

JENNIFER L. DOLEAC

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Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904

EMPLOYMENT

- 2012 – present Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, University of Virginia
- 4/2017 – present Founder and Director, Justice Tech Lab
- 1/2017 – 2/2018 Senior Social Scientist, The Lab @ DC
Executive Office of the Mayor, Washington, DC
- 9/2015 – 8/2016 Visiting Fellow, Economic Studies and The Hamilton Project
The Brookings Institution

AFFILIATIONS

- 2017 – present Research Fellow, IZA - Institute of Labor Economics
- 2017 – present Member of the Poverty, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Network; Institute for
Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin–Madison
- 2017 – present Faculty Affiliate, Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities
- 2016 – present Nonresident Fellow, Economic Studies, The Brookings Institution
- 2016 – present Research Affiliate, University of Chicago Crime Lab

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University, June 2012
Dissertation committee: Caroline M. Hoxby, Ran Abramitzky, B. Douglas Bernheim
- B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, Williams College, 1999-2003 (Highest Honors)

RESEARCH FIELDS

- Primary field: Applied Microeconomics (Public Finance and Labor Economics)
Secondary fields: Law and Economics, Economics of Crime, Discrimination

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Keep the Kids Inside? Juvenile Curfews and Urban Gun Violence* (with Jillian Carr). 2017.
Accepted, *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

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

The Effects of DNA Databases on Crime. 2017. [American Economic Journal: Applied Economics](#), 9(1), 165-201.

Media coverage includes: [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](#)

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.

Media coverage includes: [Next City](#), [NPR Morning Edition](#), [Vox](#), [National Geographic](#), [Washington Post](#), [CNN](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Mother Jones](#), [Popular Mechanics](#), [Gizmodo](#), [Christian Science Monitor](#), [BBC](#), [Significance Magazine](#)

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

Media coverage includes: [NY Times Freakonomics blog](#), [AOL News](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Stanford Report](#), [Wall Street Journal Real Time Economics blog](#), [USA Today](#), [Financial Times](#), [The Young Turks](#) podcast, [Crosscurrents \(KALW\)](#), [Daily Mail](#), [UVA Today](#), [The Root](#), [NY Times](#)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Moving to job opportunities? The effect of 'Ban the Box' on the composition of cities (with Benjamin Hansen). 2017. [American Economic Review \(P&P\)](#), 107(5): 556-559.

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 Carr). 2016. [Brookings Research Paper](#).

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

WORKING PAPERS

The moral hazard of lifesaving innovations: Naloxone, opioid abuse, and crime (with Anita Mukherjee)

First draft: March 2017. Current draft: March 2018.

Media coverage includes: [Washington Post](#), [The Times](#), [Globe and Mail](#), [Buzzfeed](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [CNN](#), [STAT](#), [The Atlantic](#)

The effects of DNA databases on the deterrence and detection of offenders (with Anne Sofie Tegner Anker and Rasmus Landersø). Under review.

First draft: March 2016. Current draft: December 2017.

Media coverage includes: [Washington Post](#)

The unintended consequences of “ban the box”: Statistical discrimination and employment outcomes when criminal histories are hidden (with Benjamin Hansen). Revise & resubmit, *Journal of Labor Economics*.

First draft: May 2016. Current draft: October 2017.

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](#).

Media coverage includes: [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](#), [Triple Pundit](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Sacramento Bee](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Quartz](#), [Stateline](#), [WMRA](#)

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

First draft: April 2016. Current draft: December 2016.

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

First draft: November 2014. Current draft: May 2016.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Strategies to productively reincorporate formerly-incarcerated black and Latino youth into communities: A review of the evidence

Risk assessments in sentencing and effects on criminal justice outcomes (with Megan Stevenson)

Improving prisoner re-entry outcomes through large-scale behavioral interventions (with Ben Castleman)

High-Stakes Testing, Stress and Student Performance: Biological Pathways (with Emma Adam, David Figlio, Jennifer Heissel, and Jonathan Meer)

Safer Grounds: measuring the impacts of safety concerns on academic engagement (with Sophie Trawalter)

COLUMNS, BLOG POSTS, RESEARCH BRIEFS, AND TESTIMONY

New evidence that access to health care reduces crime, January 3, 2018, [Brookings: Up Front](#).
Empirical evidence on the effects of Ban the Box policies, December 13, 2017, [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](#).”

Do police body-worn cameras reduce the use of force?, November 17, 2017, [Econofact](#).

Do body-worn cameras improve police behavior?, October 25, 2017, [Brookings: Up Front](#).

The effects of 'Ban the Box' on the employment of black men (with Amanda Agan), June 9, 2017, [Econofact](#).

New evidence that lead exposure increases crime, June 1, 2017, [Brookings: Up Front](#).

Do databases of criminal offenders help reduce crime? May 12, 2017, [Medium](#) (premium site).

What are the benefits of police-worn body cameras?, May 2017, [Apple News](#) and [Huffington Post](#).

Can DNA databases reduce crime rates?, May 2017, [Forbes](#) and [Apple News](#).

How can acoustic gunshot detection systems help law enforcement?, May 2017, [Forbes](#).

How is our criminal justice system broken?, May 2017, [Huffington Post](#).

How technology is impacting our criminal justice system, May 2017, [Forbes](#).

How can the average person help improve our criminal justice system?, May 2017, [Huffington Post](#).

Let computers be the judge, April 20, 2017, [Medium](#) (premium site).

Are Immigrants More Likely to Commit Crimes?, February 14, 2017, [Econofact](#).

Forget "ban the box" and give ex-prisoners employability certificates, December 15, 2016, [Real Clear Policy](#). 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), October 26, 2016, [Cato Research Briefs in Economic Policy](#), Number 62.

How Hiding Criminal Records Hurts Black and Hispanic Men (with Benjamin Hansen), September 8, 2016, [Time](#).

Are criminal risk assessment scores racist? (with Megan Stevenson), August 22, 2016, [Brookings: Up Front](#).

DNA databases deter crime, without filling prisons, August 16, 2016, [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

To reduce wrongful convictions, reform the bail system, June 22, 2016, [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

The unintended consequences of 'Ban the Box', May 31, 2016, [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Gun violence in major U.S. cities is massively underreported, April 27, 2016, [Brookings blog](#).

Should we pay people not to commit crime? April 18, 2016, [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#) and the [Las Vegas Sun](#).

Keep the Kids Inside? Juvenile Curfews and Urban Gun Violence, March 16, 2016, [Cato Research Briefs on Economic Policy](#), Number 47.

Want to reduce incarceration rates? Try targeted surveillance, March 15, 2016, [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

To reduce gun violence, empower citizens to make their communities safer, February 4, 2016, [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Repealing juvenile curfew laws could make cities much safer, December 29, 2015, [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Can technology fix the criminal justice system?, December 2015, [Brookings Top Economic Stories of 2015](#)

Fighting crime with Daylight Saving Time (with Nicholas J. Sanders), October 29, 2015, [Brookings Now](#)

The case for expanding the DNA database, February 7, 2015, [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#)

Race has a hand in determining market outcomes (with Luke C.D. Stein), July 2010, [SIEPR Policy Brief](#)

Race, discrimination, and iPods (with Luke C.D. Stein), June 2010, [CEPR Vox](#)

RESEARCH GRANTS

W.T. Grant Foundation. Principal Investigator. “Strategies to productively reincorporate formerly-incarcerated black and Latino youth into communities.” \$50,000. 2018.

J-PAL North America. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving access to cognitive behavioral therapy for incarcerated populations through gamification.” \$46,763. 2017-2019.

J-PAL North America. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving prisoner re-entry outcomes through large-scale behavioral interventions.” \$117,966. 2017-2019.

Koch Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving prisoner re-entry outcomes through large-scale behavioral interventions.” \$455,000. 2016-2019.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Technology and Campus Sexual Assault Reporting: Evaluating Callisto.” \$30,000. 2016-2017.

Russell Sage Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Robynn Cox, Benjamin Hansen, and Sarah Jacobson): “How Race Affects Perceptions of Criminality and Thereby Employment.” \$28,600. 2015-2017.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Should we ‘ban the box’? Race, criminality, and employment.” \$30,000. 2015-2016.

Spencer Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Emma Adam and Jonathan Meer): “High Stakes Testing, Stress and Performance: Biological Pathways.” \$50,000. 2015.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Property division laws and the long-run outcomes of divorce.” \$30,000. 2014-2015.

National Institute of Justice. Principal Investigator: “The Interactions and Impacts of State DNA Database Laws.” \$226,496. 2014-2016.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Heterogeneous and Cross-State Effects of DNA Databases.” \$30,000; PI. 2013-2014.

VPGE Diversity Dissertation Research Opportunity Grant, Stanford University. 2010-2011.

John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics Research Grant, Stanford University. 2009-2010.

OTHER GRANTS

Koch Foundation. Batten Faculty Research Seminar Series. \$5,000. 2017-2018.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2016-2017 Batten Faculty Excellence in Research Award

2013-2014 NBER/NSF Crime Research Fellowship

2011-2012 Hawley-Shoven Fellowship, Stanford University

2011 Summer Research Fellowship, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, Stanford

2010-2011 B.F. Haley and E.S. Shaw Fellowship for Economics, Stanford University

2010 Summer Research Fellowship, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, Stanford

2009-2012 Shultz Scholar, Stanford University

2006-2008 Graduate Fellowship, Stanford University

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED SEMINARS

- 2018: Texas A&M University, Duke University, UVA Psychology, University of Georgia, Brigham Young University, Grinnell College (scheduled), London School of Economics (scheduled)
- 2017: American Economic Association Annual Meeting, American University, Universities of Waterloo & Western Ontario workshop on the economics of crime, Duke University, DC HELD Policy Day Conference, SOLE annual meeting, EEOC DataNet, Western Economics Association Conference, NBER Summer Institute Law & Economics, NBER Summer Institute Crime Working Group, West Point, Cornell Law, Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime, Southern Economics Association Conference, UC Irvine
- 2016: University of Texas School of Law, Williams College, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, UPenn Law, American Enterprise Institute, University of Chicago Convening on Urban Data Science, AREUEA national conference, IRP Summer Research Workshop, Banff Empirical Micro Workshop, University of Chicago - Harris School, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Southern Economics Association Conference, University of Alabama – Birmingham
- 2015: UVA Law, Eastern Economics Association Conference, UVA Quantitative Collaborative, Midwest Economics Association Conference, Montana State University, IRP Summer Research Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, APPAM Big Data Workshop, Southern Economics Association Conference
- 2014: National Institute of Justice, Eastern Economics Association Conference, Western Economics Association Conference, Georgetown Law
- 2013: American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Tulane University, Midwest Economics Association Conference, Texas A&M, Eastern Economics Association Conference, RAND, Western Economics Association Conference, IRP Summer Research Workshop, West Virginia University, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting
- 2012: American Enterprise Institute, Harvard Kennedy School, Wellesley College, Joint Committee on Taxation, UVA Batten School, Notre Dame, Brookings Institution, NBER Summer Institute - Crime Working Group, U. Maryland School of Public Policy, UVA Economics, UVA Darden, UVA Law, William & Mary
- 2011: Eastern Economics Association Conference
- 2010: San Francisco Federal Reserve Applied Micro Summer Conference

POLICY PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, AND TESTIMONY

- 2018: April 26: Panelist, Reforming Criminal Justice conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison (scheduled)

April 18: “Breaking the incarceration cycle: What can cities do to improve prisoner reentry outcomes?” Boston University Initiative on Cities (scheduled)

March 28: “The unintended consequences of Ban the Box policies” — webinar, Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-Madison (scheduled)

- 2017: December 13: Testimony to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, about the effects of Ban the Box policies — [video and link to written testimony](#)

November 15: “Incarceration and work for low-income men: Context and strategies to increase employment,” Promoting Work and Well-Being Among Low-Income Men Workshop, hosted by the Poverty, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Network, Washington, DC — [slides](#)

- July 18: Working Group on Prisoner Reentry Research, AEI — co-host and speaker
- May 10: [Quora Session](#) — online Q&A about crime and discrimination
- April 25: “Increasing economic opportunity for people with criminal records”, private discussion with Brookings Council, the Brookings Institution
- April 21: “[SIEPR Policy Forum on Crime, Policing, and Incarceration](#)”, Stanford University
- March 15: Testimony to Massachusetts state legislature’s Time Zone Commission about effect of Daylight Saving Time on criminal behavior
- February 21-23: [Online debate](#) about “Ban the Box” policies, Urban Institute
- January 7: “[Mass incarceration and the Economy: The Criminal Justice System’s Impact on Employment, Equality, and Growth](#)”, American Economic Association Annual Meeting — [slides](#)
- 2016: October 21: “Second Chances Through Successful Reentry”, The Hamilton Project, Brookings Institution — [event details and video](#)
- October 12: “The social value of forensic science”, Forensic Science Managers Symposium, INTERPOL
- 2015: February 9: Meeting on “The Economics of Consumer Privacy Rights”, The White House
- 2014: June 16: “Identity Intelligence” panelist at UVA Conference on National Defense and Intelligence
- 2013: November 6: “The effects of DNA databases on crime”, 7th International DNA Users’ Conference for Investigative Officers, INTERPOL

ACADEMIC SERVICE (UVA)

- 2017-18: Batten Executive Committee, Faculty Research Seminar Organizer
- 2016-17: Faculty Research Seminar Committee, “Targets of Opportunity” Search Committee, Junior Economics Workshop organizer
- 2015-16: (On leave)
- 2014-15: Admissions Committee, Batten Website Committee
- 2013-14: Economics Search Committee, Dean of the Batten School Search Committee, Undergraduate Capstone Committee, Graduate Curriculum Committee
- 2012-13: Economics Search Committee

ACADEMIC SERVICE (OTHER)

- 2017: Advisory board, NYU/Gates Foundation project on measuring violence
Russell Sage Foundation Peer Reviewer
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the WEAI annual meeting
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the SEA annual meeting
- 2016: ALEA Area Organizer (Criminal Law; Crime; Law Enforcement)
NSF Peer Reviewer
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the SEA annual meeting
Organized “economics of crime” session for the AREUEA annual meeting
- 2015: NSF Peer Reviewer

Organized “economics of crime” session for the MEA annual meeting
2014: NIJ Peer Reviewer
Organized “economics of crime” session for the WEAI annual meeting

REFEREEING

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics (AEJ: Applied), American Economic Journal: Economic Policy (AEJ: Policy), American Economic Review (AER), Cambridge University Press, Economic Journal (EJ), Economics of Education Review, Elsevier, ILR Review, Journal of the European Economics Association (JEEA), Journal of Human Resources (JHR), Journal of Labor Economics (JOLE), Journal of Law and Economics (JLE), Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (JPAM), Journal of Public Economics (JPubEc), Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, Law & Society, Management Science, Review of Economics and Statistics (REStat), Sociology Compass, Southern Economics Journal, Quarterly Journal of Economics (QJE)

CONSULTING

ACLU of Illinois (March 2016 - present)

American Constitution Society (December 2017 - December 2018): “Criminal Justice Reform, Risk Assessments, and Judicial Elections”

PAST POSITIONS

2005-2006 Assistant Analyst, Congressional Budget Office
2003-2005 Senior Research Assistant, The Brookings Institution

Last updated: March 16, 2018