

**Shi Yan, PhD**

(Updated February 2025)

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**Academic Appointments**

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**Arizona State University**

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Associate Professor, 2024-present (Assistant Professor, 2016-24)

Law and Behavioral Science Group, Affiliated Faculty, 2020-present

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**Education**

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**University at Albany, SUNY**

PhD in Criminal Justice, 2016

MA in Criminal Justice, 2013

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**Current Research**

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For a summary of my ongoing research, see <https://iamshiyana.com/current-research/>.  
Additional information on specific projects is available upon request.

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**Research Publications**

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**Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals**

Full text of all first-/corresponding-authorship articles and most other articles can be accessed for free at <https://iamshiyana.com/papers/> in post-peer-review, pre-publication format.

+ denotes graduate student coauthor

Hickert, A., Shi, L., Shaw, O. P. +, & **Yan, S.** (2025). Do direct and courtesy prison stigma hinder support for a startup business? A vignette experiment. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-025-09664-x>

Petersen, N., Mitchell, O., & **Yan, S.** (2024). Do progressive prosecutors increase crime? A quasi-experimental analysis of crime rates in the 100 largest counties, 2000–2020. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 23(2), 459-490. <http://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12666>

**Yan, S.**, Wilford, M. M., & Ferreira, P. A. + (2024). Terms and conditions apply: The effect of probation length and obligation disclosure on true and false guilty pleas. *Journal of*

*Experimental Criminology*, 20(2), 457-483. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-022-09543-9>

**Yan, S.**, Zgoba, K. M., & Pizarro, J. M. (2023). Restrictive housing placement and length of stay: A Latent class analysis with mixed distributions. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 34(5), 462-487. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08874034231184139>

Tahamont, S., Jelveh, Z., McNeill, M., **Yan, S.**, Chalfin, A., & Hansen, B. (2023). No ground truth? No problem: Improving administrative data linking with an active learning algorithm and a little bit of guile. *PLOS ONE*, 18(4), e0283811. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0283811>

Also available as National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 31100. <https://doi.org/10.3386/w31100>

**Yan, S.** & Augustine, B.+ (2023). Parental monitoring, exposure to family violence, and delinquency: A latent class analysis on Arizona youth. *Victims & Offenders*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2023.2189192>

Mitchell, O., **Yan, S.**, & Oramas Mora, D.+ (2023). Trends in prison sentences and racial disparities: 20-years of sentencing under Florida's criminal punishment code. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 60(2), 300-338. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00224278221120677>

**Yan, S.**, & Walker, J. W.+ (2022). Does the premium fit the risk? The role of criminal escalation in case processing. *Crime & Delinquency*, 68(9), 1462-1491. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287211061719>

**Yan, S.**, & Lao, J. (2022). Sex disparities in sentencing and judges' beliefs: A vignette approach. *Victims & Offenders*, 17(4), 597-619. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2021.1947427>

**Yan, S.** (2022). What exactly is the bargain? The sensitivity of plea discount estimates. *Justice Quarterly*, 39(1), 152-173. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2019.1707856>

Wu, S., Yoder, G.+ , Lee, N., **Yan, S.**, & Wolfersteig, W. (2021). Racial disparities in school lunch program participation and cigarette use: Evidence from Arizona Youth Survey data. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 56(10), 1516-1526. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2021.1942051>

Wilford, M. M., Zimmerman, D. M., **Yan, S.**, & Sutherland, K. T.+ (2021). Innocence in the shadow of COVID-19: Plea decision making during a pandemic. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 27(4), 739-750. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xap0000367>

Covered by [The Conversation](#), [KTAR](#), and [ASU News](#)

Tahamont, S., Jelveh, Z., Chalfin, A., **Yan, S.**, & Hansen, B. (2021). Dude, where's my treatment effect? Errors in administrative data linking and the destruction of statistical power in

randomized experiments. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 37(3), 715-749.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-020-09461-x>

An earlier version is available as National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 25657. <https://doi.org/10.3386/w25657>

Wu, S., **Yan, S.**, Marsiglia, F. F., & Perron, B. (2020). Patterns and social determinants of substance use among Arizona youth: A latent class analysis approach. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 110, 104769. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2020.104769>

**Yan, S.** (2019). Does criminal specialization predict case processing? *Crime & Delinquency*, 65(12), 1648-1688. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128718765123>

**Yan, S.**, & Bushway, S. D. (2018). Plea discounts or trial penalties? Making sense of the trial-plea sentence disparities. *Justice Quarterly*, 35(7), 1226-1249.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2018.1552715>

Redlich, A. D., **Yan, S.**, Norris, R. J., & Bushway, S. D. (2018). The influence of confessions in guilty plea decisions and sentences. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 24(2), 147-157.  
<https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000144>

**Yan, S.** (2017). Search for the hidden punishments: An alternative approach to studying alternative sanctions. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 33(1), 21-44.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-015-9275-4>

Tahamont, S., **Yan, S.**, Bushway, S. D., & Liu, J. (2015). Pathways to prison in New York State. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 14(3), 431-453. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12136>

#### Book Chapters and Reports

Forston, J. W.<sup>+</sup>, **Yan, S.**, Wilford, M. M., & DiFava, R. J.<sup>+</sup> Plea bargaining later in the pandemic: COVID-19 mitigation strategies and false guilty pleas. (in press). In B. Pleggenkuhle & J. Schafer (Eds.), *Crime, corrections, and the COVID-19 pandemic: Responses and adaptations in the US criminal justice system*. Southern Illinois University Press.

**Yan, S.** (2020). Estimating the size of plea discounts: Why does it matter? In C. Spohn & P. K. Brennan (Eds.), *Handbook on sentencing policies and practices in the 21st century, The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing's Handbook Series* (Vol. 4, pp. 188-207). Routledge.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429027765-10>

**Yan, S.**, Bushway, S. D., & Redlich, A. D. (2018). Discretion in the absence of guidelines: Charge bargaining and sentencing for felony defendants in New York. In J. T. Ulmer & M. S. Bradley (Eds.), *Handbook on punishment decisions: Locations of disparity, The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing's Handbook Series* (Vol.2, pp. 133-151). Routledge.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315410371-7>

Redlich, A. D., Bushway, S. D., Norris, R. J., & Yan, S. (2013). *Bargaining in the shadow of trial: Exploring the reach of evidence outside the jury box*. Final report to the National Institute of Justice. United States Department of Justice.

#### Research Grants Awarded

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City of Phoenix (2023): Evaluating City of Phoenix's Prostitution-Related Diversion Programs (Role: PI), \$175,000.

National Institute of Justice (2022): The Greater Impact of Bans on Peremptory Challenges (Role: Co-PI, PI: Jessica Salerno, W. E. B. Dubois Program of Research on Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Justice System), \$636,038.

Arizona Supreme Court (2022): Assessment of Maricopa County Attorney's Office Felony Diversion Programs (Role: Co-PI, PI: Gary Sweeten), \$24,320.

National Science Foundation (2021): RAPID: The Impact of Bans on Peremptory Challenges on Voir Dire, Jury Composition, and Case Outcomes (2202144, PI: Jessica Salerno; Role: Co-PI), \$199,750.

#### Research Grants Not Awarded

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Arnold Ventures: *Assessing the Impact of Reducing Long-Term Sentences* (Role: Co-I, PI: Cassia Spohn, not awarded).

National Science Foundation: *The Greater Impact of Bans on Peremptory Challenges* (Role: Co-PI, PI: Jessica Salerno, not awarded).

ASU Watts College Anne Larason Schneider Faculty Endowment for Community Research (Role: PI, not awarded).

ASU Institute for Social Science Research Seed Grant (Role: PI, not awarded).

National Institute of Justice: *Examining Technology-Facilitated Abuse among adults: Risks, Consequences, and Justice Involvement* (PI: Megan Lindsay Brown; Role: Senior Personnel, not awarded).

ASU Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center Pilot Project: *Patterns and Determinants of Substance Use Among Arizona Youth: A Multi-Racial/ethnic Group Comparison* (an NIH/NIMHD Specialized Center of Excellence on Minority Health and Health Disparities; 2U54MD002316-11; PI: Shiyu Wu; Role: Co-I, not awarded).

#### Invited Talks and Colloquia

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2022: University of Macau

2020: Arizona Association of Crime Analysts (Quarterly training held at ASU); Southern Illinois University

#### Conference Presentations (Details for Past Five Years)

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Hickert, A., Shi, L., & Yan, S. (2023, November 15-18). *Courtesy stigma and carceral citizenship: An experimental survey approach* [paper presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Yan, S., Montes, A., Omori, M., Petersen, N., & Spohn, C. (2022, November 16-19). *Revisiting the use of total incarceration variables in sentencing models* [paper presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Wilson, T., Yan, S., Kijowski, M., & Forston, J. (2022, November 16-19). *Perceptions in the court: Relevance for plea and offender decision making scholars* [paper presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

A revised version of the paper was presented at the American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting (March 16-18, 2023), Philadelphia, PA.

Spohn, C., Salerno, J., Beety, V., Fradella, H., & Yan, S. (2022, November 16-19). *In their own words: Judges and trial attorneys react to Arizona's 2022 ban on peremptory challenges* [paper presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

A revised version of the paper was presented at the European Society of Criminology Annual Meeting (September 6-9, 2023), Florence, Italy.

Yan, S., Wilford, M. M., & Ferreira, P. (2022, March 17-19). *Terms and conditions apply: The effect of probation details and duration on true and false guilty pleas* [paper presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, USA.

A revised version of the paper was presented at the European Society of Criminology Annual Meeting (September 22-24, 2022), Málaga, Spain.

Forston, J. W., Wilford, M. M., DiFava, R. J., & Yan, S. (2022, February 3-5). *Pandemic plea bargaining: COVID-19 mitigation strategies and plea decision making* [Conference session canceled]. Western Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI.

Montes, A., Spohn, C. C., Omori, M., Petersen, N., & Yan, S. (2022, February 3-5). *Revisiting the use of total incarceration variables in sentencing research* [Conference session canceled]. Western Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI.

Yan, S., Wilford, M., Zimmerman, D., Sutherland, K., & Ferreira, P. (2021, November). *Two experiments on guilty pleas with a novel animated simulation tool*. [Paper presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Sutherland, K., Zimmerman, D., Yan, S., Wilford, M. M., & DiFava, R. (2021, March). *Innocence in the shadow of COVID-19: Plea decision making during a pandemic*. [Poster presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting.

2020: Western Society of Criminology; Empirical Research on Sentencing Annual Meeting; American Society of Criminology (conference canceled)

2019: Western Society of Criminology; American Society of Criminology

2018: Western Society of Criminology; American Society of Criminology

2017: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, American Society of Criminology

2016: Concluding Conference of the Research Coordination Network on Understanding Guilty Pleas, American Society of Criminology

2015: Mid-Atlantic Law and Society Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, American Society of Criminology

2014: American Society of Criminology

2013: Conference on Empirical Legal Studies; American Society of Criminology

#### Awards

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Gene Carte Student Paper Award, First Place, American Society of Criminology, 2015, \$1,000.  
Title: "An alternative approach of studying alternative sanctions."

Recipient, Cass/Lynch Travel Award, School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany, 2015, \$500.

Recipient, Bureau of Justice Statistics/Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Fellowship, Quantitative Analysis of Crime and Criminal Justice Data, University of Michigan, 2012, \$3,500.

#### Graduate and Honors Student Mentorship

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##### PhD Students

Dissertation committee member:

Qingting Hu (Summer 2021, visiting assistant professor, Whitman College): "Examining Plea Bargaining and Charge Reduction in Three U.S. Federal District Courts"

Karissa Pelletier (Spring 2021, postdoctoral researcher, University of Michigan): "An Examination into the Covariates Surrounding Children and Teen Firearm Homicide Victimization"

Olivia Shaw and Jason Walker (both in progress)

Supervisory committee (all in progress): Matthew Durán (chair), Olivia Shaw, Kathryn Tapp, Sabrina Williamson

##### MS Students

Thesis chair: Cheyenne Weaver (Spring 2024); Jacob Forston (Spring 2022)

Thesis committee member: Ciara Ruiz-Earle (Fall 2023); Kymani Erskine (Summer 2022); Morgan (Jeri) Isabella (Spring 2022); Shayla Gilleland (Fordyce, Spring 2018)

First-year academic advisor: Samantha Perez (2022-23); Cassie Harvey (2020-21)

Honors Undergraduate Students

Thesis chair: Aimee Le (Spring 2024)

Courses Taught

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Arizona State University

Undergraduate:

CRJ 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice (online)

CRJ 203 Courts and Sentencing

CRJ 302 Research Methods

CRJ 303 Statistical Analysis

Graduate:

CRJ 504 Statistical Tools for Criminology and Criminal Justice

CRJ 513 Seminar in Courts and Sentencing (both in-person and online)

Teaching Professional Development

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Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Certificate in Effective College Instruction, Fall 2018-Spring 2019

ASU Provost's Teaching Academy, Fall 2016-Spring 2017

Academic Service

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Arizona State University

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice: Undergraduate Committee: 2023-25; Executive Committee (elected): 2022-23, 2021-22; Search Committee (special): Spring 2022; Comprehensive Exam Committee: 2018-20

American Society of Criminology

Annual Meeting Program Committees: Sub-area Chair for Prosecutorial Discretion and Plea Bargaining (2022, 2023) and Courts and Sentencing (2020, conference cancelled)

Division on Corrections and Sentencing: Nominations Committee (2024), Special Events Committee (2022), Newsletter Committee (2020)

American Psychology-Law Society

Reviewer for Early Career Professional Grant-in-Aid: 2021/22 cycle

Reviewer for Annual Conference Proposals: 2022, 2023

The Association of Chinese Criminology and Criminal Justice in the United States

Non-Officer Board Director (elected), November 2016-November 2018, November 2018-November 2020

### Grant Reviews

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#### National Science Foundation

Ad Hoc Reviewer, Law and Science Dissertation Grant Program, 2021, 2022, 2024

### Service for Peer-Reviewed Journals

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#### Editorial Board Membership

*Criminology*, Editorial Board Member, 2024-present

*Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, Principal Reviewer, 2025-present

#### Ad Hoc Reviewer/Referee

*The American Statistician; Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy; Archives of Public Health; Asian Journal of Criminology; Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice/La Revue canadienne de criminologie et de justice pénale; Cogent Social Sciences; Crime & Delinquency; Criminal Justice and Behavior; Criminal Justice Policy Review; Criminal Justice Review; Criminal Justice Studies; Criminology; Criminology & Criminal Justice; Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society; Criminology & Public Policy; Deviant Behavior; Digital Threats: Research and Practice; Feminist Criminology; Homicide Studies; International Criminal Justice Review; Journal of Criminal Justice; Journal of Empirical Legal Studies; Journal of Experimental Criminology; Journal of Interpersonal Violence; Journal of Quantitative Criminology; Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency; Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A; Justice Quarterly; Law & Society Review; PLOS One; Psychology, Crime, and Law; Punishment & Society; Sexual Abuse*

### Professional Affiliations

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American Psychology-Law Society (APLS)

American Society of Criminology (ASC)

ASC Divisions on/of Corrections and Sentencing, Developmental and Life-Course Criminology, and Experimental Criminology

Arizona Association of Crime Analysts (AACA)

European Society of Criminology (ESC, 2027)

Western Society of Criminology (WSC)

### Public Writings, Comments, and Media Speaking

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For public writings on and media coverage of a specific study, see the research publications section



Forensics Colleges Blog. (2023, August 8, invited blog contribution). *What to know about wrongful convictions*. <https://www.forensicscolleges.com/blog/wrongful-convictions>

Arizona Republic. (2022, February 21, coauthored op-ed). *Arizona bill would end an effort to stop racial bias in jury selection before it begins*. <https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/2022/02/22/arizona-bill-allowing-peremptory-challenges-would-stop-reform/6871234001/>

A&E True Crime Blog. (2021, November 2, invited blog contribution). *What is a plea bargain—and who takes them?* <https://www.aetv.com/real-crime/who-takes-a-plea-bargain>

Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor's Office. (2021, April 29, comment). *Report highlights racial disparities, need for second-degree statute change*. <https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/Lieutenant-Governor-Details.aspx?newsid=114>

Arizona Daily Star. (2017, August 5, comment). *Study: Arizona spends \$600K a day to house drug offenders in prison*. [https://tucson.com/news/local/study-arizona-spends-600k-a-day-to-house-drug-offenders-in-prison/article\\_80c84817-9a40-5f29-946a-dcf44fd1de01.html](https://tucson.com/news/local/study-arizona-spends-600k-a-day-to-house-drug-offenders-in-prison/article_80c84817-9a40-5f29-946a-dcf44fd1de01.html)

#### Language Proficiency

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Native or Bilingual: English and Mandarin Chinese

Elementary: French and Japanese