

Jacob Harris

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EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ph.D. in Government

Major: American Politics

Minor: Comparative Politics

Minor: Quantitative Methods

Ithaca, NY

Aug. 2020 – May 2025 (expected)

Brigham Young University

Bachelor's of Art in Political Science (with distinction), cum laude

Thesis: Getting Tough: The Relationship Between Religion,

Racial Resentment, and Punitive Attitudes

Provo, UT

Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2019

Southern Utah University

Associate of Arts in General Studies

Cedar City, UT

Aug. 2016 – Dec. 2017

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American politics, prison proliferation, punishment, public opinion, race, religion, elections and voting behavior

PUBLICATIONS

2021

- *Revise and resubmit.* Peter Enns, **Jacob Harris**, John Kenny, Andra Roescu, and Will Jennings. “Public responsiveness to declining crime rates in the United States and England and Wales.”
- *In press.* **Jacob Harris**, Melissa Jones, and Quin Monson. “Religion, punitive sentiment, and the mediating effect of racial resentment.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

2020

- **Jacob Harris** and Melissa Jones. “Shaping youths perceptions and attitudes toward the police: Differences in direct and vicarious encounters with police.” *Journal of Criminal Justice* 67:101674.

WORKING PAPERS

- Does Jones beat Janczewski? Testing the relationship between the processing fluency of political candidates surnames and election outcomes.
Targeted for *Political Psychology*
- speedycode: An R package for converting ASCII files and cleaning data more efficiently.
Targeted for the *R Journal*
- Why Does the U.S. Kill People? How Racial Attitudes Contextualize the Relationship Between Religion and Support for Capital Punishment. *With Louis Chuang and Melissa Jones.*
Targeted for *Social Forces*

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Are places with prisons more punitive?
- Punitive Attitudes in Moral Communities
- The Political Consequences of the Prison Boom: Prisons and Political Engagement in Rural America. *With Isabel Anadon and John Eason*

NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Jacob Harris.** Using Historical Survey Data on Military Base Closures to Understand Public Support for Prison Closures. Roper Center for Public Opinion. September 14, 2021.

SOFTWARE AND PACKAGES

- **Jacob Harris.** 2021. *speedycode*: Automate Code for Adding Labels, Renaming Variables, and Converting ASCII Files. Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN).
<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=speedycode>

FUNDING

Applied: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program

- Politics of Race, Ethnicity, Immigration, Class, and Ethnicity (PRICE) Research Grant (\$645)
- Cornell Population Center Rapid Response Grant (\$750)
- Warren J. Mitofsky Fellowship, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research (\$28,654)
- Kohut Summer Research Fellowship, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research (\$4000)
- General Social Survey 2022 RFP, proposed survey items conditionally accepted
- Rural Black Lives Microgrant, Cornell University (\$350)
- Graduate Research Funds, Cornell University (\$5000)
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University
- Jack and Marilyn Roberts Family Endowment Award (\$500)
- Full Tuition Scholarship, Brigham Young University
- Full Tuition Scholarship, Southern Utah University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Does rural prison building mobilize voters? American Political Science Association Conference. September 2021. Virtual format.
- Does Jones beat Janczewski? Testing the relationship between the processing fluency of political candidates surnames and election outcomes. Midwest Political Science Association Conference. April 14-18, 2021. Virtual format.
- Getting Tough: The Effects of Racial Resentment and Religion on Punitive Attitudes. BYU Political Science Poster Conference. December 10, 2019. Provo, UT.
- Shaping Youth Attitudes Toward Police: Differences in Direct and Vicarious Police Encounters. BYU Political Science Poster Conference. December 10, 2019. Provo, UT.
- To Bond or to Bridge: The Social Capital Dilemma in America. Mary Lou Fulton Poster Conference. April 11, 2019. Provo, UT.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher (Winter 2021 - Current)

Prison Proliferation Project, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Under the direction of Dr. John Eason, the Prison Proliferation Project is a team of graduate researchers who collaboratively study the causes and consequences of prison building in America.

Research Assistant (Winter 2021 - Current)

Department of Government, Cornell University

Assistant to Professor Peter Enns, conducted a thorough review of public opinion surveys to update an over-time measure of public punitiveness. Also, used data from the National Crime Victimization Survey and Uniform Crime Reports to create a modified measure of public punitiveness.

Research Assistant (Summer 2019 - Summer 2020)

Brigham Young University and the Utah County Attorneys Office

Assistant to Professor Quinn Mecham and County Attorney David Leavitt, conducted research on a pilot pre-filing diversion program in Utah County. Also, wrote and administered a survey for the attorneys in the County Attorneys Office to measure the effects of the program on their workload.

Research Assistant (May - August 2019)

Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University

Assisted Professors Darren Hawkins and Dan Nielson with building a website designed to make randomized controlled trials in developing countries more accessible to policymakers. This included reading RCT studies in conducted in developing countries, extracting information from them, and coding the information into pithy summaries available to policymakers.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

Cornell Prison Education Program, Elmira Correctional Facility

Teaching Assistant

Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University

Comparative Politics with Professor Quinn Mecham (Fall 2019)

Graded papers, graded exams, held office hours, and conducted exam review sessions.

Teaching Assistant

Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University

Political Inquiry with Professor Darren Hawkins (Winter 2019)

Conducted weekly lab sessions with a group of 20 students, graded papers, and held office hours.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Analyst (Summer 2020)

Y2 Analytics

Wrangled, analyzed, and visualized data for corporate (Facebook, Microsoft, United Health, etc.), political, and municipal clients using R. Employed the tidyverse, mscharts, and original functions to create detailed presentations.

Content Writer and Account Manager (Fall 2016 - present)

Spot On Solutions

Authored over 1000 online blogs for law firms, digital marketing companies, and cleaning and restoration companies.

TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

R, Stata, Qualtrics, L^AT_EX

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Honorable Mention, 2020 BYU Political Science Poster Contest
- Deans List, Brigham Young University
- Pi Sigma Alpha honor society member, Brigham Young University
- Deans List, Southern Utah University

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Founder of the Collaborative Scholarship Network
- Cornell fall forum undergraduate research conference judge (October 31, 2020)
- Pandemic Policython mentor (October 23-24, 2020)
- Workplace Religious Accommodation Database (WRAD) researcher (2019)
- Court Appointed Service Advocate (CASA) volunteer (2018)
- Two-year religious service missionary in Atlanta, GA (2014-2016)

Last updated November 2021