

John Anthony “Jack” Kappelman

Ph.D. Candidate
UCLA Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science

Advisors: Dan Thompson, PhD, & Lynn Vavreck, PhD

2022–Present

Affiliations: California Center for Population Research,
Practical Causal Inference Lab, PHACT Lab

The University of Alabama

Master of Public Administration

2022

Honors: 308 Grace Street Scholar

The University of Alabama

B.A., Political Science, *summa cum laude*

2018–2022

Honors: Dr. Robert E. Witt University Fellows Program

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political behavior, gun violence & firearm policy, causal inference, spatial methods, institutions

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Kappelman, Jack, Diana Silver, Jin Yung Bae, Kevin Butler, Tanvi Shinkre, Falco J. Bargagli-Stoffi, and James Macinko. 2026. “Sensitive Places, Persistent Violence: Effectiveness of ‘Bar Ban’ Laws in Reducing Gun Violence Near Alcohol Vendors.” *Social Science & Medicine*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2026.119304>.

Larson, Peter, Jason Goldstick, Jack Kappelman, Sawyer Stibley, Jaemin Jeon, and Douglas Wiebe. 2026. “Short-term temperature and precipitation patterns associated with firearm discharge incidents in Detroit, MI, USA 2021–2025: a time-stratified case-crossover study.” *Environmental Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2026.124479>.

Kappelman, Jack, Diana Silver, and James Macinko. 2026. “The Contribution of Alcohol to Violent Deaths in the United States, 2015–2022.” *Injury Epidemiology*. In Press.

Kappelman, Jack and Richard Fording. 2021. “The Effect of State Gun Laws on Youth Suicide by Firearm: 1981–2017.” *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 51, 368–377.

Kappelman, Jack. 2021. “Just a Minor Infringement: How Florida’s Extreme Risk Protection Order Applies to At-Risk Youth and Other Household Members.” *Law and Psychology Review*, 45th Edition.

WORKING PAPERS

The *Heller* Effect: How Expanding the Second Amendment Increased Handgun Purchasing.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place: How Lawmakers Absorb Pressure Without Taking Positions. (with Haotian Chen, G. Agustin Markarian, and Amanda Mauri)

Are Politicians Responsive to Mass Shootings? Evidence from U.S. State Legislatures. (with Haotian Chen)

Action in the Interim: How Voters Respond to Electoral Threat. (Job Market Paper)

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2024, 2025

National Research Conference for the Prevention of Firearm-Related Harms, 2024, 2025

Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, 2025

Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2022

GRANTS & AWARDS

Dissertation Year Award, UCLA Graduate Division: Fully-funded fellowship granted to doctoral candidates advanced to candidacy within one year of dissertation completion. 2026-2027

Translational Science Award. Awarded by the National Research Conference for the Prevention of Firearm-Related Harms for work bridging empirical research and actionable policy approaches on firearm violence prevention. 2025

Graduate Research Mentorship (GRM), UCLA Graduate Division: Two-time recipient of fully-funded fellowship supporting doctoral research skill development under faculty mentorship prior to advancing to candidacy. 2023-2025

Graduate Student Researcher (GSR), UCLA Fielding School of Public Health: Research assistant with Dr. James Macinko for CDC funded research on firearm mortality 2024-2025

ISH Research Innovation Fund Recipient. \$15,000 grant awarded by the UCLA Initiative to Study Hate. 2023

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), UCLA Graduate Division. 2023

Best Paper Award – UA Department of Political Science. Award from the faculty of the UA Dept. of Political Science to the graduate or undergraduate student with the best individual research paper. 2022

TEACHING

University of California, Los Angeles, TA:

National Institutions: Congress, Spring 2026 (undergrad lecture);

Using Quantitative Methods to Understand Social Problems and their Potential Solutions, Winter 2026 (undergrad lecture)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer: *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*; *Preventive Medicine*

Discussant: Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2025)

SELECTED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Summer Associate & Adjunct Researcher, RAND Corporation <i>Santa Monica, CA</i>	2024–2025
Founder, One Mind at a Time <i>Ethiopia</i> <i>Founder of 501(c)3 Non-Profit that supports rural NW Ethiopian schools.</i>	2016–Present
Volunteer, Western Snowy Plover Conservation Project <i>Santa Monica, CA</i>	2024–Present
Volunteer, Los Angeles Raptor Study <i>Los Angeles, CA</i>	2024–Present
State Policy Intern, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	2021
Congressional Intern, U.S. Representative Lloyd Doggett <i>Austin, TX & Washington, D.C. (Remote)</i>	2018 & 2020

LAST UPDATED: MAY 8, 2026