

**EMMA RACKSTRAW**  
Doctoral Candidate, Harvard University  
Job Market Candidate 2023-24  
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## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Citizenship: USA

## EDUCATION

- Harvard University, Ph.D. in Public Policy (Economics Track), Expected Spring 2024
  - PhD Exchange Scholar at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2022-23
- Wellesley College, B.A. in Economics (Major) and Music (Minor), 2014

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Labor/public economics

Additional: economics of discrimination, economics of crime, experimental economics, behavioral economics

## CONTACTS & REFERENCES

Placement Director: Marcella Alsan  
Professor of Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School  
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Professor of Public Policy  
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Committee Member: Larry Katz  
Elisabeth Allison Professor of Economics  
Harvard Department of Economics  
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Harvard Medical School  
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## CURRENT RESEARCH PAPERS

- **Job Market Paper:** When Reality TV Creates Reality: How “Copaganda” Affects Viewers, Police, and Communities.
- Bias-Motivated Updating in the Labor Market. Available at [SSRN](https://ssrn.com/abstract=4188888).
- Background Check Adjudication & Fair Chance Hiring. (with Amanda Agan & David Autor)

## EMPLOYMENT

- Research Assistant for Will Dobbie, Harvard Kennedy School, 2019 - 2022
  - Provided research assistance for criminal justice and discrimination related projects and courses
- Research Consultant
  - PDQuery (unpaid), 2022-present
  - Crime and Justice Policy Lab, University of Pennsylvania, 2021-present
  - Everytown for Gun Safety, 2018-19
- Associate Fellow (Academic IPA), Office of Evaluation Sciences, 2019
  - Designed curriculum on research methods and evaluation
- Senior Policy Associate, J-PAL North America at MIT, 2016 - 2019
  - Led Crime and Political Economy & Governance sectors
- Research Economist, Council of Economic Advisers, 2014 - 2016
  - Provided economic analysis in labor and education policy
- Case Fellow (Research Assistant), Wellesley College, 2012 - 2014
  - Helped redesign econometrics curriculum; updated course on inequality
- Tutor, Wellesley College, 2011 - 2014
  - Helped students with writing, microeconomics, and econometrics

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2023: Academy of Management Doctoral Consortium Scholarship, Program in Criminal Justice Grantee, Stone Program in Wealth Distribution, Inequality, and Social Policy Research Grantee
- 2021: ReSTAT Research Grantee, Mind Brain Behavior Initiative Grantee
- 2020: HKS Wiener Center for Social Policy Pilot Grantee; Peggy Howard Fellowship for Graduate Study in Economics; Radcliffe Engaged Summer Grantee
- 2019: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program
- 2014: Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in International Economics; Phi Beta Kappa

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

External Conferences and Workshops:

- 2023: American Economic Association Meeting (AEA), Western Economic Association International Meeting (WEAI), National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute (NBERSI), Academy of Management Meeting (AoM), American Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)
- 2022: Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (TxECW)
- 2019: Association of American Law Schools (AALS)
- 2018: American Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)

Invited Seminars:

- 2023: HKS Economics and Social Policy, Wellesley Initiative for Scholars of Economics (WISE)

Referee Service: Journal of Public Economics, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

## TEACHING

Teaching Interests: Econometrics, Discrimination, Labor Economics, Behavioral Economics, Microeconomics, Causal Inference, Experimental Economics, Academic Writing

Teaching Experience:

- Empirical Methods II for MPPs, Harvard Kennedy School, 2021
- Evaluation Course for Chief Evaluation Officers, Office of Evaluation Sciences, 2019
- Executive Education Course in Randomized Evaluation, J-PAL at MIT, 2019
- Econometrics for Undergraduates, Wellesley College, 2013

## SKILLS

**Data & Software:** Stata (Advanced), L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X (Proficient), Zotero (Proficient), Excel (Proficient), R (Proficient), Python (Basic)

**Languages:** English (Native), French (Proficient), Spanish (Basic)

**Talents:** Singing (Semi-Professional), Glassblowing (Amateur)

## SERVICE

**Professional Service:** Kennedy School PhD Students' Association President (2021-2022), PhD Peer Mentor (2020-present), HKS Anti-Racism in Economics Founding Member (2020-2022), Organizer of Economics of Discrimination Reading Group (2020-2021)

**Community Service:** Morris Animal Refuge Volunteer (2022-present), Prison Volunteer in MA DOC (2017-2020) and PA DOC (2022-present), Meals on Wheels Volunteer (2020-present)