

# Abhery Das

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Health Policy & Administration  
University of Illinois Chicago

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## EDUCATION/TRAINING

### University of Illinois Chicago

Bridge to Faculty Postdoctoral Fellowship (*transition to tenure-track Assistant Professor 1/2026*)  
Health Policy & Administration, School of Public Health  
January 2024 - Present

### University of California, Irvine

Doctor of Philosophy, Public Health  
Emphasis, Race and Justice  
September 2018 – June 2023

*Dissertation Title:* Structural racism in the criminal justice system and mental health emergencies among Black Americans  
*Dissertation Committee:* Dr. Tim Bruckner, Dr. Annie Ro, and Dr. Emily Owens

### Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Master of Health Sciences, Mental Health  
Graduated, May 2018

### University of Chicago

Bachelor of Arts, Public Policy Studies  
Minor, Visual Arts  
Graduated with Honors, June 2010

## RESEARCH

### National Institute of Mental Health | Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Predoctoral Fellow

- F31 Predoctoral Fellowship Project: *Exposure to Firearms and African American Youth Suicide by Firearm: A Social Ecological Framework*

### UC Irvine Program in Public Health | Graduate Student Researcher

September 2018 – Current

- Present peer-reviewed literature on structural racism, racial health disparities, and policy
- Read in, merge, and analyze large mental health datasets (>100 million records) using SAS and Stata
- Collaborate with Inland Empire Health Plan to evaluate a psychiatric training program
- Validate econometric specifications for various regression approaches independently
- Draft manuscripts for publication

### The World Bank Group, Health, Nutrition & Population | Research Assistant

May 2020 - Current

- Draft narrative review on mental health among vulnerable populations during COVID-19
- Assist with conducting mental health workforce projections and drafting manuscripts for publication

### Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Substance Use Epidemiology Lab | Research Assistant

September 2017 – May 2018

- Conduct literature reviews on drug usage behaviors in underrepresented populations
- Analyze data using the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

25. **Das A**, Lee E, Ganguli D, Bruckner TA. The Mexican drug war: Homicides and deaths of despair, 2000–2020. *Public Health*. doi:10.1016/j.puhe.2025.01.011

24. **Das A**, Huo S, Bustos B, Masoumirad M, Bruckner T, Stolte A. Racialized economic segregation and suicide among Black youth. *Accepted to American Journal of Epidemiology*.

23. Bustos B, **Das A**, Stolte A, Gailey S, Bruckner T. The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children and Birth Outcomes Among Hispanic Mothers in California: A Sibling Control Design. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. doi: 10.1007/s40615-024-02187-7

22. Chriqui J, Piekarz-Porter E, Schermbeck R, **Das A**. Assessing Policy Impacts on Chronic Disease Risk Reduction: The Science and Art of Policy Rating Systems. *Annual Review of Public Health*. doi: 10.1146/annurev-publhealth-071723-113826

21. **Das A**, Osypuk T, Yoo P, Magnuson K, Gennetian L, Noble K, Bruckner T. Poverty reduction and childhood opportunity moves: A randomized trial of cash transfers to low-income U.S. families with infants. *Health & Place*. doi:10.1016/j.healthplace.2024.103320

20. **Das A**, Esposito M, Lee H. Bodily Harm: The Health Consequences of Policing in the United States. *California Law Review*.

19. **Das A**, Casey J, Gemmill A, Stolte A, Bustos B, Lee H, Bruckner T. Dynamic changes in place-based structural racism and preterm birth in the US. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2023-221750>

18. Singh P, Gailey S, **Das A**, Bruckner TA. National trends in suicides and male twin live births in the US, 2003 to 2019: an updated test of collective optimism and selection in utero. *Twin research and human genetics*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/thg.2023.49>.

17. **Das A**, Morey B, Bruckner T. Mental health symptoms following the January 6<sup>th</sup> attack on the United States Capitol. *Social Science & Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2023.116015>

16. **Das A**, Bruckner T. New York City's Stop, Question, and Frisk Policy and Psychiatric Emergency Department Visits among Black Americans. *The Journal of Urban Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-022-00710-x>

15. Bruckner T, **Das A**, Duncan G. Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings before the 2020-21 winter surge of COVID-19 in the United States. *Preventive Medicine Reports*. doi: 10.1016/j.pmedr.2022.101911

14. **Das A**, Gailey S. Green exercise, mental health symptoms, and state lockdown policies: a longitudinal study. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2022.101848>

13. Yoon J, Patrick R, **Das A**, Bruckner T (2022). Firearm Availability, Suicide, and the Role of Public Mental Health Capacity. *The Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics*.

12. Hard G, Johnson J, **Das A**, Jones, A (2022). Medical Marijuana Laws and Adolescent Alcohol Use Initiation. *Cannabis*. doi: 10.26828/cannabis/2022.02.001
11. **Das A**, Singh P, Bruckner T (2021). Firearm Permissiveness, Gun Culture, and Suicides by Firearm, 2000-2016. *Public Health in Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhip.2021.100218>.
10. **Das A**, Singh, P, Bruckner, T (2021). State Lockdown Policies, Mental Health Symptoms, and Using Substances. *Addictive Behaviors*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2021.107084>.
9. Bruckner T, Catalano R, **Das A**, Lu Y (2021). Cohort Selection in Utero Against Male Twins and Childhood Cancers: A Population-Based Register Study. *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*. doi: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-21-0053.
8. Bruckner, T, **Das, A**, Singh, P; Boden-Albala B (2021). SARS-CoV-2: An Empirical Investigation of Rose's Population-based Logic. *Epidemiology*. doi: 10.1097/EDE.0000000000001405.
7. Bruckner, T.A., Gailey, S., **Das, A**. et al. (2021). Stillbirth as left truncation for early neonatal death in California, 1989–2015: a time-series study. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-021-03852-z>.
6. **Das A**, Johnson J, Hard G, Jones A (2021). State Medical Marijuana Laws and Initiation of Cigarettes among Adolescents in the U.S., 1991-2015. *Cannabis*. doi: 10.26828/cannabis/2021.01.004.
5. Singh, P., **Das, A.**, William, J. et al. (2021). Fertility, economic development, and suicides among women in India. *Social Psychiatry Psychiatric Epidemiology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00127-021-02054-4>.
4. **Das A**, Singh P, Kulkarni AK, Bruckner TA (2021). Emergency Department visits for depression following police killings of unarmed African Americans. *Social Science & Medicine*. doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2020.113561.
3. **Das A**, Singh P, Bruckner T (2020). Continuity of Mental Health Care at Community Health Centers and Reduced Emergency Department Visits for Suicidal Ideation/Self-Harm. *Community Mental Health Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-020-00745-x>.
2. **Das A**, Singh P, Bruckner T (2020). Racial Disparities in Pediatric Psychiatric Emergencies: A Health Systems Approach. *Journal of Psychiatry and Brain Science*. <https://doi.org/10.20900/jpbs.20200006>.
1. Jones A., Dyer TV, **Das A**, et al. (2018). Risky Sexual Behaviors, Substance Use, & Perceptions of Risky Behaviors among Criminal Justice Involved Women Who Trade Sex. *Journal of Drug Issues*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022042618795141>.

## PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

1. **Das A**, Esposito M, Bruckner T, Lee H. Incarceration and Psychiatric Emergencies among Black Americans
2. **Das A**, Osypuk T, Yoo P, Magnuson K, Gennetian L, Noble K, Bruckner T. A Randomized Trial of Poverty Reduction in the US and Residential Mobility to Lower-Crime Neighborhoods

## REPORTS

**Das A**, Bruckner T, Saxena S, Alqunaibet A, Almudarra S, Herbst C, Alsukait R, El-Saharty S, Algwaizini A. COVID-19 and Mental Health in Vulnerable Populations: A Narrative Review. 2020. The World Bank Group Health, Nutrition, and Population Discussion Papers.

## PRESENTATIONS

### **2024 Annual Meeting | Population Association of American (PAA)**

Speaker, Dynamic changes in place-based structural racism and preterm birth in the US. April 17-19, 2024

### **2023 Annual Meeting | Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER)**

Poster, Preterm births increase with racial and economic segregation in the US, 1998-2018. June 12-13, 2023.

### **2023 Annual Meeting | Population Association of American (PAA)**

Poster, Mental health symptoms following the January 6th attack on the United States Capitol. April 12-15, 2023.

### **2022 Annual Meeting | Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences (IAPHS)**

Speaker, Pathways to Inequality: Structural Racism and the Production of Population Health. *Incarceration and Psychiatric Emergency Department Visits among Black Americans*. September 21-23, 2022.

### **2022 Annual Meeting | Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER)**

Speaker, Policing and Prison as Determinants of Health Inequities. *New York City's Stop, Question, and Frisk Policy and Psychiatric Emergency Department Visits among Black Americans*. June 15-June 17, 2022.

### **2022 Annual Meeting | Population Association of American (PAA)**

Speaker, Racism, Xenophobia, and Pain in Population Health Disparities. *The police killing of George Floyd and mental health among Black Americans*. April 6-8, 2022.

### **2022 Annual Meeting | International Center of Mental Health Policy and Economics**

Speaker, Mental Health Services, Economics, and Policy Research. *New York City's Stop, Question, and Frisk Policy and Psychiatric Emergency Department Visits among Black Americans*. March 25-27, 2022.

### **2021 Annual Meeting | Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences (IAPHS)**

Speaker, Social Vulnerability and Mental Health. *State lockdown policies, mental health symptoms, and using substances*. October 19, 2021.

### **2021 Annual Meeting | Population Association of American (PAA)**

Speaker, Discrimination and Health Disparities in the US. *Emergency Department visits for depression following police killings of unarmed African Americans*. May 5, 2021.

### **2020 Annual Meeting | Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER)**

Speaker, Causal Solutions in Psychiatric Epidemiology. *Permissiveness of State Firearm Laws and Increased Suicides by Firearm in the US*. December 16, 2020.

### **2020 Annual Research Meeting | Academy Health**

Poster, Mental Health and Substance Use. *Continuity of Mental health Care at Community Health Centers and Reduced Emergency Department Visits for Suicidal Ideation/Self Harm*. August 6, 2020.

### **2020 Annual Research Meeting | American Public Health Association**

Speaker, Leveraging Upstream and Strength-Based Approaches to Mental Health Promotion. *Permissiveness of Firearm Laws and Suicides by Firearm in the US, 2000-2016*. October 26, 2020.

**2018 Child Maltreatment Symposium | Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health**

1<sup>st</sup> Place Poster, Moore Center for Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse. *A Review of American Indian/Alaska Native Youth Suicide Prevention Programs in the United States*. May 3, 2018.

**2018 Johns Hopkins Public Health Student Forum | Johns Hopkins University**

Poster, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Public Health. *A Review of American Indian/Alaska Native Youth Suicide Prevention Programs in the United States*. May 10, 2018.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Foundations in Public Health**, Teaching Assistant, Johns Hopkins University, 2017-2018

**Principles of Public Health**, Teaching Assistant University of California Irvine, Fall 2018

**Health Policy**, Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, Winter 2019

**Principles of Public Health**, Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, Spring 2019

**Foundations in Community Health**, Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, Spring 2022

## ACADEMIC MENTORSHIP OF STUDENTS

**Shutong Huo**, Doctoral student, University of California, Irvine, 2021-2023

**Brenda Bustos**, Doctoral student, University of California, Irvine, 2021-2023

**Anju Kulkarni**, MPH student, University of California, Irvine, Spring 2020

**Melody Luo**, BA student, University of California, Irvine, Fall 2020

**Sarah Amin Alhassan**, BA student, University of California, Irvine, Summer 2020

## SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

**2021 Training New Trainers Research Fellowship | School of Medicine, UC Irvine**

Research fellowship supporting evaluation of psychiatric training intervention for primary care physicians at University of California, Irvine

**2021 Public Health Summer Research Excellence Fellowship | University of California, Irvine**

Research fellowship supporting students who have demonstrated initiative and made exceptional research progress during the 2020-2021 academic year

**2020 Public Health Summer Research Excellence Fellowship | University of California, Irvine**

Research fellowship supporting students who have demonstrated initiative and made exceptional research progress during the 2019-2020 academic year

**2019 Public Health Pre-Doctoral Fellowship | University of California, Irvine**

Research with Dr. Tim Bruckner studying whether expansion of mental health services at Federally Qualified Health Centers reduced racial/ethnic disparities in psychiatric Emergency Department visits

**2009 Gilbert F. White Scholarship | University of Chicago Mandel Legal Aid Clinic**

Faculty-guided policy research with Dr. Randolph Stone on reducing recidivism in juvenile offenders

## PROFESSIONAL

**Pacific Clinical Research Medical Group | Psychiatric Clinical Research Coordinator**

December 2015 – August 2017

Upland, CA

- Understand regulatory guidelines for psychiatric medications
- Conduct subject visits and psychiatric assessments while adhering to protocols

**Bridges to Recovery | Mental Health Assistant**

September 2014 – July 2015

Los Angeles, CA

- Lead assistants with clinical tasks and ensure a safe environment
- Give clients medication and process physician prescriptions

**Towers Watson | Healthcare Change Management Analyst**

April 2011 – August 2013

Los Angeles, CA

- Develop healthcare change strategies for Fortune 500 companies
- Manage implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act regulations and guidelines

**CERTIFICATIONS**

**Mentoring Excellence Program**, University of California, Irvine - 2019-2020

**Race and Justice Emphasis**, University of California, Irvine - 2020-2021

**EXTRACURRICULAR****Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship | Graduate Student Lead**

June 2022 – Current

University of California, Irvine

- Mentor and hold seminars for diversity undergraduate students on graduate school application materials and research progress and presentation

**Diversity Education Community & Doctoral Experience (DECADE) | Leadership Coach**

August 2021 – June 2022

University of California, Irvine

- Mentor seven underrepresented, low-income, and first-generation undergraduate students on academic and professional development

**Center for Population, Inequality, and Policy | Graduate Affiliate**

University of California, Irvine

June 2020 – Current

- Participate in interdisciplinary research initiatives and attend academic seminars

**Associated Graduate Students | Health Sciences Representative**

University of California, Irvine

June 2019 – Current

- Serve as an elected representative and student liaison for Academic Health Sciences graduate students

**The Relational Center | Mental Health Intake Volunteer**

Los Angeles, California

Spring 2013 – August 2015

- Conduct depression and suicide risk assessments and other patient intake procedures

## **PEER-REVIEW**

American Journal of Epidemiology  
Social Science & Medicine – Mental Health  
Journal of Perinatology  
Addictive Behaviors  
Public Health Reports  
BMC Psychiatry  
Journal of Nursing and Healthcare Research  
INQUIRY

## **STATISTICAL SOFTWARE**

Advanced: Stata, SAS  
Intermediate: R, Arc GIS, SCA Computing Systems