely to commit crimes?](#)” — Econofact.org. February 2017.

“[Forget ‘ban the box’ and give ex-prisoners employability certificates](#)” — Real Clear Policy. December 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[Does ‘Ban the Box’ Help or Hurt Low-Skilled Workers?: Statistical Discrimination and Employment Outcomes when Criminal Histories are Hidden](#)” (with Benjamin Hansen) — Cato Research Briefs on Economic Policy, Number 62. October 2016.

“[How hiding criminal records hurts black and Hispanic men](#)” (with Benjamin Hansen) — Time. September 2016.

“[Are criminal risk assessment scores racist?](#)” (with Megan Stevenson) — Brookings blog. August 2016.

“[DNA databases deter crime, without filling prisons](#)” — Real Clear Markets. August 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[To reduce wrongful convictions, reform the bail system](#)” — Inside Sources. June 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[The unintended consequences of ‘Ban the Box’](#)” — Real Clear Markets. May 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[Gun violence in major U.S. cities is massively underreported](#)” — Brookings blog. April 2016.

“[Should we pay people not to commit crime?](#)” — Inside Sources. April 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#), the [Las Vegas Sun](#), and the [Jacksonville Journal-Courier](#).

“[Keep the kids inside? Juvenile curfews and urban gun violence](#)” (with Jillian Carr) — Cato Research Briefs on Economic Policy, Number 47. March 2016.

“[Want to reduce incarceration rates? Try targeted surveillance](#)” — Real Clear Markets. March 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[To reduce gun violence, empower citizens to make their communities safer](#)” — Inside Sources. February 2016. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[Repealing juvenile curfew laws could make cities much safer](#)” — Real Clear Markets. December 2015. Also published by [Brookings](#).

“[Can technology fix the criminal justice system?](#)” — Brookings blog. December 2015.

“[Fighting crime with Daylight Saving Time](#)” (with Nicholas Sanders) — Brookings blog. October 2015.

“[The case for expanding the DNA database](#)” — Richmond Times-Dispatch. February 2015.

“[Race has a hand in determining market outcomes](#)” (with Luke Stein) — VoxEU. June 2010.