

Danielle Nemschoff

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The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

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Administrative Director: Nichole Horn nhorn@uchicago.edu

Education

University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

2020 - 2026 (expected)

PhD

Fields: Labor Economics; Applied Microeconomics

References

Professor Dan Black (chair)

University of Chicago Harris School

danblack@uchicago.edu

Professor Evan Rose

University of Chicago Department of Economics

ekrose@uchicago.edu

Professor Dmitri Koustas

University of Chicago Harris School

dkoustas@uchicago.edu

University of Wisconsin - Madison

2014 - 2018

B.A. in Economics with a mathematical emphasis

Minors in Mathematics and Middle Eastern Studies

Graduate with distinction

Research

Job Market Paper

Does Distance from Home Matter in Prison? Effects on Visitation and Recidivism

The United States incarcerates over one million individuals annually, with high recidivism rates driving persistent incarceration levels. While social support networks are theorized to facilitate reentry, there is limited causal evidence on how maintaining these connections during incarceration affects post-release outcomes. This paper studies how the distance between an incarcerated person's home and their assigned prison affects recidivism. I exploit exogenous variation in home-to-prison distance generated by facility assignment rules to estimate (i) the causal effect of placement distance on post-release outcomes and (ii) the causal effect of visitation, which serves as the mechanism linking distance to recidivism. I first document that placing incarcerated individuals 100 additional miles from home increases prison readmission by 1 percentage point within 3 years. I then show that visitation is the most likely mechanism through which distance impacts recidivism with individuals placed farther from home being both far less likely to receive any visits and receive significantly fewer visits. Next, I use variation in prison distance as an instrument for visitation and I find that visitation lowers the likelihood of re-incarceration by about 8 percentage points within one year and 11 percentage points within three years. visitation also shortens time served by 6.5 percent, which is consistent with a reduction in misconduct. Finally, I provide evidence that access to stable housing is a potential mechanism through which visitation operates, with visitation reducing housing instability by 16 percentage points.

Working Papers

An evaluation of Crisis-Intervention Team (CIT) training

Police officers in the United States are most often the first responders to a mental health crisis. The most popular training method for these responses among US police departments is crisis-intervention team (CIT) training. This paper provides the first estimates of the causal effect of CIT training on a police officer’s propensity to use force and make an arrest. I implement a difference-in-differences framework using future trainees as controls to compare officer use of force and arrest of trained officers to those of untrained officers. I do not find a statistically significant effect of CIT training on either use of force or propensity to arrest.

Works in Progress

Prison Diversion for Parents

In 2010, Washington State created the Parental Sentencing Alternative, allowing judges to divert eligible parents from prison to community supervision. This project estimates the effect of this prison diversion program on future criminal activity.

Pre-PhD Publications

The Distributional Financial Accounts of the United States
with Michael Battay, Jesse Bricker, Joseph Briggs, Sarah Friedman, Eric Nielsen, Kamila Sommer and Alice Henriques Volz
(Chapter in NBER Books Series Studies in Income and Wealth, 2020)

The Stability of Safe Asset Production
with Sara Almasani, Michael Battay, and Wayne Passmore (FEDS Note, 2020)

Teaching Experience

Harris School

Program Evaluation	Head TA for Prof. Fiona Burlig	Spring 2024
Police Reform and Police Legitimacy	TA for Prof. Robert Owens	Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2024
Advanced Statistics	Head TA for Prof. Dan Black	Fall 2023
Introductory Microeconomics	Head TA for Profs. Tom Coleman and Zarek Brot	Fall 2021, Fall 2022
Cost–Benefit Analysis	Head TA for Prof. Kathryn Ierulli	Winter 2021, Winter 2022

UChicago Econ Dept.

Inequality: Theory, Methods and Evidence (PhD Level); TA for Profs. Dan Black and Steven Durlauf Spring 2022

Becker Friedman Institute

Causal Inference and Data Analysis (undergrad) Summer 2021, Summer 2022, Summer 2023

Grants

Arnold Ventures Research Grant, PI (\$53,000)	2024
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Professional Experience

Cornerstone Research

Summer Associate, Chicago office	Summer 2025
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Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Senior Research Assistant Flow of Funds Section, Division of Research and Statistics	2018 - 2020
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Seminars and Conferences

AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting <i>accepted</i>	Jan 2026
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Conference <i>accepted</i>	Nov 2025
Southern Economics Association (SEA) Annual Meeting <i>accepted</i>	Nov 2025
University of Chicago Crime Lab <i>scheduled</i>	Oct 2025
Arnold Ventures BRIDGE event: Women in the Criminal Justice System	Aug 2025
Justice Reimagined: A Graduate Workshop Series (George Mason University)	May 2025
Arnold Ventures BRIDGE event: Victims of Violent Crime	Sept 2024

Service

Reviewer; Police Practice and Research: An International Journal	2025
UW-Madison Women in Economics Mentor	2023, 2025
Harris School PhD Admin Search Interviewer	2024
UW-Madison EconEx Project Mentor	2020

Other

Citizenship: USA
Languages: English (native), Hebrew (proficient)