

Douglas M. Spencer

School of Law
University of Connecticut
312 Hosmer Hall
65 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, CT 06105-2290
Phone: (860) 570-5437
E-mail: doug.spencer@law.uconn.edu

Department of Public Policy
University of Connecticut
411 Library Building
1800 Asylum Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117
Phone: (860) 570-9209

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Yale University

Visiting Fellow, Center for the Study of American Politics, 2016-present

University of Connecticut

Associate Professor of Law and Public Policy, 2013–present

Courses taught: Constitutional Law, Election Law, Introduction to Public Policy

Faculty Advisory Committee, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, 2013-2015

Roger S. Baldwin Scholar

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Jurisprudence and Social Policy, 2013

Committee: Robert D. Cooter, Kevin Quinn, and Henry E. Brady

J.D., Berkeley Law, 2011

M.P.P., Goldman School of Public Policy, 2008

Columbia University

B.A., Philosophy, *magna cum laude*, 2004

RESEARCH

Publications

Abby K. Wood and Douglas M. Spencer. 2016. “[In the Shadows of Sunlight: The Effects of Transparency on State Political Campaigns](#),” *Election Law Journal*, vol. 15 (forthcoming 2016).

Christopher S. Elmendorf and Douglas M. Spencer. 2015. “[Administering Section 2 of the VRA After Shelby County](#),” *Columbia Law Review*, vol. 115(7), pp. 2143-2217 (2015).

Gabriel J. Chin and Douglas M. Spencer. 2015. “[Did Multicultural America Result From a Mistake? The 1965 Immigration Act and Evidence From Roll Call Votes](#),” *U. of Illinois Law Review* 2015(3), pp. 1239-58.

Christopher S. Elmendorf and Douglas M. Spencer. 2014. “[The Geography of Racial Stereotyping: Evidence and Implications for VRA ‘Preclearance’ After Shelby County](#),” *California Law Review* 102(5), pp. 1123-80.

Sean Farhang and Douglas M. Spencer. 2014. “[Legislating Incentives for Attorney Representation in Civil Rights Litigation](#),” *Journal of Law & Courts* 2(2), pp. 241-71.

Douglas M. Spencer and Abby Wood. 2014. “Citizens United, States Divided: An Empirical Analysis of Independent Political Spending,” *Indiana Law Journal* 89(1), pp. 315-72.

Christopher S. Elmendorf and Douglas M. Spencer. 2013. “Are Ballot Titles Biased? Partisanship and Ideology in California’s Supervision of Direct Democracy,” *U.C. Irvine Law Review* 3(3), pp. 511-49.

Douglas M. Spencer and Zachary S. Markovits. 2010. “Long Lines at Polling Stations? Observations from an Election Day Study,” *Election Law Journal* 9(1), pp. 3-17.

Working Papers / In Progress

Campaign Finance and the Rhetoric of Corruption: A Conjoint Experiment

Democratic Responsiveness in State Policy Implementation (with Miranda Yaver)

The Political Economy of Constitutionalizing Election Law (with Michael D. Gilbert)

The Political Franchise After Shelby County v. Holder (with Chris Elmendorf & Mayya Komisarchik)

Other Writing

“Affirmative Action Setback in the Supreme Court Could Be a Boost to Voting Rights.”
THE NEW REPUBLIC, April 29, 2014 (with Chris Elmendorf).

“Fears Over the Impact of Citizens United May Be Misplaced.”
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS USAPP BLOG, January 27, 2014 (with Abby Wood).

“New Tools for Bail In: Using the Geography of Discrimination to Reconstruct Preclearance Judicially.”
ELECTION LAW BLOG, July 25, 2013 (with Chris Elmendorf).

“How to Save the Voting Rights Act: Here’s the best option for Congress.”
SLATE, July 17, 2013 (with Chris Elmendorf).

“Are the Covered States “More Racist” than Other States?”
ELECTION LAW BLOG, March 4, 2013 (with Chris Elmendorf).

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences and Academic Workshops

2016 Conference on Money and the First Amendment, University of Colorado, Boulder. Paper presentation, “Campaign Finance and the Rhetoric of Corruption.” April 15.

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Minority Turnout and the Political Incentives to Discriminate after *Shelby County*.” April 8.

2015 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Washington University in St. Louis. Discussant for Marc Meredith and Michael Morse, “Discretionary Disenfranchisement: The Case of Legal Financial Obligations.” October 30.

Empirical Studies in Public Law Workshop, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Paper presentation, “Administering the Voting Rights Act After *Shelby County*.” May 25.

Center for Law and Social Science Workshop, University of Southern California. Paper presentation, “Administering Section 2 of the VRA After *Shelby County*.” March 30.

Workshop on Voting Rights, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School. Paper presentation, “Administering Section 2 of the VRA After Shelby County.” March 27.

American Association of Law Schools, Washington DC. Paper presentation, “Multilevel Regression with Poststratification: Implications for Legal Scholarship.” (Winner of the Law & Social Science Section’s call for papers on “Extreme Empirical Methods.”) January 6.

2014 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Berkeley, CA. Paper presentation, “After Shelby County: Getting Section 2 of the VRA to Do the Work of Section 5.” November 7.

Faculty Workshop, UConn School of Law, Hartford, CT. Paper presentation, “After Shelby County: Getting Section 2 of the VRA to Do the Work of Section 5.” October 8.

Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Amelia Island, FL. Paper presentation, “A Precautionary Tale From State Campaign Finance.” August 5.

Political Economy and Public Law Conference, University of Rochester. Paper presentation, “The Geography of Discrimination: Evidence and Implications for Voting Rights After *Shelby County*.” May 29.

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Administering Section 2 of the VRA After *Shelby County*.” April 5.

2013 Political Science Faculty Colloquium, University of Connecticut. Paper presentation, “The Geography of Racial Stereotyping: Implications for VRA ‘Preclearance’ After *Shelby County*.” October 28.

Cooperative Congressional Election Survey (CCES) Conference, Sundance, UT. Paper presentation, “The Geography of Discrimination in Voting: MRP Meets the VRA.” May 24.

2012 Faculty Workshop, UConn School of Law. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” November 12.

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Stanford, CA. Paper presentation, “In the Shadows of Sunlight: Measuring the Effects of Transparency on State Political Campaigns.” November 10.

Faculty Workshop, UC Davis School of Law. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” October. 25.

Faculty Workshop, George Mason Law School. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” October 23.

Law & Economics Workshop, Berkeley Law. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” September 17.

Symposium on Nonpartisan Election Administration, Redistricting, and Campaign Finance, Irvine, CA. Paper presentation, “Are Ballot Titles Biased? Partisanship in California’s Supervision of Direct Democracy.” September 13.

Law & Society Association, Honolulu, HI. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” June 6.

American Law & Economics Association, Stanford, CA. Paper presentation, “Economic Recovery Rules and Attorney Representation in Job Discrimination Litigation.” May 18.

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Regulate or Delegate? Implications for Election Law.” April 14.

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures.” April 13.

Western Empirical Legal Studies Conference, UCLA School of Law. Paper presentation, “Economic Recovery Rules and Attorney Representation in Civil Rights Litigation.” February 18.

- 2011** American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA. Paper presentation, “Citizens United, States Divided? The Interaction of Transparency and Spending in State Elections.” September 3.

Law & Society Association, San Francisco, CA. Paper presentation, “Economic Recovery Rules and Attorney Representation in Civil Rights Litigation.” June 3.

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Constitutions and Close Elections.” April 1.

- 2010** Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Yale Law School. Poster, “Constitutions and Credible Commitments: A Modern Day Investment Scheme?” November 5.

- 2009** Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. Paper presentation, “Long Lines at Polling Stations? Observations from an Election Day Field Study.” April 3.

Symposia and Other Presentations

National Institute on Money in State Politics Conference on Tapping the Power of Big Data to Define and Defend Democracy. Panel presentation, “Dispelling Assumptions with Empirical Evidence.” (May 2016).

“Is Jim Crow Back? Voting Rights After *Shelby County*.” Debate with Ilya Shapiro, sponsored by the UConn Federalist Society (April 2016).

“Accessing Democracy: How Law Shapes and Influences Our Elections.” Panel presentation, Northeastern Law Journal Symposium (March 2016).

“Ensuring Fair Elections 50 Years After the Voting Rights Act.” Panel presentation, UConn School of Law (November 2015).

“Voting Fraud & Voting Suppression: Myths and Realities.” Panel presentation at League of Women Voters of Connecticut Fall Conference (November 2015).

“Voting Rights in the United States After *Shelby County*.” Presentation to the Electoral Tribunal of the Federal Judiciary in Mexico City, Mexico (October 2015).

“Race and the Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America.” Constitution Day address, Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, CT (September 2015).

“Due Process and Equal Protection of the Law Under the Constitution.” Seminar at the New Judges Institute for newly elected Connecticut probate judges in Hartford, CT (December 2014).

“The Importance of a Citizen’s Right to Vote and the Challenges Still Facing Many Americans.” Keynote address at the Connecticut Supreme Court Law Day Observance in Hartford, CT (May 2014).

“The Long Civil Rights Movement: Struggles Past and Present.” Panelist at UConn Benton Museum *Making the Movement Move* exhibit in Storrs, CT (March 2014).

“Voting Rights in the Post-Shelby County World.” Presentation to the Longmeadow Democratic Town Committee in Longmeadow, MA (September 2013).

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Law Clerk, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, Summer 2011
Program Assistant, International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group), Washington, DC, 2005-2006
Congressional Liaison, United States Department of the Interior, Washington DC, 2005
Election Monitor, Asian Network for Free Elections, Thailand National Election, February 2005
English Teacher, Phimai Wittaya School, Thailand, 2004-2005.
Chief Interpreter, Russian National Olympic Delegation, 2002.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* *Election Law Journal*
 Law & Social Inquiry *American Politics Research*
Chair, Section on Law and Social Sciences, *Association of American Law Schools*, 2016-2017
Researcher, *Pew Center on the States' Military and Overseas Voting Reforms Project*, 2011
Reviewer, *Pew Center on the States / Early Voting Information Center*, 2009-2010

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

Excellence in Teaching Award, UConn Department of Public Policy, 2013, 2014, 2015
Research Grant (\$2,000) from the Berkeley Experimental Social Science Laboratory, 2012
Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Fellow, 2010-2011
Berkeley Law and Economics Fellow, 2009-2010
Research Grant (\$4,000) from the Pew Center on the States, 2008
Research Grant (\$15,000) from the UC Berkeley Survey Research Center, 2007-2008
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley, 2007 & 2011