

# David B. Skarbek

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## Employment

King's College London

Lecturer in Political Economy, Department of Political Economy, 2012 — .

Duke University

Searle Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2010 — 2012.

## Education

Ph.D. Economics, George Mason University, 2010.

M.A. Economics, George Mason University, 2008.

B.S. Economics, San Jose State University, 2006.

## Other Affiliations

Member, Global Prisons Research Network, 2014 —.

Associate Member, Extra-Legal Governance Institute, University of Oxford, 2013 —.

Member, Editorial Board, *Global Crime*, 2012 —.

Research Fellow, The Independent Institute, 2009 —.

## Research Interest

My research uses comparative institutional analysis to examine how extralegal governance institutions form, operate, and evolve, and in particular, how people define and enforce property rights and trade in the absence of strong, effective governments.

## Research

### *Book*

The Social Order of the Underworld: How Prison Gangs Govern the American Penal System Oxford University Press. July 2014.

- Winner of the 2014 Outstanding Publication Award, International Association for the Study of Organized Crime.
- Shortlisted, 2014 Thinking Allowed Ethnography Award, British Sociological Association.
- Academic Reviews: Economic Affairs, Global Crime, The Independent Review, LSE Review of Books, Public Choice

•Popular Reviews: the Economist, Forbes, the Atlantic, Business Insider, the Independent, and discussed in the Times, Estado de São Paulo (Brazil), and PhoenixTV (Hong Kong).

### ***Journal Articles***

“Prison Gangs and the Community Responsibility System” (with M. Garrett Roth) Review of Behavioral Economics 1(3): 223-243.

“The Effect of Prison Gang Membership on Recidivism” (with B. Dooley and A. Seals) Journal of Criminal Justice 42(3) 2014: 267-275.

“Why Didn’t Slaves Revolt More Often During the Middle Passage?” (with A. Marcum) Rationality & Society 26(2) 2014: 232-262.

“The Governance Institutions of a Drug Trafficking Organization” (with J. Kostelnik) Public Choice 156(1-2) 2013: 95-103.

“The Industrial Organization of Street Gangs” (with R. Sobel) Journal of Gang Research 20(1) 2012: 1-17.

“Anarchy, Groups, and Conflict: An Experiment on the Emergence of Protective Associations” (with A. Smith and B. Wilson) Social Choice & Welfare 38(2) 2012: 325-353.

“Prison Gangs, Norms, and Organizations” Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization 82(1) 2012: 96-109.

“Sweatshops, Opportunity Costs, and Non-Monetary Compensation: Evidence from El Salvador” (with E. Skarbek, B. Skarbek, and E. Skarbek) American Journal of Economics & Sociology 71(3) 2012: 539-561.

“Governance and Prison Gangs” American Political Science Review 105(4) 2011: 702-716.

•Reprinted in *Transnational Organized Crime* (ed. James Sheptycki) Sage Publications, 2014.

“What Aid Can’t Do: Reply to Ranis” (with P. Leeson) The Cato Journal 31(1) 2011: 83-86.

“Putting the ‘Con’ into Constitutions: The Economics of Prison Gangs” The Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization 26(2) 2010: 183-211.

“Criminal Constitutions” (with P. Leeson) Global Crime 11(3) 2010: 279-298.

“Self-Governance in San Pedro Prison” The Independent Review 14(4) 2010: 569-585.

“Alertness, Local Knowledge, and Johnny Appleseed” Review of Austrian Economics 22(4) 2009: 415-424.

“What Can Aid Do?” (with P. Leeson) The Cato Journal 29(3) 2009: 391-397.

“F.A. Hayek’s Influence on Nobel Prize Winners” Review of Austrian Economics 22(1) March 2009: 109-112.

“Market Failure and Natural Disasters: A Reexamination of Anti-Gouging Laws” Public Contract Law Journal 37(4) 2008: 771-780.

“The Price is Right: Regulation, Reputation, and Recovery” (with B. Skarbek) Dartmouth Law Journal 6(2) 2008: 235-276.

“Occupational Licensing and Asymmetric Information: Post-Hurricane Evidence from Florida” The Cato Journal 28(1) 2008: 71-80.

“Sweatshops Wages and Third World Living Standards: Are the Jobs Worth the Sweat?” (with B. Powell) Journal of Labor Research 27(2) 2006: 263-274.

### ***Book Chapters & Conference Proceedings***

“Self-Governance, Property Rights, and Illicit Commerce” in Research Handbook on Austrian Law and Economics Todd Zywicki and Peter Boettke (eds). Edward Elgar. Forthcoming.

“A Modern Survey of Austrian and Institutional Economics” (with L. Palagashvili) Oxford Handbook on Austrian Economics Forthcoming

“Polycentrism and Prison Gangs” (with A. Marcum) The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations. Upton Forum. Beloit College. 2012.

“Restricting Reconstruction: Occupational Licensing and Natural Disasters” in The Political Economy of Hurricane Katrina and Community Rebound Emily Chamlee-Wright and Virgil Henry Storr (eds). Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publisher. 2010: 72-83.

“Adam’s Apple: Using Johnny Appleseed to Teach the Invisible Hand” with Joshua Hall in Expanding Teaching and Learning Horizons in Economic Education Franklin G. Mixon, Jr. and Richard J. Cebula (eds). New York: Nova Science Publishers. 2009: 199-206.

### ***Book Reviews***

Review of Outlaws of the Atlantic: Sailors, Pirates, and Motley Crews in the Age of Sail by Marcus Rediker Journal of Economic History 74(4) 2014: 1238-1239

Review of The Modern Prison Paradox: Politics, Punishment, and Social Community by Amy E. Lerman Public Choice 161(3-4) 2014: 537-539.

Review Essay of Prisonomics: Behind Bars in Britain’s Failing Prisons by Vicky Pryce Economic Affairs 34(3) 2014: 411-421.

Review of Mafias on the Move: How Organized Crime Conquers New Territories, by Federico Varese Public Choice 151(1-2) 2012: 405-407.

## Teaching

### PGCAPHE, King's College London (completed Fall 2014)

#### *King's College London*

Economics of Crime, Spring 2014, 2015

Political Economy of Organized Crime (grad), Spring 2014, 2015

Research Methods for Politics, Fall 2013, 2014

Principles of Economics, Fall 2012 - Spring 2013

#### *Duke University*

The Rule of Law (grad), Spring 2012

Senior Research and Independent Study, Fall 2011, Spring 2012

Analysis of Political Decision Making, Fall 2011

Quantitative Political Analysis, Fall 2010, Spring 2011

#### *George Mason University*

Intermediate Microeconomics, Fall 2008

## Research Grants

\$16,500 — Research Grant, The Earhart Foundation, 2014.

\$20,500 — Research Grant, The Earhart Foundation (for *The Social Order of the Underworld*), 2012.

\$5,500 — Research Grant, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research (to work on “Governance and Prison Gangs”), 2009.

## Service and Administration

Chair, Undergraduate Sub Assessment Board, August 2014 – present.

Member, Teaching Committee, August 2014 – present.

Deputy, Undergraduate Exam Board, September 2013 – August 2014

Member, Research Committee, September 2013 – August 2014

Co-Leader, Research Cluster “Regulation, Governance and Order,” September 2012 – August 2014

## Awards & Fellowships

2014 Outstanding Publication Award for *The Social Order of the Underworld*, International Association for the Study of Organized Crime, 2014.

FEE Prize, for Best Article in Austrian Economics, given to “Prison Gangs, Norms, and Organizations” (Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization), 2013.

Summer Graduate Research Fellowship, The Institute for Humane Studies, 2010.

Israel M. Kirzner Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Austrian Economics, 2010.

Don Lavoie Memorial Essay Contest Winner, Society for the Development of Austrian Economics, 2009.

Robert K. Merton Award, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research, 2009.  
 Essay Winner for Excellence in the Pursuit of Measurement, Fraser Institute, 2009.  
 Mercatus Center Dissertation Fellowship, 2009-2010.  
 Mercatus Center Ph.D. Fellowship, 2008-2009.  
 Roy A. Foulke Award, American Institute for Economic Research, 2008.  
 Fellowship-In-Absentia, American Institute for Economic Research, 2008, 2009.  
 Summer Fellowship, American Institute for Economic Research, 2008, 2009.  
 H.B. Earhart Fellowship, Earhart Foundation, 2006-2008  
 Hayek Fund Scholarship, The Institute for Humane Studies, 2007, 2008, 2010.  
 Mercatus Center Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship, 2007, 2008, 2009.  
 Global Technology Initiative Scholar, San Jose State University, 2006.  
 Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies, 2005-2006.  
 James F. Willis Award for Excellence in Economics, San Jose State University, 2004.

## Conference Presentations

Association for Private Enterprise Education

2014 Las Vegas “The Problem with Prison Gangs”  
 2013 Hawaii “Prison Gangs and Governance”  
 2010 Las Vegas “The Political Economy of Prison Gangs”  
 2009 Guatemala “Honor Among Thieves: Organized Crime and Monitoring Malfeasance”  
 2008 Las Vegas “Trees and Titles: Johnny Appleseed and Property Rights Entrepreneurship”  
 2007 Cancun “Price Gouging Laws and the Process of Recovery after Hurricanes”

European Society for New Institutional Economics: 2008

2008 Corsica “Prison Gangs”

International Society for New Institutional Economics

2013 Florence “Prison Gangs and Polycentric Governance Regimes”  
 2009 Berkeley “Criminal Extortion”

National Bureau of Economic Research, Summer Institute

2012 Cambridge “Prison Gangs, Norms, and Organizations”

Public Choice

2010 Monterey  
 2009 Las Vegas  
 2008 San Antonio

Southern Economics Association

2009 San Antonio “Why the Inside Rules the Outside: The Economics of Criminal Gang Control”  
 2007 New Orleans “Price Gouging Laws and Regulatory Inconsistency”

## Invited Presentations

University of Bergen, December 2014

University of Strathclyde, December 2014

Research Institute of Industrial Economics, November 2014  
University of Warwick, October 2014  
University of Manchester, October 2014  
Loyola New Orleans, September 2014  
Metropolitan State University, Denver, September 2014  
Chapman University, September 2014  
San Jose State University, September 2014  
UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, September 2014  
Santa Clara Law School, September 2014  
George Mason University, January 2014  
University of Buckingham, January 2014  
Stanford University, April 2013  
University of Essex, December 2012  
University of California, Merced, 2011  
James Madison University, 2011  
Western Carolina University, 2011  
Western Carolina University, 2010  
Hope College, 2010  
Elon University, 2010

## Referee

American Political Science Review  
American Journal of Political Science  
African Journal of Political Science and International Relations  
Comparative Political Studies  
Criminology  
Econ Journal Watch  
European Journal of Law and Economics  
The Independent Review  
International Economic Review  
International Journal of Business Management and Administration  
Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology  
Journal of Conflict Resolution  
Journal of Institutional Economics  
Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics  
Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization  
Journal of Private Enterprise  
Journal of Qualitative Criminology & Criminal Justice

National Science Foundation  
Oxford University Press  
Palgrave Macmillan  
Public Choice  
Rationality & Society  
Review of Austrian Economics  
Review of Behavioral Economics  
Social Sciences  
Templeton Foundation

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