

DREW JOHNSTON

drewjohnston@g.harvard.edu · drew-johnston.com

EDUCATION

| | |
|--|--|
| Harvard University PhD, Economics (advisors: Raj Chetty, Ed Glaeser, Jesse Shapiro) AM, Economics | Cambridge, MA 2019-2024 2019-2022 |
| Columbia University BA, Computer Science and Economics | New York, NY 2013-2017 |

EXPERIENCE

| | |
|---|--|
| Meta Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Central Applied Science Contractor, Central Applied Science Contractor, Core Data Science Contractor, Feed Science | New York, NY 2024- 2023-2024 2018-2019, 2020-2023 2017-2018 |
| Opportunity Insights Research Collaborator Graduate Research Assistant, Prof. Raj Chetty | Cambridge, MA 2024- 2021-2024 |
| Harvard University, Department of Economics Graduate Research Assistant, Prof. Gabriel Kreindler | Cambridge, MA 2020 |
| New York University, Stern School of Business Junior Research Scientist, Profs. Theresa Kuchler & Johannes Stroebe | New York, NY 2017-2019 |

WORKING PAPERS

[The Social Integration of International Migrants: Evidence from the Networks of Syrians in Germany](#)
Revise & Resubmit at the *Journal of Political Economy*
Best Poster at the *International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2022)*
with Michael Bailey, Martin Koenen, Theresa Kuchler, Dominic Russel, Johannes Stroebe
([Slides](#)) ([Research Summary](#))

PUBLICATIONS

[Social Networks Shape Beliefs and Behavior: Evidence from Social Distancing during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, 2 (3), 463-494, August 2024
with Michael Bailey, Martin Koenen, Theresa Kuchler, Dominic Russel, Johannes Stroebe
Press: [NBER Digest](#)
([Code](#))

[Social Capital I: Measurement and Associations with Economic Mobility](#)

Nature, 608 (7921), 108-121. August 2022. ([Cover Article](#))
with Raj Chetty, Matthew O. Jackson, Johannes Stroebe, Theresa Kuchler, Nathaniel Hendren, Robert Fluegge, Sara Gong, Federico Gonzalez, Armelle Grondin, Matthew Jacob, Martin Koenen, Eduardo Laguna-Muggenburg, Florian Mudekereza, Tom Rutter, Nicolaj Thor, Wilbur Townsend, Ruby Zhang, Mike Bailey, Pablo Barberá, Monica Bhole, Nils Wernerfelt
Press: [NYT \(1\)](#), [NYT \(2\)](#), [Economist](#), [Washington Post](#), [NPR](#), [CBS](#), [Axios](#), [Brookings](#), [El País](#), [The Hill](#)
([Social Capital Atlas](#)) ([Data](#)) ([Working Paper 1](#), [Working Paper 2](#)) ([Slides](#)) ([Summary](#)) ([Appendix](#))

[Social Capital II: Determinants of Economic Connectedness](#)

Nature, 608 (7921), 122-134. August 2022.
with Raj Chetty, Matthew O. Jackson, Johannes Stroebe, Theresa Kuchler, Nathaniel Hendren, Robert Fluegge, Sara Gong, Federico Gonzalez, Armelle Grondin, Matthew Jacob, Martin Koenen, Eduardo Laguna-Muggenburg, Florian Mudekereza, Tom Rutter, Nicolaj Thor, Wilbur Townsend, Ruby Zhang, Mike Bailey, Pablo Barberá, Monica Bhole, Nils Wernerfelt

Peer Effects in Product Adoption

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 14 (3), 488-526, July 2022

with Michael Bailey, Theresa Kuchler, Johannes Stroebel, Arlene Wong

Press: [VoxEU](#), [LSE Business Review](#), [World Economic Forum](#)

([Working Paper](#)) ([Code](#)) ([Appendix](#))

Social Connectedness in Europe

International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo 2020), 1-14, October 2020

with Michael Bailey, Theresa Kuchler, Dominic Russel, Bogdan State, Johannes Stroebel

Press: [Facebook Research](#)

([Data](#)) ([Code](#)) ([Appendix](#))

POLICY REPORTS

The War in Ukraine and the Potential of Facebook's Social Connectedness Index to Anticipate Human Displacement

UN International Organization for Migration: Migration Research Series, No. 73, April 2023

with Umberto Minora, Martina Belmonte, Claudia Bosco, Stefano Iacus, Eugenia Giraudy, Francesco Sermi

PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| 2025 | American Economic Association Meeting | (San Francisco) |
| 2024 | Digital Technologies and Sustainable Development Workshop Barcelona Summer Forum (Migration) | (Oxford) (BSE) |
| 2023 | NSF Conference on Network Science and Economics European Networks Conference Urban Economics Association European Meeting Summer School on the Economics of Migration | (Virginia Tech) (Central European University) (Bocconi) (UC Davis & Alianza MX) |
| 2022 | International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting | (UChicago) (Stanford) (World Bank) |
| 2021 | Networks 2021 (Sunbelt & NetSci joint meeting) Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting | (Online) (Houston) |
| 2020 | Facebook Computational Social Science Seminar | (Online) |

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Refereeing: the Quarterly Journal of Economics, the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Economic Journal, the Journal of Urban Economics ($\times 2$), and the Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society

Program Committee: FAccT '23 (ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency)

RESEARCH GRANTS

| | |
|------|--|
| 2023 | \$10,000, Chae Family Economics Research Fund (with Martin Koenen) \$5,000, Warburg Fund (with Martin Koenen) |
| 2022 | \$24,000, Chae Family Economics Research Fund (with Martin Koenen) |

OTHER

Affiliate, Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science

2x NCAA Team Fencing Champion