

Vivekinan (Vivek) L. Ashok

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RESEARCH INTERESTS American Politics, Public Policy, Political Economy, Quantitative Methodology
(Survey and Lab Experiments, Causal Inference, Applied Statistics)

EDUCATION **Yale University**, New Haven, CT

Ph.D., Political Science, expected May 2017

Dissertation: *Three Essays on the Behavioral Political Economy of Government Spending*
Advisors: Alan S. Gerber, Gregory A. Huber, Ebonya L. Washington (Economics)

M.A., Statistics, 2014

Relevant Coursework: Linear Models, Statistical Case Studies (Computing), Theory of
Statistics, Bayesian Probability and Statistics

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

A.B., Economics and Political Science (Honors), 2008

RESEARCH *Published & Under Review*

“Manipulation of Self-Interest Perception Can Increase Support for Redistribution:
Experimental Evidence Testing the Meltzer and Richard Model.” Vivekinan Ashok. *Under
Review*.

“The Dynamic Election: Patterns of Early Voting Across Time, State, Party, and Age.”
Vivekinan Ashok, Daniel Feder, Mary McGrath, and Eitan Hersch. 2016. *Election Law Journal*
15(2): 115–128.

“Support for Redistribution in an Age of Rising Inequality: New Stylized Facts and Some
Tentative Explanations.” Vivekinan Ashok, Ilyana Kuziemko, and Ebonya Washington. Spring
2015. *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*.

Press coverage: [New York Times](#), [Economist](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [NYT Op-ed](#)

Working Papers

“Analyzing Survey Experiments with Ordinal Outcome Data” (with Natália S. Bueno)

In Progress

“Policy Visibility and the Demand for Government Action” (with Gregory A. Huber)

Primary data collection underway; working paper expected February 2017

“Costly Redistribution: A Laboratory Experiment on Policy-making and Policy Preferences”

Design stage; pilot expected February 2017

“Processing Representations of Inequality: Measuring Voter Cognition”

Pilot underway

“Who Gets (Gives) the Marginal Government Dollar?” (with Gregory A. Huber)

Data collection completed (2016 Cooperative Congressional Election Study)

“When Do Voters Demand Distributive Business Regulations?” (with Nikhar Gaikwad)

Design stage; grant proposal pending

TEACHING	<p>Stat 538a: Probability and Statistics, Teaching Fellow, Fall 2015 <i>Graduate Statistics Course</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught weekly sections as TF assigned to Political Science graduate students • Reviewed prerequisite topics from multi-variable calculus and linear algebra; introduced students to statistical programming (R and JAGS) • Instructor: Joseph Chang
TEACHING INTERESTS	<p>American Politics, Public Policy—introductory courses; Congress; campaigns and elections; policy analysis; program and policy design; institutions</p> <p>Political Psychology and Behavior, Political Economy—attitudes toward redistribution, taxation, and spending; collective action, voting, and turnout; partisanship and ideology; models of political decision-making</p> <p>Quantitative Methodology—survey, lab, and field experiments; causal inference; survey design; probability and applied statistics; econometrics; statistical computing</p>
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	<p>Behavioral Research Lab, Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies, New Haven, CT <i>Founding Manager</i>, September 2013–Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led lab setup, creating first-of-its-kind venue for social scientists across University to conduct experimental research in a controlled setting • Developed expertise to program and deploy behavioral games (z-Tree), surveys (Qualtrics), and studies involving rich media content (MediaLab) • Recruited over 1,000 participants; served as technical consultant on all studies <p>Analysis Group Inc., Chicago, IL <i>Analyst, Senior Analyst</i>, 2008–2011</p>
SELECTED HONORS	<p>Whitney Fellowship, <i>Yale University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences</i>, 2016–2017</p> <p>Hall-Mercer Fellowship, <i>Yale University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences</i>, 2015–2016</p> <p>Democracy and Markets Graduate Fellowship, <i>The Tobin Project</i>, 2013–2014</p> <p>Policy Fellowship, <i>Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies</i>, 2013–2014</p> <p>Yale University Graduate Fellowship, 2011–2013</p>
INVITED TALKS	<p>Behavioral Models of Politics Conference: 2016 (Poster)</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2016, 2015, 2014</p> <p>Yale ISPS American Politics and Public Policy Workshop: 2017, 2016, 2015</p> <p>Brookings Panel on Economic Activity: Spring 2015</p> <p>Yale Day of Data: 2014</p>
LANGUAGES	R, Stata, SAS, \LaTeX , Tamil (fluent), Spanish (proficient in reading & writing)
REFERENCES	<p>Gregory A. Huber (gregory.huber@yale.edu) Alan S. Gerber (alan.gerber@yale.edu) Ebonya L. Washington (ebonya.washington@yale.edu) Eitan D. Hersh (eitan.hersh@yale.edu) Joseph Chang (joseph.chang@yale.edu)</p>