



Robert MacCoun

Senior Associate Vice Provost for Research, James and Patricia Kowal Professor, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and Professor, by courtesy, of Psychology
Stanford Law School

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Stanford Law School
- Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies
- Professor (By courtesy), Psychology

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Open Science Champion Prize, Center for Open and Reproducible Science (2024)
- James McKeen Cattell Fellow Award for lifetime contributions to the application of psychology, Association for Psychological Science (2019)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Editor, Annual review of Law & Social Science (2018 - 2022)

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Choosing Among Public Policy Instruments: LAW 7517 (Win)
- Elements of Policy Analysis: LAW 7846 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Empirical Legal Studies: Research Design: LAW 7510 (Aut)

2024-25

- Carrots, Sticks, Norms, and Nudges: Changing Minds and Behaviors: LAW 7501 (Aut)
- Discussion (1L): Burdens of Proof in Law, in Science, and in Social Discourse: LAW 242B (Aut)
- Elements of Policy Analysis: LAW 7846 (Aut, Win, Spr)

2023-24

- Elements of Policy Analysis: LAW 7846 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Empirical Legal Studies: Research Design: LAW 7510 (Aut)
- Law and Psychology: LAW 3518 (Spr)

2022-23

- Carrots, Sticks, Norms, and Nudges: Changing Minds and Behaviors: LAW 7501 (Aut)

- Elements of Policy Analysis: LAW 7846 (Aut)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Third Millennium Thinking: Making Sense in a World of Nonsense**
Perlmutter, S., Campbell, J., MacCoun, R.
Little, Brown.2024
- **BALANCING COMPASSION, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND CAUSAL CLARITY.** *Addiction (Abingdon, England)*
MacCoun, R. J.
2020
- **Behind Schedule - Reconciling Federal and State Marijuana Policy.** *The New England journal of medicine*
Haffajee, R. L., MacCoun, R. J., Mello, M. M.
2018
- **Multiple gateways.** *Addiction (Abingdon, England)*
MacCoun, R. J.
2018
- **Enhancing research credibility when replication is not feasible.** *The Behavioral and brain sciences*
MacCoun, R. J.
2018; 41: e142
- **Enhancing research credibility when replication is not feasible** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
MacCoun, R. J.
2018; 41
- **How Medical Marijuana Smoothed the Transition to Marijuana Legalization in the United States.** *Annual review of law and social science*
Kilmer, B., MacCoun, R. J.
2017; 13 (1): 181-202
- **COMPUTATIONAL MODELS OF SOCIAL INFLUENCE AND COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR** *COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
MacCoun, R. J.
edited by Vallacher, R. R., Read, S. J., Nowak, A.
2017: 258–80
- **Brains, environments, and policy responses to addiction.** *Science (New York, N.Y.)*
Humphreys, K. n., Malenka, R. C., Knutson, B. n., MacCoun, R. J.
2017; 356 (6344): 1237–38
- **Commentary on Niesink et al. (2015): Interpreting trends in tetrahydrocannabinol potencythree stories, one of which may be true** *ADDICTION*
Maccoun, R. J.
2015; 110 (12): 1951-1952
- **The Impact of Psychological Science on Policing in the United States: Procedural Justice, Legitimacy, and Effective Law Enforcement.** *Psychological science in the public interest : a journal of the American Psychological Society*
Tyler, T. R., Goff, P. A., MacCoun, R. J.
2015; 16 (3): 75-109
- **The Impact of Psychological Science on Policing in the United States: Procedural Justice, Legitimacy, and Effective Law Enforcement** *PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST*
Tyler, T. R., Goff, P. A., MacCoun, R. J.
2015; 16 (3): 75-109
- **Hide results to seek the truth** *NATURE*
MacCoun, R., Perlmutter, S.

2015; 526 (7572): 187-189

- **Blind analysis: Hide results to seek the truth.** *Nature*
MacCoun, R., Perlmutter, S.
2015; 526 (7572): 187-189
- **Balancing evidence and norms in cultural evolution** *ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND HUMAN DECISION PROCESSES*
MacCoun, R. J.
2015; 129: 93-104
- **Half-baked--the retail promotion of marijuana edibles.** *New England journal of medicine*
MacCoun, R. J., Mello, M. M.
2015; 372 (11): 989-991
- **The Epistemic Contract: Fostering an Appropriate Level of Public Trust in Experts** *MOTIVATING COOPERATION AND COMPLIANCE WITH AUTHORITY: THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONAL TRUST*
MacCoun, R. J.
2015; 62: 191-214
- **NEW EVIDENCE ON THE TENUOUS STATE OF EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG POLICY** *ADDICTION*
MacCoun, R. J.
2014; 109 (8): 1234-1235
- **Public Intuitions About Fair Child Support Allocations: Converging Evidence for a "Fair Shares" Rule** *PSYCHOLOGY PUBLIC POLICY AND LAW*
Braver, S. L., Ellman, I. M., MacCoun, R. J.
2014; 20 (2): 146-163
- **Alternative maps of the world of collective behaviors** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
MacCoun, R. J.
2014; 37 (1): 88-90
- **Cheap talk and credibility: The consequences of confidence and accuracy on advisor credibility and persuasiveness** *ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND HUMAN DECISION PROCESSES*
Sah, S., Moore, D. A., MacCoun, R. J.
2013; 121 (2): 246-255
- **Is the leniency asymmetry really dead? Misinterpreting asymmetry effects in criminal jury deliberation** *GROUP PROCESSES & INTERGROUP RELATIONS*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J.
2012; 15 (5): 585-602
- **Design considerations for legalizing cannabis: lessons inspired by analysis of California's Proposition 19** *ADDICTION*
Caulkins, J. P., Kilmer, B., MacCoun, R. J., Pacula, R. L., Reuter, P.
2012; 107 (5): 865-871
- **RESPONSE TO COMMENTARIES** *ADDICTION*
Caulkins, J. P., Kilmer, B., MacCoun, R. J., Pacula, R. L., Reuter, P.
2012; 107 (5): 876-877
- **Abstract Principles and Concrete Cases in Intuitive Lawmaking** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
Ellman, I. M., Braver, S. L., MacCoun, R. J.
2012; 36 (2): 96-108
- **The Burden of Social Proof: Shared Thresholds and Social Influence** *PSYCHOLOGICAL REVIEW*
MacCoun, R. J.
2012; 119 (2): 345-372
- **What can we learn from the Dutch cannabis coffeeshop system?** *ADDICTION*
MacCoun, R. J.
2011; 106 (11): 1899-1910

- **Assessing Drug Prohibition and Its Alternatives: A Guide for Agnostics** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, VOL 7*
MacCoun, R. J., Reuter, P.
2011; 7: 61-78
- **THE IMPLICIT RULES OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY ANALYSIS, UPDATED** *ADDICTION*
MacCoun, R. J.
2010; 105 (8): 1335-1336
- **Intuitive Lawmaking: The Example of Child Support** *JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES*
Ellman, I. M., Braver, S., MacCoun, R. J.
2009; 6 (1): 69-109
- **HARM REDUCTION IS A GOOD LABEL FOR A CRITERION ALL DRUG PROGRAMS SHOULD MEET** *ADDICTION*
MacCoun, R. J.
2009; 104 (3): 341-342
- **Citizens' Perceptions of Ideological Bias in Research on Public Policy Controversies** *POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY*
MacCoun, R. J., Paletz, S.
2009; 30 (1): 43-65
- **The benefits of knowing what you know (and what you don't): How calibration affects credibility** *JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Tenney, E. R., Spellman, B. A., MacCoun, R. J.
2008; 44 (5): 1368-1375
- **Bridging the gap between science and drug policy: From "what" and "how" to "whom" and "when"** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
MacCoun, R. J.
2008; 31 (4): 454-?
- **The implicit rules of evidence-based drug policy: A US perspective** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRUG POLICY*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
2008; 19 (3): 231-232
- **The negative impacts of starting middle school in sixth grade** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
Cook, P. J., MacCoun, R., Muschkin, C., Vigdor, J.
2008; 27 (1): 104-121
- **Calibration trumps confidence as a basis for witness credibility** *PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE*
Tenney, E. R., MacCoun, R. J., Spellman, B. A., Hastie, R.
2007; 18 (1): 46-50
- **Psychological constraints on transparency in legal and government decision making** *SWISS POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
MacCoun, R. J.
2006; 12 (3): 112-123
- **Does social cohesion determine motivation in combat? An old question with an old answer** *ARMED FORCES & SOCIETY*
MacCoun, R. J., Kier, E., Belkin, A.
2006; 32 (4): 646-654
- **Competing accounts of the gateway effect: The field thins, but still no clear winner** *ADDICTION*
MacCoun, R. J.
2006; 101 (4): 473-474
- **Voice, control, and belonging: The double-edged sword of procedural fairness** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE*
MacCoun, R. J.
2005; 1: 171-201
- **What does it mean to decriminalize marijuana? A cross-national empirical examination** *24th Arne Ryde Symposium on Economics of Substance Use*
Pacula, R. L., MacCoun, R., Reuter, P., Chriqui, J., Kilmer, B., Harris, K., Paoli, L., Schafer, C.

JAI-ELSEVIER SCIENCE INC.2005: 347–369

- **Misguided drug policy** *ISSUES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*
MacCoun, R.
2004; 21 (1): 5-6
- **Population thinking as an adjunct to the clinical trial perspective** *PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES*
MacCoun, R.
2004; 55 (5): 509-?
- **Limited rationality and the limits of supply reduction** *JOURNAL OF DRUG ISSUES*
Caulkins, J. P., MacCoun, R.
2003; 33 (2): 433-464
- **Experimental and quasi-experimental designs for generalized causal inference (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
Book Review Authored by: MacCoun, R.
2003; 22 (2): 330-332
- **Is the addiction concept useful for drug policy?** *Conference on Choice, Behavioural Economics and Addiction*
MacCoun, R.
PERGAMON-ELSEVIER SCIENCE LTD.2003: 383–407
- **Heroin maintenance: Is a US experiment needed?** *Conference on 100 Years of Heroin*
Reuter, P., MacCoun, R.
AUBURN HOUSE PUBL CO.2002: 159–180
- **American distortion of Dutch drug statistics** *Conference on the Uses and Misuses of Science in Public Discourse*
MacCoun, R. J.
TRANS TECH PUBLICATIONS LTD.2002: 31–38
- **Cannabis regimes - a response** *BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
2001; 179: 369-370
- **Comparative cannabis use data - Authors' reply** *BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
2001; 179: 176-177
- **American distortion of Dutch drug statistics** *SOCIETY*
MacCoun, R. J.
2001; 38 (3): 23-26
- **Evaluating alternative cannabis regimes** *BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
2001; 178: 123-128
- **The costs and benefits of letting juries punish corporations: Comment on Viscusi** *STANFORD LAW REVIEW*
MacCoun, R. J.
2000; 52 (6): 1821-1828
- **Epistemological dilemmas in the assessment of legal decision making** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
MacCoun, R. J.
1999; 23 (6): 723-730
- **What harm reduction is and isn't** *AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGIST*
MacCoun, R. J.
1999; 54 (10): 843-844
- **Does Europe do it better? Lessons from Holland, Britain and Switzerland** *NATION*
MacCoun, R. J., Reuter, P.

1999; 269 (8): 28-30

- **Goal conflict in juror assessments of compensatory and punitive damages** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
Anderson, M. C., MacCoun, R. J.
1999; 23 (3): 313-330
- **Toward a psychology of harm reduction** *AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGIST*
MacCoun, R. J.
1998; 53 (11): 1199-1208
- **Biases in the interpretation and use of research results** *ANNUAL REVIEW OF PSYCHOLOGY*
MacCoun, R. J.
1998; 49: 259-287
- **Interpreting Dutch cannabis policy: Reasoning by analogy in the legalization debate** *SCIENCE*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
1997; 278 (5335): 47-52
- **Is melioration the addiction theory of choice?** *BEHAVIORAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES*
MacCoun, R. J.
1996; 19 (4): 586-587
- **Bias in judgment: Comparing individuals and groups** *PSYCHOLOGICAL REVIEW*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J., KRAMER, G. P.
1996; 103 (4): 687-719
- **Harm reduction and social policy: Should addicts be paid?** *7th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm*
Reuter, P., MacCoun, R. J.
TAYLOR & FRANCIS LTD.1996: 225–30
- **Estimating liability risks with the media as your guide** *1993 Annual Meeting of the Law-and-Society-Association*
Bailis, D. S., MacCoun, R. J.
AMERICAN JUDICATURE SOCIETY.1996: 64–67
- **Estimating liability risks with the media as your guide: A content analysis of media coverage of tort litigation** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
Bailis, D. S., MacCoun, R. J.
1996; 20 (4): 419-429
- **Assessing alternative drug control regimes** *5th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-Related Harm*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P., Schelling, T.
WILEY-BLACKWELL.1996: 330–52
- **Differential treatment of corporate defendants by juries: An examination of the "Deep-Pockets" hypothesis** *1991 Annual Meeting of the Law-and-Society-Association*
MacCoun, R. J.
LAW AND SOC ASSN.1996: 121–61
- **On the ubiquity of drug selling among youthful offenders in Washington, DC, 1985-1991: Age, period, or cohort effect?** *JOURNAL OF QUANTITATIVE CRIMINOLOGY*
Saner, H., MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
1995; 11 (4): 337-362
- **Comparing drug policies in North America and Western Europe** *European Scientific Seminar on Strategies and Policies to Combat Drugs*
MacCoun, R., Model, K., PhillipsShockley, H., Reuter, P.
MARTINUS NIJHOFF PUBL.1995: 197–220
- **PHANTOM RISK - SCIENTIFIC INFERENCE AND THE LAW - FOSTER,KR, BERNSTEIN,DE, HUBER,PW (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
Book Review Authored by: MacCoun, R. J.
1995; 14 (1): 168-171

- **Assessing the legalization debate** *European Scientific Seminar on Strategies and Policies to Combat Drugs*
Reuter, P., MacCoun, R.
MARTINUS NIJHOFF PUBL.1995: 39-49
- **A CONTENT-ANALYSIS OF THE DRUG LEGALIZATION DEBATE** *JOURNAL OF DRUG ISSUES*
MacCoun, R. J., Kahan, J. P., GILLESPIE, J., Rhee, J.
1993; 23 (4): 615-629
- **DRUGS AND THE LAW - A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF DRUG PROHIBITION** *PSYCHOLOGICAL BULLETIN*
MacCoun, R. J.
1993; 113 (3): 497-512
- **ARE THE WAGES OF SIN 30-DOLLAR AN HOUR - ECONOMIC-ASPECTS OF STREET-LEVEL DRUG DEALING** *CRIME & DELINQUENCY*
MacCoun, R., Reuter, P.
1992; 38 (4): 477-491
- **DRUG POLICIES AND PROBLEMS - THE PROMISE AND PITFALLS OF CROSS-NATIONAL COMPARISON** *3RD INTERNATIONAL CONF ON THE REDUCTION OF DRUG-RELATED HARM : FROM FAITH TO SCIENCE*
MacCoun, R. J., Saiger, A. J., Kahan, J. P., Reuter, P.
WHURR PUBL LTD.1992: 103-117
- **UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF COURT ARBITRATION - A CAUTIONARY TALE FROM NEW-JERSEY** *JUSTICE SYSTEM JOURNAL*
MacCoun, R. J.
1991; 14 (2): 229-243
- **THE EMERGENCE OF EXTRALEGAL BIAS DURING JURY DELIBERATION** *CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND BEHAVIOR*
MacCoun, R. J.
1990; 17 (3): 303-314
- **IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER - TORT LITIGANTS EVALUATIONS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES IN THE CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM** *LAW & SOCIETY REVIEW*
LIND, E. A., MacCoun, R. J., Ebener, P. A., FELSTINER, W. L., Hensler, D. R., Resnik, J., Tyler, T. R.
1990; 24 (4): 953-996
- **EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH ON JURY DECISION-MAKING** *SCIENCE*
MacCoun, R. J.
1989; 244 (4908): 1046-1050
- **THE BASIS OF CITIZENS PERCEPTIONS OF THE CRIMINAL JURY - PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS, ACCURACY, AND EFFICIENCY** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
MacCoun, R. J., Tyler, T. R.
1988; 12 (3): 333-352
- **ASYMMETRIC INFLUENCE IN MOCK JURY DELIBERATION - JURORS BIAS FOR LENIENCY** *JOURNAL OF PERSONALITY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
MacCoun, R. J., Kerr, N. L.
1988; 54 (1): 21-33
- **GAINING AND LOSING SOCIAL SUPPORT - MOMENTUM IN DECISION-MAKING GROUPS** *JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J., Hansen, C. H., HYMES, J. A.
1987; 23 (2): 119-145
- **STEREOTYPES AND NONSTEREOTYPIC JUDGMENTS - THE EFFECTS OF GENDER-ROLE ATTITUDES ON RATINGS OF LIKABILITY, ADJUSTMENT, AND OCCUPATIONAL POTENTIAL** *PERSONALITY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY BULLETIN*
Jackson, L. A., MacCoun, R. J., Kerr, N. L.
1987; 13 (1): 45-52
- **FREE PRESS AND FAIR TRIAL - THE ROLE OF BEHAVIORAL-RESEARCH** *LAW AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR*
Carroll, J. S., Kerr, N. L., Alfini, J. J., Weaver, F. M., MacCoun, R. J., Feldman, V.

1986; 10 (3): 187-201

- **ROLE EXPECTATIONS IN SOCIAL DILEMMAS - SEX-ROLES AND TASK MOTIVATION IN GROUPS** *JOURNAL OF PERSONALITY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J.
1985; 49 (6): 1547-1556
- **THE EFFECTS OF JURY SIZE AND POLLING METHOD ON THE PROCESS AND PRODUCT OF JURY DELIBERATION** *JOURNAL OF PERSONALITY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J.
1985; 48 (2): 349-363
- **EFFECTS OF VICTIM ATTRACTIVENESS, CARE AND DISFIGUREMENT ON THE JUDGEMENTS OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH MOCK JURORS** *BRITISH JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Kerr, N. L., BULL, R. H., MacCoun, R. J., Rathborn, H.
1985; 24 (FEB): 47-58
- **SEX COMPOSITION OF GROUPS AND MEMBER MOTIVATION .2. EFFECTS OF RELATIVE TASK ABILITY** *BASIC AND APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*
Kerr, N. L., MacCoun, R. J.
1984; 5 (4): 255-271