

Charlie Rafkin

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Employment

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of British Columbia	Winter 2026–
Visiting Scholar, SIEPR (Stanford)	Fall 2025
Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Behavioral Economics (Berkeley)	2024–2025

Other Affiliations

Network Member, CESifo	2024–
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Education

PhD in economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2018–2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissertation: <i>Essays in Public and Behavioral Economics</i>• Advisors: Amy Finkelstein, Frank Schilbach, Jim Poterba	

AB in mathematics, <i>summa cum laude</i> with honors, Dartmouth College	2012–2016
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Working Papers

[“Self-Targeting in U.S. Transfer Programs”](#) (with Adam Solomon and Evan Soltas), September 2024. Revise and resubmit at the *Journal of Political Economy*.

[“Preferences for Rights”](#) (with Aviv Caspi and Julia Gilman), December 2024.

[“Eviction as Bargaining Failure: Hostility and Misperceptions in the Rental Housing Market”](#) (with Evan Soltas), March 2024.

- CESifo Distinguished Affiliate Award in Behavioral Economics, 2024.

[“Legal Assistance for Evictions: Impacts, Mechanisms, and Demand”](#) (with Aviv Caspi), October 2024 (email for latest draft).

[“The Welfare Effects of Eligibility Expansions: Theory and Evidence from SNAP”](#) (with Jenna Anders), November 2024. Conditionally accepted at *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*.

Publications

[“Intergenerational Mobility in India: Estimates from New Methods and Administrative Data”](#) (with Sam Asher and Paul Novosad). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, April 2024.

- Innovative Policy Research Award (Asian Development Bank/International Economic Association), 2022.

“Optimal Regulation of E-cigarettes: Theory and Evidence” (with Hunt Allcott). *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2022.

“Mortality Change Among Less Educated Americans” (with Sam Asher and Paul Novosad). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2022.

“When Guidance Changes: Government Inconsistency and Public Beliefs” (with Advik Shree Kumar and Pierre-Luc Vautrey). *Journal of Public Economics*, 2021.

Honors & Fellowships

NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellowship on Consumer Financial Management	2023–2024
<i>American Economic Review: Insights</i> Excellence in Refereeing Award	2020, 2021, 2022
Jerry A. Hausman Dissertation Fellowship	2021–2022
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2018–2023
Phi Beta Kappa, Junior Induction	2015
Best Eyebrows (tied), Chicago Lab Schools	2012

Grants

Harvard Mind Brain Behavior	2021
Russell Sage Foundation, Computational Social Science Small Grant	2020
MIT Shultz Grants	2019–2023
Harvard Foundations of Human Behavior	2019
Harvard Warburg Fund	2019

Teaching

PhD Psychology and Economics	UC Berkeley, Spring 2025
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Professional Service

Referee for *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *American Journal of Health Economics*, *Economic Journal*, *Empirical Economics*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Southern Economic Journal*

Scientific Committee, International Institute for Public Finance Annual Congress	2025
Instructor (Intro to Entrepreneurship), Nashua St. Jail & South Bay Prison	2024
Organizer/Mentor, MIT Application Assistance and Mentorship Program	2020–2023

Presentations (including scheduled)

2025: AEA Meetings, Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, Reichman University, Northeast Labor Symposium, University of Virginia, UC Davis, UC Berkeley, LMU Munich, University of Cologne, Behavioral Economics Annual Meeting, Early-Career Behavioral Economics Conference

2024: Wharton (joint Real Estate and BEPP), Princeton, Chicago Booth (micro), Institute for Fiscal Studies, LSE, Stanford, Berkeley (joint Economics and Haas EAP), Maryland, UBC, Cornell (joint Economics and Brooks), Early-Career Behavioral Economics Conference, SITE Experimental Economics, CESifo Behavioral Economics, University of Missouri

Pre-2024: Advances in Field Experiments, Dartmouth College, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Asian Development Bank & International Economic Association, American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference, NEUDC