

WILLA FRIEDMAN

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CURRENT POSITION

University of Houston Economics Department (2014-present), *Assistant Professor* Houston, TX

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley • Economics • *PhD*, 2013 Berkeley, CA

Harvard College • Social Studies • *AB*, 2005 Cambridge, MA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Center for Global Development (2013-2014), *Post-Doctoral Research Fellow* Washington, DC

JPAL/ICS/IPA (2005-2007), *Evaluation Consultant* Busia, Kenya

PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS

- “Antiretroviral Drug Access and Behavior Change” *Journal of Development Economics*, August 2018.
- “Corruption and Averting AIDS Deaths,” *World Development*, May 2018.
- “The Importance of Information Targeting for School Choice” (with Kehinde Ajayi and Adrienne Lucas), *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, May 2017.
- “Advertising for Demand Creation for Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision” (with Nicholas Wilson, Sasha Frade, and Dino Rech), *JAIDS* 72.Suppl 4 (2016): S293.
- “Education as Liberation?” (with Michael Kremer, Edward Miguel, Rebecca Thornton), *Economica* 83, no. 329 (2016): 1-30.
- “Can Mobile Phone Messages to Drug Sellers Improve Treatment of Childhood Diarrhea?: A Randomized Controlled Trial in Ghana” (with Minki Chatterji and Benjamin Woodman); *Health Policy and Planning*, 2015 30 (3): i82-i92 doi: 10.1093/heapol/czu122

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Economics of Genocide in Rwanda”; *Economic Aspects of Genocides, Mass Atrocities, and Their Prevention*, ed Charles Anderton and Jurgen Brauer, Oxford University Press, 2016.

WORKING PAPERS

- “Guidance and Information for Improved Decisions in Education (GUIIDE)” (with Kehinde Ajayi and Adrienne Lucas)
- “Disruptions to Health Care Quality and Early Child Health Outcomes: Evidence from Health Worker Strikes in Kenya” (with Anthony Keats), revision requested *Journal of Health Economics*
- “Institutional Births and Early Child Health: Evidence from Ghana’s Free Delivery Policy” (with Anthony Keats)
- “The Educational and Fertility Effects of Sibling Deaths” (with Marc Rockmore and Dhanu Thamarapani), revision requested *Economic Development and Cultural Change*
- “Local Economic Conditions and Participation in the Rwandan Genocide” Households in Conflict Network working paper No 160

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- “Condom Use and Habit Formation”
- “Beyond Bias: Reducing Provider Bias Towards Adolescents to Increase Contraception Take-Up: A Randomized Controlled Trial in Tanzania, Burkina Faso, and Pakistan” (with William Dow, Aprajit Mahajan, Sandra McCoy, and Manisha Shah, Zachary Wagner)
- “Building State Capacity and National Unity with Market Design,” (with Guthrie Gray-Lobe and Michael Kremer)
- “Evolution of cultural beliefs and children’s gender,” (with Jean Boblawende Kabore)

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- “11Racial Bias in Forgiveness and Assessing Bad Behavior” University of Houston Small Grant to Enhance Research on Racism (2020)
- “Evolution of cultural beliefs and children’s gender,” University of Houston Small Grant (2020)
- “Evolution of cultural beliefs and children’s gender” University of Houston Provost’s 50-in-5 Initiative Grant (2019)
- “Evolution of cultural beliefs and children’s gender,” University of Houston Research Progress Grant (2019)
- “Building State Capacity and National Unity with Market Design,” World Bank Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF), with Guthrie Gray-Lobe and Michael Kremer (2018)
- “Building State Capacity and National Unity with Market Design,” JPAL Governance Initiative, with Guthrie Gray-Lobe and Michael Kremer (2018)
- “Building State Capacity and National Unity with Market Design,” International Growth Center (IGC), with Guthrie Gray-Lobe and Michael Kremer (2018)
- CLASS Research Progress Grant - University of Houston (2017)
- “Information Targeting, School Choice, and School Quality,” Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), with Kehinde Ajayi and Adrienne Lucas (2015, 2017)
- New Faculty Research Grant - University of Houston (2015)
- 3ie Thematic Window 3 - Demand Creation for Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision, with Sasha Frade, Dino Rech, and Nicholas Wilson (2013)
- CEGA/BERI Exploratory Grant to study habit formation in condom use, with Homa Zarghamee (2013)
- Levin Family Seed Grant from the Center for Evaluation and Global Action (2012)
- John L. Simpson Memorial Research Fellowship in International and Comparative Studies (2012-2013)
- Weiss Family Fellowship from the Center for Evaluation and Global Action (2011)
- The Andrew and Mary Thompson Rocca Scholarship in Advanced African Studies (2011)
- IPUMS-International Research Award for best graduate student work using international census data (2010)
- Integrated Graduate Education Research and Training Program in Politics, Economics, Psychology and Public Policy Fellow (2009-2011)
- The Andrew and Mary Thompson Rocca Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, for research in Burkina Faso (2009)
- Thomas T Hoopes Prize for Outstanding Senior Thesis for “Language Policy in African Schools” (2005)

EXTERNAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **2020** (cancelled for COVID19) *Economic Demography Workshop* (April), *IUSSP Research Conference on Population, Poverty and Inequality* (June), *CESifo Venice Summer Institute: Economics of Education and Equality of Opportunity* (June)
- **2019** *IFPRI* (April), *IUSSP Research Conference on Population, Poverty and Inequality* (June), *Southern Economics Association* (November), *Texas Health Economics Conference* (December), *University of Toronto Economics* (December)
- **2018** *Collegio Carlo Alberto* (May), *Nordic Conference on Development Economics* (June), *Busara Center* (July), *Bowdoin* (October)
- **2017** *NBER Health* (April), *Population Association of America* (April)
- **2016** *Data Driven Development in Africa Conference at Penn State* (February), *Pacific Development Conference* (March), *University of South Florida* (March), *Midwest International Economic Development Conference* (May), *Western Economic Association* (June), *Tenth Annual Research Conference on Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development* (September), *University of British Columbia* (October), *Stata Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference* (October)
- **2015** *Working Group on African Political Economy* (January), *Baylor Economics Department* (February), *Houston Global Health Collaborative: Impact 2015* (March); *University of Texas School of Public Health* (April), *Midwest Political Science Association* (April), *Annual Meeting on the Economics of Risky Behaviors* (May), *PopPov Conference on Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development* (June), *International Health Economics Association* (July)
- **2014** *PopPov Conference on Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development* (January), *Center for the Study of African Economies* (March), *Pacific Development Conference* (March), *University of Oklahoma Economics Department* (March), *Middlebury College Economics Department* (April), *Population Association of America* (May), *Barcelona GSE Summer Forum* (July), *Cornell Institute for African Development* (October), *Midwest Working Group on African Political Economy* (October), *African Studies Association* (November)
- **2013** *Western Political Science Association* (March), *Center for the Study of African Economies* (March), *Pacific Development Conference* (March), *Population Association of America* (April), *Wesleyan University Economics Seminar* (October), *9th Households in Conflict Network Workshop* (November)
- **2012** *University of Texas - Dallas Economics Department* (October), *University of San Francisco Economics Department* (October), *Northeast Universities Development Consortium* (November), *Working Group on African Political Economy* (December), *African Studies Association* (December)
- **2011** *American Economics Association* (January), *University of San Francisco Economics Department* (February), *American Political Science Association Meeting* (September), *Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation Northern California Symposium* (November),

REFEREEING AND REVIEWING

- Referee: *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Political Science Review*, *The Annals of Regional Science*, *BE Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, *Biomedical and Environmental Sciences*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *BMJ Global Health*, *Demography*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economica*, *Economics and Human Biology*, *Empirical Economics*, *GAMES*, *Health Economics*, *Industrial Relations*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Demographic Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Review of Development Economics*, *Review of Economics of the Household*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *South African Journal of Economics*, *World Development*,
- Reviewer: *Innovations for Poverty Action*, *USAID Development Impact Ventures*, *NSF*, *Swiss NSF*, *International Health Economics Association*, *Population Health Sciences*, *Behavioral Economics in Global Health Conference at CEGA/Berkeley*, *Working Group on African Political Economy*, *Texas Stata Empirical Microeconomics Conference*

TEACHING

FULL COURSES

University of Houston (2014-present), *Professor*

- Behavioral Economics (undergraduate)
- Development Economics (graduate)

UC Berkeley (2009-2011), *Graduate Student Instructor*

- Global Poverty and Impact Evaluation, for Fred Finan
- AIDS in Africa, for Ann Swidler
- Psychology and Economics, for Botond Koszegi

IMPACT EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

- Institute of Global Health at UCSF/PEPFAR (2014) Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- CEGA/JPAL (2012) Nairobi, Kenya
- World Bank (2010) Tunis, Tunisia
- World Bank (2010) Kigali, Rwanda

CONSULTING

CIFF/IPA (2013), *Consultant* Nairobi, Kenya

- Assisted with merging and data analysis for short-term follow-up of national deworming scale-up

Abt Associates (2011-2015), *Impact Evaluation Consultant* Accra, Ghana

- Helped design evaluation of project to improve diarrhea treatment in private sector
- Helped design study to investigate how consumers choose public and private health providers in Uganda

RTI International (2009-2010), *Impact Evaluation Consultant* Kati, Mali

- Advised evaluation design, created and piloted survey instruments, analysis of program impacts of education intervention in Mali

LANGUAGES

- French (fluent), Spanish (proficient), Swahili (advanced), Luganda (basic conversation: ACTFL score: Intermediate high), Italian (trying)