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## EMPLOYMENT

**2016– Visiting Instructor**, Department of Economics & Accounting, College of the Holy Cross

## EDUCATION

**2018 PhD in Social Science**, California Institute of Technology (expected 2018)

**2014 MS in Social Science**, California Institute of Technology

**2011 BS in Quantitative Economics**, Tufts University

- *Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Instructor** College of the Holy Cross
  - Seminar on the Economics of Sexual Politics (Spring 2018)
  - Behavioral Economics (Spring 2017, Spring 2018)
  - Principles of Microeconomics (Fall 2017)
  - Principles of Macroeconomics (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017)
- **Teaching Assistant** Caltech
  - Principles of Economics for Scientists (MOOC, 2013-14, 14-15, 15-16)
  - Introduction to Social Psychology (Spring 2013)
  - Principles of Economics (Winter 2013)
  - Introduction to Political Science (Fall 2012)

## JOB MARKET PAPER: **White, But not Black, Incarceration Reduces Crime**

In a panel of US states, I find that white incarceration reduced crime while black incarceration did not. I use state sentencing laws as instruments for both black and white incarceration rates, selecting which laws to include via LASSO. The legislative changes that generate the identifying variation are plausibly independent of crime rates. Changes in sentencing policy significantly affected both black and white incarceration rates, and white rates responded to a greater variety of policy changes. Using this identifying variation, I find that white incarceration significantly decreased robbery and burglary, while black incarceration did not reduce crime.

## WORKING PAPERS

- **The Drug War and Mass Incarceration.** Incarceration rates in the U.S. tripled between 1980 and 2000, a period when many states increased penalties for drug-related crimes as part of the War on Drugs. This paper presents a series of empirical attempts to say whether changes in state drug laws actually caused the increase in prisoners, by estimating upper bounds on the relationship between drug sentencing laws and incarceration rates under different functional form assumptions. The exercises all use panel regressions with incarceration rates on the left-hand side, with drug sentencing laws represented in different ways on the right-hand side. In a wide range of specifications, most results are consistent with mandatory minimum drug sentences causing at most 1-2% of this growth in incarceration. The most extreme estimate suggests that increased severity of drug sentences accounted for up to 8% of the increase in the black male incarceration rate. These results imply that changes in mandatory minimum sentences for drug possession will be neither necessary nor sufficient to qualitatively change incarceration in the United States.
- **A Game-Theoretic Rationalization of Stochastic Choice** This paper rationalizes stochastic choice as the equilibrium strategy of a non-cooperative game. The model is motivated by evidence in evolutionary theory for the adaptiveness of protean behavior, and by the philosophical debate on free will revealing a widely held concern with acting unpredictably. I begin with a template for turning an arbitrary choice problem into a game, derive the Nash equilibrium of this game, then study its support as a choice correspondence. The model makes two predictions: first, that choices will always be multi-valued, and second, that an agent will select fewer alternatives the better the available options are.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- *White, but not Black, Incarceration Reduces Crime* Paper presented at **Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics**, Claremont McKenna College, April 2016
- *Differing Crime Reductions Effects of White vs. Black Incarceration* Paper presented at **American Society of Criminology**, Washington, DC, November 2015
- *A Gratton Effect on the Syntactic P600* (joint with Ellen Lau and Gina Kuperberg) Poster presented at **Cognitive Neuroscience Society**, San Francisco, April 2011.
- *Probability Matching as a Minimax Strategy* Paper presented at **Society for Judgment and Decision Making**, St Louis, November 2010.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, 2013-14
- Summer Student Fellowship, American Institute for Economic Research, 2011
- Heidelberg Summer School in Neuroeconomics, Universität Heidelberg, 2010
- Roy Anderson Foulke, Jr. Graduate Scholarship, American Institute for Economic Research 2011