



BROWN

*2015 Department of Political Science
Honors Candidates*

HANNAH BEGLEY: *Jury Bias Against Taboo Crimes: A Fear of Societal Rejection*

This thesis examines jury bias against defendants accused of committing taboo crimes. I hypothesize that juries are biased in this way because they face serious social pressure to seem tough on taboo crimes. As evidence, I will present the results of several experiments suggesting both that this form of jury bias exists, and that it is motivated by a desire to project a message about one's values to the community. I will also analyze four possible policy solutions to this form of jury bias, and will suggest that the United States government ought to consider imposing a mixed-bench trial requirement.

Advisor: Rose McDermott, Political Science

Reader: Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro, Political Science

MATTHEW BRUNDAGE: *Why Democracy Bears Inequality: Public Perceptions of Income Inequality and Tax Reform in the United States*

The United States has the highest level of income inequality among all developed democracies. At the onset of the 21st century, the US adopted two massive tax cuts that the majority of citizens perceived to be quite skewed in favor of the wealthy. Still, most supported these measures, and there have been very few successful calls for reform to address income inequality since then. Why? Challenging multiple previous interpretations of this puzzle, this thesis demonstrates that most citizens do care about addressing inequality — but not as much as they care about economic growth. When policies are presented as an option between the two, we should expect most citizens to opt for growth.

Advisor: Katherine Tate, Political Science

Reader: Wendy Schiller, Political Science

KEVIN CARTY: *Out of the State and Into the Street: The Role of Public Political Action in Realizing Liberal Democracy*

What is the role of public political action - protests, marches, community-organizing and the like - in a democratic society? In my thesis, I argue that this form of action is essential to the survival of Liberal democracy, as it fills in weaknesses and gaps within Liberal theory and the democratic state. When engaging in public political action, citizens access new forms of citizenship, suggest and model new reforms and policy developments, supplement the democratic process by prodding sluggish leaders, and change social relationships between citizens. In these many ways, public political action furthers the promise of Liberal democracy, and improves the functioning of the democratic state.

Advisor: James Morone, Political Science

Readers: Matthew Lyddon, Political Science

MARINA GATTAS DO NASCIMENTO: *International Systems and Sovereignty: Military Legacies in the Context of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights*

This thesis investigates state compliance with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR). Part one presents original data on current levels of compliance and provides evidence that the IACtHR promotes structural changes that strengthen domestic human rights protections. Part two compares Chile and Brazil's implementation of IACtHR orders to revoke amnesty laws in *Almonacid Arellano et al. v. Chile* and *Gomes Lund et al. v. Brazil*, using process tracing, discourse analysis and interviews. I argue that, in addition to informal civil-military pacts made during re-democratization, ideas, identities and perceptions influence the value different domestic actors place on challenging amnesties, thereby making compliance more likely in Chile than in Brazil.

Advisor: Janice Gallagher, Political Science

Reader: James Green, History

VIVEKA HULYALKAR: *Comparatively Evaluating the Effect of Increased Economic and Political Inclusion to Advance the Status of Rural Female Populations in China and India*

While economic and political institutions have received abundant attention for their capacities to empower rural women in the developing world, few have weighed the efficacy of each against the other in order to illuminate their divergent capacities to influence female status. I explore the effects of China's singularly commercial approach to female advancement versus those of India's overwhelmingly political one to distinguish between the two vehicles of change. I find that as economic integration imparts immediate resource reallocation to women and political integration catalyzes long-term gender role resocialization, the two produce outcomes that vary along three axes: tangibility, horizon of realization, and ramifications of isolated deployment. They therefore must be deployed in tandem to imbue gains with staying power.

Advisor: Rose McDermott, Political Science

Reader: Prerna Singh Political Science

ZACHARY INGBER: *Does the Constitution Follow the Flag? A New Framework for Assessing the Applicability of Habeas Corpus to Foreign Nationals Detained Outside the US*

Foreign nationals captured in the War on Terror are often detained for extended periods of time by both civilian and military authorities. Thus, how do we determine if these detainees are entitled to Constitutional habeas corpus protections? The existing frameworks available to resolve this question that rely on territory and broad normative assumptions leave much to be desired. This paper argues that civilian control over a detention center is the key factor that necessitates habeas corpus protections for detainees. The civilian control doctrine aims to fill the gaps of existing legal frameworks by engaging with Supreme Court case law, political theory, and legal scholarship. By proposing a novel middle ground approach, I attempt to challenge existing frameworks that have largely gone uncontested for years.

Advisor: Steven Calabresi, Political Theory Project

Reader: Corey Brettschneider, Political Science

ANDREW KAPLAN: *Rising Homelessness in New York City: A Comparative Investigation*

Though homelessness in the United States has decreased from 2007-2014, it has increased at alarming rates in New York City and other major American cities. This study first analyzes the demographical breakdown of New York City's homeless population in order to determine the sub-demographic – non-chronic sheltered family homelessness – that is driving the recent increases. A case study of five cities then reveals that 1) tighter, more expensive housing markets generated by income inequality are correlated with increasing homelessness and 2) local policy responses and non-profit partnerships can be effective when executed properly. These findings imply that major cities must address housing crises by ameliorating income inequality, creating more affordable housing, and improving and sustaining intervention initiatives.

Advisor: James Morone, Political Science

Reader: Margary Martin, Education

SHIERLY MONDIANTI: *Continuing the Colonial Legacy in a Post-Colonial World: A Comparative Spatial Policy Analysis of Singapore's Nation-Building Project*

Unlike most post-colonial societies, Singapore has not moved away from colonialist bureaucracy and administration. In fact, Singapore does the opposite. This thesis primarily analyzes the public and private spaces of Singapore society. Using a similar systems research design approach, I compare Singapore with George Town, Malaysia to uncover the reason why post-colonial societies perpetuate the colonial legacy. There is an absence of a movement away from colonial methods of socio-spatial arrangement in both Singapore and George Town, and I argue that this colonial continuity stems from the internalized hybrid identity of the post-colonial government and its people.

Advisor: Jordan Branch, Political Science

Reader: Rebecca Nedostup, History

ANA ROSENSTEIN: *The Right Hand Man: Architect of the Presidential Legacy*

This thesis is premised around the notion of “right hand man” to the president of the United States. Throughout American history the “right hand man” to the president has played a critical role in policy making, serving as a guiding light for the president’s decision-making process. While not elected by the American people this person is integral in shaping domestic and foreign policy. However, the true marker of the right hand man is he who shapes overarching legacy of the president. Three case studies representing different manifestations of the role of the right hand man will be discussed in this thesis: Harry Hopkins and FDR, Ted Sorensen and JFK, and finally Clinton as an “autonomous president.”

Advisor: Rose McDermott, Political Science

Reader: Wendy Schiller, Political Science

MEGHAN SULLIVAN: *In Their Right Mind: Political Institutions and the Radical Right in the United States, France and Germany*

Given the United States’, France’s, and Germany’s widely varying electoral rules and political party systems, how have these institutional variables constrained or advanced the political ambitions of populist, radical right groups in each democracy? Reactionary, nationalist parties and movements have a long history in each of the aforementioned countries – consider the American John Birch Society, the French Action Française, and the German Nazi Party. This thesis evaluates the different trajectories of the most recent iterations of far right parties and movements in the United States, France, and Germany – the Tea Party movement, National Front, the National Democratic Party of Germany, and Alternative for Germany – between 2010 and 2014, with special consideration for the political institutions each group contended with.

Advisor: Wendy Schiller, Political Science

Reader: Linda Cook, Political Science

HAZEL SU-YIN TAN: *Explaining Outcomes: A Comparative Study of Contemporary Environmental Protests in East Asia*

Growing concerns about environmental degradation have sparked a wave of protests in East Asia. This study seeks to identify explanations for the outcomes of these protests and the variation in outcomes. This thesis argues that the organization of protesters and the accountability of the government explain the variation. Through a comparative analysis of six environmental protests in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and China from 2011 to 2014, it is found that in cases of concession, the organization of protesters is crucial. However, protesters are not guaranteed a concession even if they are well-organized, as evident in the cases of non-concession. The second factor that decisively influences a protest outcome is the groups to whom the government is accountable.

Advisor: Edward Steinfeld, Political Science

Reader: Linda Cook, Political Science