

# PIA J. RAFFLER

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CONTACT INFORMATION Department of Government +1 617 495 4765 (Office)  
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS **Assistant Professor, Harvard University** since 2017  
Department of Government

Faculty Affiliate, Center for African Studies  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for International Development  
Faculty Affiliate, Evidence for Policy Design  
Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science  
Faculty Affiliate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

**Research Fellow, Princeton University** 2016 – 2017  
Center for the Study of Democratic Politics,  
Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance

EDUCATION **Yale University**, New Haven, CT

Ph.D., Political Science 2017

M.A., M.Phil., Political Science

Dissertation: *Information, Accountability, and Political Elite Behavior*

With distinction, APSA Award for Best Dissertation in Experimental Research

Committee: Thad Dunning (chair), Kate Baldwin, Chris Blattman, Ana De La O,  
Steven Wilkinson

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

Master in International Affairs 2008

**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität**, Munich

Vordiplom, Sociology, Political Science, and Economics 2004

PUBLICATIONS Forthcoming. Martin, Lucy and Pia Raffler. “Fault Lines. The Effects of Bureaucratic Power on Electoral Accountability” *American Journal of Political Science*

Forthcoming. Platas, Melina and Pia Raffler. “Closing the Gap: Information and Mass Support in a Dominant Party Regime” *Journal of Politics*

2019. Dunning, Thad et al. “Voter information campaigns and political accountability: Cumulative findings from a pre-registered meta-analysis of coordinated trials.” *Science Advances* 5(7).

2019. Platas Izama, Melina and Pia Raffler. “Private vs. Public Information and Voting Behavior. A Field Experiment in Ugandan MP Elections.” In: *Information and Accountability: A New Method for Cumulative Learning*. Edited by Thad Dunning et al. *Cambridge University Press*.

2019. Baldwin, Kate and Pia Raffler. “Traditional Leaders, Service Delivery and Electoral Accountability.” In: *Decentralized Governance and Accountability*. Edited by Jonathan Rodden and Erik Wibbels *Cambridge University Press*.

2019. Fischer, Greg, Dean Karlan, Margaret McConnell and Pia Raffler. “Short-term Subsidies and Seller Type: A Health Products Experiment in Uganda”, *Journal of Development Economics*.

	2013. Jamison, Julian, Dean Karlan and Pia Raffer. “Mixed Method Evaluation of a Passive mHealth Sexual Information Texting Service in Uganda” <i>Information Technology &amp; International Development</i> 9(3).
UNDER REVIEW	Raffer, Pia. “Does Political Oversight of the Bureaucracy Increase Accountability? Field Experimental Evidence from an Electoral Autocracy” ( <i>R&amp;R at the American Political Science Review</i> ) APSA Best Dissertation Award, Experimental Research Section, 2018 APSA Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section, 2016 APSA Best Graduate Student Paper in African Affairs, Honorable Mention, 2016 Raffer, Pia, Daniel N. Posner and Doug Parkerson. “The Weakness of Bottom-Up Accountability: Experimental Evidence from the Ugandan Health Sector” ( <i>under review</i> ) APSA Best Paper Award, Experimental Research Section, 2019
WORKING PAPERS	Raffer, Pia. “News, Accountability, and Electoral Rules. The Impact of Media Markets on Local Accountability under Majoritarian and PR Rules in Germany” Fujiwara, Thomas, Hanno Hilbig and Pia Raffer. “Gender Discrimination in German Parliamentary Elections”
WORKS IN PROGRESS	Bowles, Jeremy, John Marshall and Pia Raffer. “Monitoring Bureaucrats from Above and Below: Facility Incentives and Social Accountability in Uganda” Platas Izama, Melina and Pia Raffer. “Voting With the Polls? A Bandwagon Field Experiment in Uganda” Fiala, Nathan and Pia Raffer. “Information and Collective Action. A Field Experiment on Audits and Social Accountability in Uganda” Karlan, Dean, Margaret McConnell, Pia Raffer. “Community-based Data Collection”
POLICY PAPERS AND REPORTS	2013. Dunning, Thad, Daniel N. Posner and Pia Raffer. “Political Knowledge and Political Participation. Improving USAID Program Design and Evaluation” 2013. Raffer, Pia. “Randomised Control Trials”. Anti-Corruption Research Network
AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS	2019 APSA Best Paper Award, Experimental Research Section 2018 APSA Best Dissertation Award, Experimental Research Section 2016 APSA Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section 2016 APSA Honorable Mention for Best Graduate Student Paper in African Affairs 2016 Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance Fellowship, Princeton 2016 Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Fellowship, Princeton 2015 Darius Thompson Wadhams Fellowship, Yale University 2014 Pierre B.A. Keller Fellowship, Yale University 2012 M. Cox Fellowship, Yale University 2007 Teaching Fellowship, Economic Analysis, Columbia University 2005 Scholarship, German Academic Exchange Service
GRANTS	2019 Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Research, Harvard (\$49,000) 2016 International Republican Institute/USAID, with Melina Platas Izama (\$20,000) 2015 Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation, with Melina Platas Izama (\$10,000) 2015 Hewlett Foundation (\$58,000) 2014 EGAP Metaketa Initiative, with Melina Platas Izama (\$342,000)

2014 The International Growth Centre (\$105,000)  
 2014 Hewlett Foundation (\$323,000)  
 2013 Research Grant (\$200,000)  
 2012 Research Grant, with Chris Blattman, Dean Karlan and Lucy Martin (\$100,000)  
 2010 Research Grant, with Dean Karlan and Margaret McConnell (\$100,000)  
 2013 Department for International Development (DfID), with Doug Parkerson and Daniel Posner (\$1,300,000)

OTHER AFFILIATIONS Member, Standing Committee on Higher Degrees in Political Economy and Government  
 Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)  
 Research Associate, Center on the Politics of Development, UC Berkeley  
 PI Advisor and Research Network Member, Innovations for Poverty Action  
 Invited Researcher, J-PAL Governance Initiative

TEACHING Governance in Developing Countries, Graduate Course, Harvard University, Spring 2019  
 Politics and Economics, Graduate Course, Harvard University, Fall 2018 (with Torben Iversen)  
 Politics of Development in Africa, Undergraduate Course, Harvard University, Fall 2017 & 2018, Spring 2020  
 Political Economy Research Workshop, Graduate, Harvard University, Fall 2017 (with Robert Bates and Torben Iversen)  
 Teaching Fellow, African Politics, Undergraduate Course, Yale University, Fall 2014  
 Teaching Fellow, Fundamentals of Modeling II (Game Theory), Graduate Course, Yale University, Spring 2013  
 Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Statistics, Graduate Course, Yale University, Fall 2012  
 Teaching Fellow, Advanced Economic Analysis (Macro), Graduate Course, Columbia University, Spring 2007  
 Teaching Assistant, Demographics & Social Structure, Undergraduate Course, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, 2005  
 Workshop Instructor, LaTeX, Yale Statistics Lab, Spring 2013  
 Workshop Instructor, Executive Education, JPAL/IPA, Kampala, 2012  
 Workshop Instructor, Survey Design, Yale Statistics Lab, Fall 2012

FIELD RESEARCH Uganda (47 months total), 2007, 2008-2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

SKILLS Software: Stata, ArcGIS, R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
 Languages: English (fluent), German (native), French (intermediate), Luganda (basic)

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE	Country Director, Innovations for Poverty Action, Uganda Project Coordinator, Innovations for Poverty Action, Uganda Research Assistant, Prof. Chris Blattman Consultant, UNDP Regional Center Asia-Pacific, Sri Lanka Research Assistant, Prof. Ulrich Beck, University of Munich	2009-2010 2008-2009 2007 2006 2004-2005
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INVITED PRESENTATIONS 2019 Political Economy Seminar, *Columbia University*  
 2019 Comparative Politics Seminar, *Stanford University*

2019 Seminar, *University of California, San Diego*  
 2019 Political Economy Seminar, *London School of Economics*  
 2019 DeNEB Seminar, *Berlin Social Science Center*  
 2018 Political Economy Seminar, *Kellogg School, Northwestern University*  
 2018 Political Economy Seminar, *Harris School, University of Chicago*  
 2018 American Politics Conference, *MIT*  
 2018 Political Economy Workshop, *Emory University*  
 2018 Bureaucratic Politics Workshop, *Ohio State University*  
 2018 State Capacity Conference, *Harvard University*  
 2017 Comparative Politics Seminar, *Boston University*  
 2017 Comparative Politics Speaker Series, *Harvard University*  
 2017 American Politics Speaker Series (CSDP), *Princeton University*  
 2017 Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance Seminar, *Princeton University*  
 2016 Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS), *NYU*  
 2016 Comparative Politics Seminar, *Yale University*  
 2016 Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference, *Harvard University*  
 2016 National WGAPE Meeting, *World Bank & George Washington University*  
 2016 Center on the Politics of Development Workshop, *UC Berkeley*  
 2016 Georg W. Leitner Seminar on Political Economy, *Yale University*  
 2015 Center on the Politics of Development Workshop, *UC Berkeley*  
 2015 CAPERS Conference, *Columbia University*  
 2015 Comparative Politics Workshop, *Yale University*  
 2014 Research & Innovation in Governance Conference, *Yale University, Nairobi*  
 2013 CAPERS Conference, *Columbia University*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS 2019 American Political Science Association, Washington, DC  
 2018 American Political Science Association, Boston  
 2018 European Political Science Association, Vienna  
 2017 American Political Science Association, San Francisco  
 2016 African Studies Association, Washington D.C.  
 2016 American Political Science Association, Philadelphia  
 2016 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago  
 2015 American Political Science Association, San Francisco  
 2015 European Political Science Association, Vienna  
 2015 African Studies Association, San Diego  
 2014 American Political Science Association, Washington D.C.  
 2013 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE **Reviewer:** American Economic Journal, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Economic Journal, International Studies Quarterly, IPA Research Review Committee, Journal of Politics, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, World Development, World Politics

**Award Committees:** APSA Best Experimental Paper Award, APSA Best Paper Award in Political Economy, APSA Public Service Award in Experimental Studies

**Co-convener:** North East Workshop on Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS), Boston Working Group on African Political Economy (B-WGAPE)

**Officer:** Experimental Research Section, APSA 2020-2022

**Program co-chair:** Political Economy Division, APSA 2020