

# JOHANNA RUTH LACOE

California Policy Lab, UC Berkeley  
Work: 2521 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

---

## RESEARCH FIELDS

Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Education, Housing, Employment, Public Policy Analysis, Program Evaluation

---

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2019-pres. Research Director, California Policy Lab, University of California, Berkeley, CA
- 2014-2019 Deputy Director of Justice Research and Analytics, Mathematica, Oakland, CA  
Senior Researcher (2019)  
Researcher (2014-2019)
- 2012-2014 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Lusk Center for Real Estate, University of Southern California  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Sol Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California
- 2007-2012 Research Fellow, Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, New York University  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service, New York University
- 2004-2006 Program Analyst, Vera Institute of Justice, Esperanza/Hope, New York, NY
- 2002-2004 Policy Analyst/Research Assistant, Social Policy Research Associates, Oakland, CA

---

## EDUCATION

- New York University**, Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service New York, NY  
*Ph.D., Public Administration* 2008-2013  
*M.P.A., Public Policy Analysis* 2006-2008
- Brown University** Providence, RI  
*A.B. with Honors, Political Science* 1998-2002

---

## ARTICLES & PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Augustine, E., **Lacoe, J.**, Raphael, S., and A. Skog. (2021). "The Impact of Felony Diversion in San Francisco." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, forthcoming.
- Schwartz, A., Laurito, A. **Lacoe, J.**, Sharkey, P., and I.G. Ellen. (2021). "The Academic Effects of Chronic Exposure to Neighborhood Violence." *Urban Studies*, online ahead of print.
- Acolin, A., Walter, R, Tilyer, M., **Lacoe, J.**, and R. Bostic. (2021). "Spatial Spillovers of Crime on Private Investment at Nearby Micro-Places." *Urban Studies*, online ahead of print.
- Lacoe, J.**, G. Painter, and D. Williams. (2020). "Evaluating the Academic and Behavioral Impact of School in the Park." *AERA Open*, 6(3), 1-22.
- Esthappan, S., **J. Lacoe**, M. Zweig, and D. Young. (2020). "Transforming Practice through Culture Change: Probation Staff Perspectives on Juvenile Justice Reform." *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, 18(3), 274-293. Blog post: <https://mathematica.org/blogs/a-closer-look-at-juvenile-probation-transformation>
- Lacoe, J.** (2020). "Too Scared to Learn? The Academic Consequences of Feeling Unsafe in the Classroom." *Urban Education*, 55(10), 1385-1418. Accepted 2016.
- Laurito, A., **J. Lacoe**, A.E. Schwartz, P. Sharkey, and I.G. Ellen. (2019). "School Climate and the Impact of Neighborhood Crime on Test Scores." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, 5(2), 141-66.

- Lacoe, J.**, and M.P. Steinberg. (2019). "Do Suspensions Affect Student Outcomes?" *Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 41(1), 34-62.  
On the Evidence podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/ontheevidence/johanna-lacoe>
- Lacoe, J.**, and J. Stein. (2018). "Exploring the Policy Implications of High-Profile Police Violence." *Criminology & Public Policy*, 17(4), 859-863.
- Lacoe, J.**, R.W. Bostic, and A. Acolin. (2018). "Crime and Private Investment in Urban Neighborhoods." *Journal of Urban Economics*, 108, 154-169.
- Steinberg, M.P., and **J. Lacoe**. (2018). "Reforming School Discipline: School-Level Implementation and the Consequences for Suspended Students and Their Peers." *American Journal of Education*, 125(1), 29-77.
- Lacoe, J.**, and M.P. Steinberg. (2018). "Rolling Back Zero Tolerance: The Effect of Discipline Policy Reform on Suspension Usage, School Climate, and Student Achievement." *Peabody Journal of Education*, 93(2), 207-227.
- Steinberg, M.P., and **J. Lacoe**. (2017). "What Do We Know about School Discipline Reform? Assessing the Alternatives to Suspensions and Expulsions." *Education Next*, 17(1), 44-52.
- Lacoe, J.**, and P. Sharkey. (2016). "Life in a Crime Scene: Stop, Question, and Frisk Activity in New York City Neighborhoods in the Aftermath of Homicides." *Sociological Science*, 3, 116-134.
- Lacoe, J.**, and Ellen, I. G. (2015). "Mortgage Foreclosures and the Changing Mix of Crime in Micro-Neighborhoods." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 13(2), 143-168.
- Lacoe, J.** (2015). "Unequally Safe: The Race Gap in School Safety." *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, 13(2), 143-168.
- Sharkey, P., Schwartz, A. E., Ellen, I.G. and **Lacoe, J.** (2014). "High Stakes in the Classroom, High Stakes on the Street: The Effects of Community Violence on Students' Standardized Test Performance." *Sociological Science*, 1, 199-220.
- Ellen, I. G., **Lacoe, J.**, and Sharygin, C. (2013). "Do Foreclosures Cause Crime?" *Journal of Urban Economics*, 74, 59-70.
- Gambone, M.A., Cao Yu, H., Lewis-Charp, H., Sipe, C. L., and **Lacoe, J.** (2006). "Youth Organizing, Identity Support, and Youth Development Agencies as Avenues for Involvement." *Journal of Community Practice*, 14(1/2), 235-253.

#### WORKING PAPERS

---

- "The Effect of Pretrial Release on Case Outcomes." (with A. Skog and M. Bird). *Under review*.
- "Criminal Record Clearance in California: Limitations on Relief Despite Widespread Eligibility." (with A. Mooney, A. Skog, E. Kohlheim, and A. Lerman)

#### CURRENT PROJECTS

---

- High Utilizers of Criminal Justice and Urgent and Emergent Health Services in San Francisco
- Implementation of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) ([pre-registration](#))
- The Impact of Housing Choice Vouchers on Income, Social Supports, Health, and Criminal Justice ([pre-registration](#))
- Evaluation of the Pre-Arrest Representation and Review (PARR) Pilot in Santa Clara ([pre-registration](#))
- Sentencing Enhancements in California ([pre-registration](#))
- Assessing the Impact of Automatic Record Clearance in California
- Student Supports: The Role of Social Safety Net Programs in Community College and University of California Student Success ([pre-registration](#))

SELECTED POLICY REPORTS & COMMENTARY

---

- Augustine, E., **Lacoe, J.**, Raphael, S. and A. Skog. (2021). "Felony Diversion in San Francisco: Key Impact Findings." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Bird, M., Gill, O., **Lacoe, J.**, Pickard, M., and S. Raphael. (2021). "[Crime in California during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Skog, A., and **J. Lacoe**. (2021). "[Validation of the PSA in San Francisco](#)." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Lacoe, J.**, A. Skog, and M. Bird. (2021). "[Bail reform in San Francisco: Pretrial Release and Intensive Supervision Increased After Humphrey](#)." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Skog, A., E. Augustine, **J. Lacoe**, and M. Bird. (2020). "[Proposition 25's Predicted Impact in San Francisco and Sonoma Counties](#)." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Augustine, E., A. Skog, **J. Lacoe**, and S. Raphael. (2020). "[Alternatives to Prosecution: San Francisco's Collaborative Courts and Pretrial Diversion](#)." Berkeley, CA: California Policy Lab.
- Lacoe, J.** (2020). "[Activities to Improve Data Capacity: A Deep-end Reform Brief](#)." Washington, DC: Urban Institute.
- Honeycutt, T., Zweig, J., Hague Angus, M., Esthappan, S., **Lacoe, J.**, Sakala, L., and D. Young. (2020). "[Keeping Youth Out of the Deep End of the Juvenile Justice System](#)." Washington, DC: Urban Institute.
- Lacoe, J.** and L. Sakala. (2020). "[Collaborating With Juvenile Probation Officers Will Further Advance Reforms](#)." Opinion, Juvenile Justice Information Exchange.
- Lacoe, J.** and H. Betesh. (2019). "[Supporting Reentry Employment and Success: A Summary of Evidence for Adults and Young Adults](#)." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor, Chief Evaluation Office.
- Lacoe, J.** and M. Manley. (2019). "Disproportionality in school discipline: An assessment in Maryland through 2018." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Mid-Atlantic. [Infographic](#).
- Gonzalez, N., **J. Lacoe**, A. Yanez, A. Demers, S. Crissey, and N. Larkin. (2019). "[Oakland Unite 2017-2018 Strategy Evaluation: Life Coaching and Employment and Education Support for Youth at Risk of Violence](#)." Submitted to the Office of the City Administrator. Oakland, CA: Mathematica.
- Eslami, E., **J. Lacoe**, N. Gonzalez, S. Crissey, C. Tilley, and N. Larkin. (2019). "[2016-2018 Oakland Unite Agency Report](#)." Submitted to Office of the City Administrator. Oakland, CA: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Esthappan, S., **J. Lacoe**, and D. Young. (2019). "[Juvenile Probation Transformation: Applying the Approach in Lucas County, OH and Pierce County, WA](#)." Washington, DC: Urban Institute.
- Lacoe, J.** and M. Steinberg. (2018). "[Focusing on school discipline after Parkland is unsound policy](#)." Opinion, The Hill.
- Liu, A.Y., **J. Lacoe**, S. Lipscomb, J. Haimson, D.R. Johnson, and M.L. Thurlow. (2018). "Preparing for Life After High School: The Characteristics and Experiences of Youth in Special Education. Findings from the National Longitudinal Transition Study 2012. Volume 3: Comparisons Over Time: [Full Report](#)." NCEE 2018-4007. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance.
- Lacoe, J.**, S. Lipscomb, and J. Haimson. (2018). "Preparing Youth in Special Education for Life After High School." [Fact Sheet](#). Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Lacoe, J.** "Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty: Juvenile Justice Memorandum." (2018). Submitted to the AB 1520 Taskforce. Sacramento, CA: Mathematica Policy Research.

- Henderson-Frakes, J., H. Diaz, **J. Lacoe**, and L.R. Feinberg. (2018). "Expunging Records, Opening Doors: A Profile of Face Forward Grantees' Expungement Services." Submitted to U.S. Department of Labor. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Berk, J., L. Rosenberg, L. Cattell, **J. Lacoe**, L. Fox, M. Dang, and E. Brown. (2018). "The External Review of Job Corps: An Evidence Scan Report." Report submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Gonzalez, N., N. Nicolai, **J. Lacoe**, A. Yanez, E. Dawson-Andoh, C. Crissey, C. Mitchell, Z. El Omari, E. Eslami, and R. Torres. (2018). "2016-2017 Oakland Unite Agency Report." Submitted to Office of the City Administrator. Oakland, CA: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Gonzalez, N., **J. Lacoe**, E. Dawson-Andoh, A. Yanez, N. Nicolai, and S. Crissey. (2017). "Evaluation of Oakland Unite: Year 1 Strategy Report." Submitted to Office of the City Administrator. Oakland, CA: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Steinberg, M.P., and **J. Lacoe**. (2017). "The Academic and Behavioral Consequences of Discipline Policy Reform: Evidence from Philadelphia." Policy Brief. Washington, DC: Thomas B. Fordham Institute.
- Stein, J., K. Bodenlos, A. Yanez, **J. Lacoe**, and J. Berk. (2017). "Detour to Opportunity: A Guide on Young Adult Diversion from the Criminal Justice System." Submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research.
- Rotz, D., and **J. Lacoe**. (2014). "Meta-Analysis of Programs Serving Young Offenders." Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research.
- D'Amico, R., K. Dunham, A. Goger, M. Mack, R. Kebede, **J. Lacoe**, and J. Salzman. (2009). "Initial Implementation of the Trade Act of 2002." Final report. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor.
- Armstrong, A., V. Been, C.K. Bhalla, K.K. Chan, I.G. Ellen, **J. Lacoe**, J. Madar, and S. Roberts. (2007). "State of New York City's Housing and Neighborhoods." New York: Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy.
- Inouye, T., **Lacoe, J.**, and Henderson-Frakes, J. (2004). *Youth Media's Impact on Audience & Channels of Distribution: An Exploratory Study*. Open Society Institute.
- Lewis-Charp, H., Cao Yu, H., Soukamneuth, S., and **J. Lacoe**. (2003). *Extending the Reach of Youth Development through Civic Activism: Outcomes of the Youth Leadership for Development Initiative*. Social Policy Research Associates.
- Endo, T., Cao Yu, H., Lewis-Charp, H., and **J. Lacoe**. (2003). *Youth as Mitigators of Interethnic Conflict*. W.K. Kellogg Foundation.
- Henderson, J., Venegas, R., and **J. Lacoe**. (2002). *Evaluation of the C.S. Mott Foundation's Vulnerable Youth Grantmaking Strategy*. C.S. Mott Foundation, September 2002.

#### EXTERNAL GRANTS

---

- 2021-26 **Spencer Foundation**, Lyle Spencer Research Award, "Student Supports: The Role of Social Safety Net Programs in Community College Student Success." (Co-PI with Jesse Rothstein: \$975,940)
- 2021-24 **Clean Slate Initiative**, "Assessing the Impact of Automatic Record Clearance in California." (PI with Steven Raphael: \$330,716)
- 2021-23 **Arnold Ventures**, "Research support for the California Committee on Revision of the Penal Code" (Co-PI with Steven Raphael and Mia Bird: \$926,788)
- 2020-22 **Russell Sage Foundation**, "The Impact of Housing Vouchers on Social Service Usage, Health, and Well-Being" (PI with Michael Lens: \$173,690)
- 2020-21 **Arnold Ventures**, "Pretrial Reform Project" (Co-PI with Mia Bird: \$380,338)
- 2020-21 **J-PAL North America**, "Santa Clara Pre-Arrest Representation and Review Evaluation" (Co-PI with Steven Raphael: \$49,821)

## TEACHING

---

<b>University of Southern California</b> , Sol Price School of Public Policy	Los Angeles, CA
Adjunct Assistant Professor, <i>Economics for Policy, Planning, and Development</i>	2014
<b>New York University</b> , Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service	New York, NY
Adjunct Assistant Professor, <i>Capstone in Applied Research in Public Finance &amp; Policy</i>	2009-2010
Teaching Colleague, <i>Microeconomics for Public Management, Planning &amp; Policy Analysis</i>	2009, 2010

## FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

---

Jack Kent Cooke Dissertation Fellowship, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, 2012-2013  
 Institute for Education Sciences Pre-doctoral Research Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education, 2010-2012  
 Doctoral Scholarship, Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, 2008-2010  
 Dean's Scholarship, Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, 2007-2008  
 Graduate Assistantship, Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, 2006-2007  
 Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society, Brown University, 2002

## PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

---

2021 - Volunteer mentor, Sadie Collective  
 2019 - Member, Learning & Impact Committee, Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY), Oakland, CA  
 2012 - Panelist, Senior Scholar/Student Roundtable, *APPAM Annual Meeting*  
 2011 - Student Representative, Social Justice Initiatives in Public Service Graduate Programs, NYU & UCLA  
 Member: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, American Society of Criminology  
 Referee: *AERA Open, American Educational Research Journal, American Journal of Sociology, City & Community, Economics of Education Review, Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Researcher, Housing Policy Debate, International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice, Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, Journal of Urban Affairs, Journal of Urban Economics, Peabody Journal of Education, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Sociology of Education, Urban Affairs Review, Urban Education*