

# Joshua Witter – Resume

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**Email**    witter.joshua@gmail.com

**Website**    joshwitter.github.io

**Phone**    (702) 556-0112

## Education

**2015-2020**    Ph.D. Economics - Texas A&M University

**2011-2015**    B.S. Economics - Brigham Young University

## Professional Positions Held

**April 2020-Present**    Economist (Causal Inference) - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

**Spring 2021**    Adjunct Faculty - Brigham Young University, Department of Economics

## Relevant Research/Work Experiences

More than 10 years of experience designing and conducting original research using advanced causal inference methods to look at the impact of programs, products, and policies on health, employment, donation of time and resources, and family formation

More than 5 years spent studying and researching the impact of Medicaid and Medicare policy on employment, retirement, prescription drug utilization, and health trends.

Responsible for designing, implementing, and analyzing simultaneous worldwide studies geared towards understanding the impact of various products offered by a major non-profit. Many of these products have goals to improve safety, physical and/or mental health, educational attainment, employment, and development of attributes such as kindness, compassion, and empathy.

Designed and conducted field experiments in locations around the world for a major non-profit. Also have experience designing and conducting lab experiments.

Communicated with varying levels of stakeholders and management to take in and fulfill research requests about the effectiveness of over a dozen different program and product offerings for a large non-profit organization.

Presented impact research in the US, Canada, and China to other researchers, stakeholders, and directors with varying levels of product and/or research expertise.

Proficient with cleaning, merging, and analyzing large amounts of data from multiple sources in Stata, Python, and/or Excel.

Managed and maintained relationships with colleagues and co-authors within my current organization or at other research institutions around the world.

Have strong personal interest in reading books about healthcare policy. Some healthcare books I've read recently include: Reframing Healthcare by Zeev Neuwirth, Being Mortal by Atul Gawande, Bad Pharma by Ben Goldacre, and Saving Normal by Allen Frances

## Applied Research Skills

**Causal Inference Toolkit:** Proficient in using and teaching causal inference statistical tools such as difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, synthetic control, fixed effects, field experiments, lab experiments. Interested in developing causal machine learning skills.

**Statistical Programming Experience:** Stata (expert), Python (intermediate), Latex (expert), Matlab (beginner), R (beginner), SQL (beginner)

**Health/healthcare datasets familiar with:** Medicare Part D Provider Prescribing, State Medicaid Prescriptions, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS)

**Restricted Datasets:** Familiar with working in a Census Federal Statistical Research Data (FSRDC) using a Linux based-environment. Recently held Special Sworn Status with Census Bureau

## **Research (solo and co-authored)**

### **Dissertation: Essays on the Employment of Low-Income Workers, 2020**

1. The Earned Income Tax Credit and Employment for Childless Adults: Evidence using the CPS and ACS
2. Public Health Insurance and Retirement Decisions
3. Occupation and Industry Mobility of Low-wage Workers

### **Working Papers**

"The Economic Consequences of Placing a Child for Adoption" (with Joseph Price, Julie Hollenbaugh, and Derek Monson). 2020

"The Earned Income Tax Credit and Employment for Childless Adults: Evidence using the CPS ACS". 2020

"Effects of the Earned Income Tax Credit for Childless Adults: A Regression Discontinuity Approach: Evidence using the SIPP" (with Jonathan Meer). 2022

### **Works in Progress:**

"Public Health Insurance, Health Status, and Retirement Decisions: Evidence using the CPS and Restricted MEPS Data" (with Laura Dague and Marguerite Burns)

"Incidence of the Earned Income Tax Credit: Supply and Price Effects in the Durable Goods Market" (with Riley Wilson, Carla Johnston, and Adam Roberts)

"The Impact of Innovation in Health Care: The Case of Hepatitis C Pharmaceutical Treatments" (with Mark Duggan, Katherine Meckel, and Hui Ding)

"Earnings Trajectories of Low-Wage Workers: Evidence using SIPP Survey Data Linked to Administrative IRS/SSA Earnings Data" (with Jonathan Meer and Kyle Spears)

## **Research Experience as Undergraduate and PhD Student:**

<b>2018</b>	Research Assistant to Laura Dague, Texas A&M University: Bush School (Summer 2018; 30 hrs/wk)
<b>2018</b>	Research Assistant to Lisa Kahn, Yale University (Spring 2018; 5 hrs/wk)
<b>2017</b>	Research Assistant to Mark Duggan and Katherine Meckel, Stanford University (Summer 2017; 30 hrs/wk)
<b>2016</b>	Research Assistant to Mark Hoekstra, Texas A&M University (Spring 2016; 20 hrs/wk)
<b>2012-2015</b>	Research Assistant to Joseph Price, Brigham Young University (Jan 2012-Jan 2015; 20 hrs/wk)

## **Teaching Experience as Undergraduate and PhD Student:**

<b>2017</b>	Introduction to Microeconomic Theory, Instructor, Texas A&M University (1 semester)
<b>2018</b>	Program Evaluation, TA/RA for Jason Lindo, Texas A&M University (1 semester)
<b>2016-2019</b>	Economic Data Analysis, Craig Schulman, Texas A&M University (3 semesters)

**2015** Games and Economic Behavior, TA for Daniel Fragiadakis, Texas A&M University (1 semester)  
**2014** Health Economics, TA for Mark Showalter, Brigham Young University (1 semester)  
**2013** Statistics for Economists, TA for Joseph McMurray, Brigham Young University (1 semester)  
**2012-2013** Principles of Economics, TA for C. Arden Pope, Brigham Young University (2 semesters)

## **Awards & Grants:**

Texas A&M University, Economics – Outstanding Graduate Student Course Instructor. 2017

National Institute on Aging – Effect of New Hepatitis C Drugs on Healthcare Utilization, Spending and Health Outcomes. 2018

Texas A&M University, Economics – 2nd Place, 3rd-year PhD Student Presentations. 2018.

Brigham Young University –Office of Research and Creative Activities (ORCA) Grant. May 2014. \$1500.

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America. 2006

## **Volunteer Experience:**

Refereed articles submitted to: *Journal of Human Resources, Adoption Quarterly*

Currently Volunteering as local Church leader 3-4 days/week

Head coach for youth soccer

Offers math/statistics tutoring to friends and family

## **References:**

Jonathan Meer  
Professor of Economics  
Texas A&M University  
979-847-8757  
jmeer@tamu.edu

Joe Price  
Professor of Economics  
Brigham Young University  
801-422-5296  
joe\_price@byu.edu

Laura Dague  
Associate Professor in the Bush School of  
Govt and Public Service  
Texas A&M University  
979-845-6591  
dague@tamu.edu

Bethany DeSalvo  
Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics  
Division  
US Census Bureau  
301-763-0419  
Bethany.Desalvo@census.gov