

SIDAK G. YNTISO

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Politics, New York University (Expected 2022)
Committee: Sanford Gordon (chair), Anna Harvey, David Stasavage
Additional training: Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (2019)

M.A. in Politics, New York University (2018)

B.A. in Economics, New York University Abu Dhabi (2014)

DISSERTATION: “ESSAYS ON THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS”

Abstract: How do electoral, policy-related, and racial considerations influence the behavior of elected prosecutors and judges? The first chapter of my dissertation develops an adverse selection model to formalize how these considerations influence prosecutorial charging decisions. The second chapter applies a regression discontinuity design to a newly constructed data-set of 5.9 million felony cases. I find that electoral incentives exacerbate the charging severity of Republican prosecutors on cases involving African American defendants. The final chapter (co-written with Sanford Gordon) documents a large, instantaneous increase in sentencing severity by Californian judges following a highly publicized recall campaign against one judge.

PUBLICATIONS

“Judicial Accountability and Racial Disparity in Criminal Appeals,” with Anna Harvey. Forthcoming, *Journal of Legal Studies*.

“Democratic Reversals and the Size of Government,” with Jeffrey Jensen. *European Journal of Political Economy* 58 (2019): 21-49.

REVISE & RESUBMIT

“Incentive Effects of Recall Elections: Evidence from California Superior Court Judges,” with Sanford Gordon. Revise & Resubmit, *Journal of Politics*.

“Bridging the Grade Gap: Reducing Assessment Bias in a Multi-Grader Class,” with Sean Kates, Tine Paulsen and Joshua Tucker. Conditionally Accepted, *Political Analysis*.

“Minority Representation and Democratization by Force: Evidence from Black Enfranchisement during Reconstruction,” with Mario Chacón and Jeffrey Jensen. Revise & Resubmit, *Journal of Historical Political Economy*.

WORKING PAPERS

“Detecting Partisan and Racial Gerrymandering,” with Sanford Gordon.

TEACHING

New York University (2018-21)

- Power and Politics in America (Spring 2021)
- Thinking, Learning, and Consciousness in Humans and Machines (Fall 2020)
- Causal Inference (Spring 2020) at NYU’s Center for Data Science
- Senior Honors (Fall 2019)
- Data Assistant for Politics Department (Spring 2019)
- Comparative Politics (Fall 2018)

New York University Abu Dhabi (2014-15)

- Economic Development (Winter 2015, Spring 2015)
- Principles of Microeconomics (Summer 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014)

AWARDS & GRANTS

- Dean’s Dissertation Grant (2021-22)
- Prestage-Cook Travel Award (2020)
- George Downs Grant (2018)
- Dean’s Student Travel Grant (2017, 2018)
- NYU Henry H. MacCracken Fellowship (2016-21)
- NYU Abu Dhabi Global Academic Fellowship (2014 -15)

INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

2021: Southern Political Science Association (SPSA); UT Public Law Conference; Slavery and Its Legacies Symposium, USC Bedrosian Center.

2020: Southern Political Science Association (SPSA); Conference on Institutions and Law Making (CLSS), Emory; Western Political Science Association (WPSA); Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA).

2019: American Political Science Association (APSA); Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); NYU Race, Crime, and Policing Workshop; Princeton Political Economy and Public Law (PEPL); 14th Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS).

2018: American Political Science Association (APSA); Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); International Studies Association.

2017: American Political Science Association (APSA); Politics and History at Columbia-Harvard-NYU-Princeton-Yale; Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); International Studies Association; European Political Science Association (MPSA).

SERVICE

Internal: Co-organizer of CAPERS (2019), Graduate Political Economy Seminar (2018-2019).

Reviewer: Economics and Politics, European Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Politics.

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

Computing: ArcGIS, Python, R, RStan, Stata.

Languages: English, Amharic.