

Email: jacobkap@sas.upenn.edu
Website: jacobdkaplan.com
GitHub: <https://github.com/jacobkap>

Current Position

2020-2022	Postdoctoral Fellow	University of Pennsylvania
2020-2022	Research Fellow	Philadelphia District Attorney's Office

Education

2020	Ph.D. in Criminology University of Pennsylvania Dissertation: <i>The Effect of Lighting and Building Security on Crime</i>
2016	M.S. in Criminology University of Pennsylvania Thesis: <i>Assessing the Effect of Hiring Standards on Minority Recruitment in Police</i>
2015	B.S. in Criminal Justice California State University, Sacramento

Publications

- **Kaplan, J.**, Chalfin, A. (2019). More Cops, Fewer Prisoners? *Criminology & Public Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12424>
- **Kaplan, J.**, Ling, S, & Cuellar, M. (2020). "Public Beliefs About the Accuracy and Importance of Forensic Evidence in the United States" *Science & Justice*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2020.01.001>

Manuscripts Under Review

- **Kaplan, J.** "The (In)Effectiveness of Campus Smart Locks for Reducing Crime"
- **Kaplan, J** & Goh, L.S. "Harm Reduction in Family Violence: Does Marijuana Make Assaults Safer?"
- **Kaplan, J.** "The Effect of Moonlight on Outdoor Nighttime Crime"
- Chalfin, A, **Kaplan, J.**, & Cuellar, M. "Measuring Marginal Crime Concentration: A New

Solution to an Old Problem”

- Chalfin, A, **Kaplan, J.** & LaForest, M. "Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Displacement: Evidence from Chicago"
- Beck, B, Holder, E, Novak, A, **Kaplan, J.** “The decline in misdemeanor arrests: Analyzing the social, spatial and organizational contexts of low-level enforcement’s reduction, 1990-2018”
- Chalfin, A, LaForest, M, **Kaplan, J.** “Can Precision Policing Reduce Gun Violent? Evidence from ‘Gang Takedowns’ in New York City”
- Block, K, Ling, S, **Kaplan, J.** “Age, Criminal Punishment, and Accountability: What the Public Recommends for Guilty Defendants”
- Ling, S, **Kaplan, J.** & Berryessa, C. “The Importance of Forensic Evidence on Decisions of Criminal Guilt”
- **Kaplan, J.** & Chalfin, A. “Ambient Lighting and Perceptions of Public Safety: Evidence from a Survey Experiment”

Work in Progress

- **Kaplan, J.** “Outdoor Lighting and Arrests: A Natural Experiment Using Daylight Savings Time”
- **Kaplan, J.** & Block, K. “Are Animal Abusers Like Other Violent Offenders?”
- **Kaplan, J.** “Do Police Departments Look Like Their Community? An Assessment Controlling for Eligibility to Become an Officer”
- **Kaplan, J.** & Block, K. “How Victim-Offender Relationship and Respondent Sex Affects Public Perceptions of Child Physical Abuse”
- Chalfin, A, **Kaplan J.** & Cuellar, M. “Just How Concentrated is Police Use of Force: Are There Really Just a Few Bad Apples?”

Columns and Interviews

- [Health officials failed to safeguard trust in Pa.’s coronavirus data, sowing confusion.](#) June

17, 2020. Spotlight PA.

- [Incarceration and the COVID-19 Crisis](#). (with Jennifer Doleac and Anna Harvey). May 20, 2020. Econofact.
- [Data Is Key To Stopping COVID-19 Spread in Prisons](#). (with Oren Gur and Aaron Littman). May 3, 2020. Law360

Teaching Experience

Crime by the Numbers

This book introduces the programming language R and is meant for undergrads or graduate students studying criminology. R is a programming language that is well-suited to the type of work frequently done in criminology - taking messy data and turning it into useful information. While R is a useful tool for many fields of study, this book focuses on the skills criminologists should know and uses crime data for the example data sets.

Available at <https://crimebythenumbers.com/>

- 2016 - 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania.
"Research Methods and Crime Analysis" (Graduate)
"Statistics for Social Science" (Undergraduate)
- 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania.
"Program Evaluation and Data Analysis" (Graduate)
- 2014 - 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Biology, California State University, Sacramento.
"Biology: A Human Perspective" (Undergraduate)

Professional Experience

- 2018 - 2020 **Consultant for Philadelphia City Commissioner Al Schmidt**.
Produced a website to allow Dr. Schmidt's team to analyze voting data.
- 2018 **Research Assistant**, Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania.
Produced and tested code to convert voting records into a report for the Philadelphia City Commissioner.
- 2017 - 2018 **Research Assistant**, National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD).
Wrote the Justice Data Learning Guide: No. 2, "Using the Law Enforcement Agency Identifiers Crosswalk (LEAIC)."
- 2016 **Research Assistant**, Dr. Emily Owens, University of Pennsylvania.
Collected, cleaned, and prepared Census data for analysis and visualization.

Presentations

- "Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Displacement: Evidence from Chicago"
2020 Panel Paper, American Society of Criminology (Canceled due to COVID-19)

"Making UCR Data Accessible to Researchers"
2019 Panel Paper, American Society of Criminology

"More Cops, Fewer Prisoners?"
2019 Panel Paper, Western Society of Criminology
2018 Panel Paper, Associations for Public Policy Analysis & Management

"Moonlight and Crime: A Quasi-Experimental Approach"
2018 Roundtable, American Society of Criminology

"The Effect of Card Reader Locks on Theft on a University Campus"
2018 Poster, Associations for Public Policy Analysis & Management
2017 Poster, American Society of Criminology

Software

<i>fastDummies:</i> (185k downloads)	R package for quickly and efficiently making binary columns out of categorical columns. It also fills in "dummy rows" for data sets missing rows of data based on all combinations of categorical and date columns. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/fastDummies/
<i>asciiSetupReader:</i> (17k downloads)	R package for reading fixed-width ASCII files that have an .sps or .sas setup file. It also allows users to quickly generate setup files. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/asciiSetupReader/
<i>caesar:</i> (14k downloads)	R package to encrypt and decrypt strings using a simple Caesar cipher or a pseudorandom number generation. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/caesar/
<i>predictrace:</i> (4k downloads)	R package to predict the race of a surname using U.S. Census data which says how many people of each race has a certain surname. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/predictrace/

List of data collected, cleaned, and made publicly available

Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll (ASPEP) 1992-2016
Available at <http://doi.org/10.3886/E101399V5>

Annual Survey of State Government Finances 1992-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E101880V3>

Apparent Per Capita Alcohol Consumption: National, State, and Regional Trends 1977-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E105583V4>

California Department of Corrections Data
Available at <http://doi.org/10.3886/E108602V1>

California Jail Profile Survey 1995-2020
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E104560V6>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Prisons in the United States, April – June 2020
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E119901V1>

Texas Commission on Jail Standards 1992-2017
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E104643V1>

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Statistics and Summaries

Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E109522V4>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Arrests by Age, Sex, and Race 1974-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E102263V10>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Arson 1979-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E103540V6>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: County-Level Detailed Arrest and Offense Data
Available at <http://doi.org/10.3886/E108164V3>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Hate Crime Data 1992-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E103500V6>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Human Trafficking 2013-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E117974V1>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Law Enforcement Officers Killed and
Assaulted (LEOKA) 196-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E102180V8>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Offenses Known and Clearances by Arrest
1960-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E100707V13>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Property Stolen and Recovered (Supplement to
Return A) 1960-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E105403V4>
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports 1976-2018
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E100699V8>
United States Governors 1775-2020
Available at <https://doi.org/10.3886/E102000V2>