

Theodore L. Caputi

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Born: August 25, 1994—Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.
Citizenship: United States of America

Education

2020-2026 Candidate for Ph.D. in Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2019-2021 M.Sc. by Research in Health Sciences, University of York (Marshall Scholar)
2017-2019 M.P.H. in Advanced Epidemiology, University College Cork (Mitchell Scholar)
2013-2017 B.S. *summa cum laude* in Economics, University of Pennsylvania

Appointments & employment

2017- Part-Time Research Assistant, Harvard Medical School Health Equity Research Lab
2015- Policy Fellow, University of Florida Drug Policy Institute
2021-2022 Part-Time Research Assistant for Profs. Jon Gruber and Jetson Leder-Luis, MIT Economics
2017-2020 Part-Time Research Assistant, UCSD Center for Data-Driven Population Medicine
2018-2019 Full-time Research Assistant for Prof. Amanda Pallais, Harvard Economics/NBER
2017-2019 Part-Time Research Assistant, Penn Center for Health Incentives and Behavioral Economics
2017-2018 Part-Time Research Assistant for Prof. Francis Diebold, Penn Economics
2017 Part-Time Research Assistant for Prof. Mark Dredze, Johns Hopkins Computer Science
2016 Fall Semester Research Assistant, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy

Honors & awards

2023-2025 NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Aging and Health
2019-2024 NSF Graduate Research Fellow
2019-2024 MIT Graduate Fellow
2019-2020 Marshall Scholar
2018 Annual Cameron Lecture, University College Cork
2017-2018 Mitchell Scholar
2017 Clarendon Scholarship, University of Oxford (Declined)
2017 Phi Beta Kappa, University of Pennsylvania
2016 Beta Gamma Sigma, University of Pennsylvania
2015 Leonard Davis Institute Undergraduate Research Prize, University of Pennsylvania

Publications & presentations¹

WORKING PAPERS

2023 **Caputi, T.L.** (2022). Recreational marijuana dispensaries and fatal car crashes. [[Link](#) | [Slides](#)]

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

2024 Gruber, J., Howard, D.H., Leder-Luis, J., & **Caputi, T.L.** (2024). Dying or Lying? For-Profit Hospices and End of Life Care. *American Economic Review*. [[Link](#)]

2019 Ayers, J. W., **Caputi, T. L.**, & Leas, E. C. (2019). The Need for Federal Regulation of Marijuana Marketing. *JAMA*, 321(22), 2163. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2019.4432> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2017 **Caputi, T. L.**, Smith, D., & Ayers, J. W. (2017). Suicide Risk Behaviors Among Sexual Minority Adolescents in the United States, 2015. *JAMA*, 318(23), 2349. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2017.16908> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2020 **Caputi, T. L.** (2020). The Medical Marijuana Industry and the Use of Research as Marketing. *American Journal of Public Health*, 110(2), 174175. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.2019.305477> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

2022 **Caputi, T. L.** (2022). The Use of Academic Research in Medical Cannabis Marketing: A Qualitative and Quantitative Review of Company Websites. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 83(1), 517. <https://doi.org/10.15288/jsad.2022.83.5> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2021 **Caputi, T. L.** (2021). What cannabis can learn from Covid: Hydroxychloroquine research suggests the next step for medical cannabis research. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 93, 103133. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103133> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2020 **Caputi, T. L.**, Shover, C. L., & Watson, R. J. (2020). Physical and Sexual Violence Among Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Adolescents. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 174(8), 791. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamaped> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2020 **Caputi, T. L.**, Ayers, J. W., Dredze, M., Suplina, N., & Burd-Sharps, S. (2020). Collateral Crises of Gun Preparation and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Infodemiology Study. *JMIR Public Health and Surveillance*, 6(2), e19369. <https://doi.org/10.2196/19369> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2020 **Caputi, T. L.**, Burd-Sharps, S., Ayers, J. W., Dredze, M., Suplina, N. (2020). What Search Data Shows About Americans and Guns During the COVID-19 Crisis. Everytown Research. Accessed at <https://archive.is/wxoPl>. [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

2019 **Caputi, T. L.**, Nobles, A. L., & Ayers, J. W. (2019). Internet Searches for Sexual Harassment and Assault, Reporting, and Training Since the MeToo Movement. *JAMA Internal Medicine*,

¹Most of my publications are available free of charge at <https://www.theodorecaputi.com/publications>. My Google Scholar profile is accessible at <http://goo.gl/fVRxR4>.

179(2), 258. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2018.5094> [Link | PDF]

- 2018 **Caputi, T. L.**, Smith, L. R., Strathdee, S. A., & Ayers, J. W. (2018). Substance Use Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Questioning Adolescents in the United States, 2015. *American Journal of Public Health*, 108(8), 10311034. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.2018.304446> [Link | PDF]
- 2018 **Caputi, T. L.**, & Humphreys, K. (2018). Medical Marijuana Users are More Likely to Use Prescription Drugs Medically and Nonmedically. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 12(4), 295299. <https://doi.org/10.1097/adm.0000000000000405> [Link | PDF]
- 2018 **Caputi, T. L.** (2018). Sex and orientation identity matter in the substance use behaviors of sexual minority adolescents in the United States. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 187, 142148. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.01.012> [Link | PDF]
- 2018 **Caputi, T. L.**, Leas, E. C., Dredze, M., & Ayers, J. W. (2018). Online Sales of Marijuana: An Unrecognized Public Health Dilemma. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 54(5), 719721. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2018.01.032> [Link | PDF]
- 2017 **Caputi, T. L.**, Leas, E., Dredze, M., Cohen, J. E., & Ayers, J. W. (2017). They're heating up: Internet search query trends reveal significant public interest in heat-not-burn tobacco products. *PLOS ONE*, 12(10), e0185735. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0185735> [Link | PDF]
- 2017 **Caputi, T. L.** (2017). Google Searches for Cheap Cigarettes Spike at Tax Increases: Evidence from an Algorithm to Detect Spikes in Time Series Data. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 20(6), 779783. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ntr/ntx143> [Link | PDF]
- 2017 **Caputi, T. L.** (2017). Assessing the Possibility of Leadership Education as Psychosocial-Based Problem Behavior Prevention for Adolescents: A Review of the Literature. *Journal of Leadership Education*, 16(1), 115132. <https://doi.org/10.12806/v16/i1/t2> [Link | PDF]
- 2016 **Caputi, T. L.**, & Thomas McLellan, A. (2016). Truth and D.A.R.E.: Is D.A.R.E.'s new Keepin it REAL curriculum suitable for American nationwide implementation? *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*, 24(1), 4957. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09687637.2016.1208731> [Link | PDF]
- 2016 **Caputi, T. L.** (2016). The case for uniform controls in drug policy studies. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 33, 102104. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2016.06.005> [Link | PDF]
- 2015 **Caputi, T. L.** (2015). Selling prevention: Using a business framework to analyze the state of prevention and overcome obstacles to expanding substance abuse prevention. *The Journal of Global Drug Policy and Practice*. Accessed at <https://archive.is/CUkqN>. [Link | PDF]

UNINVITED COMMENTARY

- 2022 **Caputi, T. L.** (2022). Re: Observed Impact of Long-Term Consumption of Oral Cannabidiol on Liver Function in Healthy Adults and a Recent Announcement of a New Cannabidiol Safety Study. *Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research*, 7(6), 896897. <https://doi.org/10.1089/can.2022.0191> [Link | PDF]
- 2019 **Caputi, T. L.** (2019). Medical marijuana laws, substance use treatment admissions and the ecological fallacy. *Addiction*, 115(1), 188189. Portico. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.14748>

[[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

- 2019 **Caputi, T. L.** (2019). Medical Cannabis Use. *Health Affairs*, 38(5), 874874. <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2019.0>
[[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2019 **Caputi, T. L.** (2019). Medical marijuana, not miracle marijuana: some wellpublicized studies about medical marijuana do not pass a reality check. *Addiction*, 114(6), 11281129. Portico. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.14580> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2018 **Caputi, T. L., & Sabet, K. A.** (2018). Population-Level Analyses Cannot Tell Us Anything About Individual-Level Marijuana-Opioid Substitution. *American Journal of Public Health*, 108(3), e12e12. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.2017.304253> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2017 **Caputi, T. L.** (2017). Whether medical marijuana is ever substituted for other substances is not the full story. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 36(4), E3E4. Portico. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dar.12494>
[[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2017 **Caputi, T. L., & McLellan, A. T.** (2017). Response to Comment by Hecht & Miller-Day on Truth and D.A.R.E.: Is D.A.R.E.s new Keepin it REAL curriculum suitable for American nationwide implementation?. *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*, 24(2), 226226. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09687637.2017.1288681> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2016 **Caputi, T. L., & Humphreys, K.** (2016). Medicare Recipients Use Of Medical Marijuana. *Health Affairs*, 35(10), 19361936. <https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2016.1108> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2016 **Caputi, T. L.** (2016). Industry watch: heat-not-burn tobacco products are about to reach their boiling point. *Tobacco Control*, 26(5), 609610. <https://doi.org/10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2016-053264> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2016 **Caputi, T. L., & Sabet, K. A.** (2016). Commentary on New Perspectives on Drug Education/Prevention. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 48(3), 227229. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02791072.2016.1197989>
[[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

INVITED COMMENTARY

- 2020 **Caputi, T. L.** (2020). Commentary on FurrHolden et al. : Drugs, class, and racerecent developments in the opioid epidemic call for urgent next steps. *Addiction*, 116(3), 684685. Portico. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.15339> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]

TEAM SCIENCE

- 2022 Patton, T., Abramovitz, D., Johnson, D., Leas, E., Nobles, A., **Caputi, T. L.**, Ayers, J., Strathdee, S., & Brquez, A. (2022). Characterizing Help-Seeking Searches for Substance Use Treatment From Google Trends and Assessing Their Use for Infoveillance: Longitudinal Descriptive and Validation Statistical Analysis. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 24(12), e41527. <https://doi.org/10.2196/41527> [[Link](#) | [PDF](#)]
- 2021 Chen, D., Watson, R. J., **Caputi, T. L.**, & Shover, C. L. (2021). Proportion of U.S. Clinics Offering LGBT-Tailored Mental Health Services Decreased Over Time: A Panel Study of the

- National Mental Health Services Survey. *Annals of LGBTQ Public and Population Health*, 2(3), 174184. <https://doi.org/10.1891/lgbtq-2020-0071> [Link | PDF]
- 2021 Johnson, D. C., Nobles, A. L., **Caputi, T. L.**, Liu, M., Leas, E. C., Strathdee, S. A., Smith, D. M., & Ayers, J. W. (2021). Monitoring HIV testing and pre-exposure prophylaxis information seeking by combining digital and traditional data. *BMC Infectious Diseases*, 21(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-021-05907-0> [Link | PDF]
- 2021 Acevedo, A., Mullin, B. O., Progovac, A. M., **Caputi, T. L.**, McWilliams, J. M., & Cook, B. L. (2021). Impact of the Medicare Shared Savings Program on utilization of mental health and substance use services by eligibility and race/ethnicity. *Health Services Research*, 56(4), 581591. Portico. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6773.13625> [Link | PDF]
- 2021 Ayers, J. W., Poliak, A., Johnson, D. C., Leas, E. C., Dredze, M., **Caputi, T. L.**, & Nobles, A. L. (2021). Suicide-Related Internet Searches During the Early Stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic in the US. *JAMA Network Open*, 4(1), e2034261. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.34261> [Link | PDF]
- 2020 Leas, E. C., Nobles, A. L., **Caputi, T. L.**, Dredze, M., Zhu, S.-H., Cohen, J. E., & Ayers, J. W. (2020). News coverage of the E-cigarette, or Vaping, product use Associated Lung Injury (EVALI) outbreak and internet searches for vaping cessation. *Tobacco Control*, 30(5), 578582. <https://doi.org/10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2020-055755> [Link | PDF]
- 2020 Liu, M., **Caputi, T. L.**, Dredze, M., Kesselheim, A. S., & Ayers, J. W. (2020). Internet Searches for Unproven COVID-19 Therapies in the United States. *JAMA Internal Medicine*, 180(8), 1116. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.1764> [Link | PDF]
- 2020 Nobles, A. L., Leas, E. C., **Caputi, T. L.**, Zhu, S.-H., Strathdee, S. A., & Ayers, J. W. (2020). Responses to addiction help-seeking from Alexa, Siri, Google Assistant, Cortana, and Bixby intelligent virtual assistants. *Npj Digital Medicine*, 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41746-019-0215-9> [Link | PDF]
- 2019 Leas, E. C., Nobles, A. L., **Caputi, T. L.**, Dredze, M., Smith, D. M., & Ayers, J. W. (2019). Trends in Internet Searches for Cannabidiol (CBD) in the United States. *JAMA Network Open*, 2(10), e1913853. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.13853> [Link | PDF]
- 2018 Ayers, J. W., Dredze, M., Leas, E. C., **Caputi, T. L.**, Allem, J.-P., & Cohen, J. E. (2018). Next generation media monitoring: Global coverage of electronic nicotine delivery systems (electronic cigarettes) on Bing, Google and Twitter, 2013-2018. *PLOS ONE*, 13(11), e0205822. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0205822> [Link | PDF]
- 2018 Ayers, J. W., **Caputi, T. L.**, Nebeker, C., & Dredze, M. (2018). Dont quote me: reverse identification of research participants in social media studies. *Npj Digital Medicine*, 1(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41746-018-0036-2> [Link | PDF]
- 2017 Allem, J.-P., Leas, E. C., **Caputi, T. L.**, Dredze, M., Althouse, B. M., Noar, S. M., & Ayers, J. W. (2017). The Charlie Sheen Effect on Rapid In-home Human Immunodeficiency Virus Test Sales. *Prevention Science*, 18(5), 541544. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-017-0792-2> [Link | PDF]

OTHER ACADEMIC WORKS

- 2020 Acknowledged contribution to: Mas A., Pallais, A. (2020). [Alternative work arrangements](#). Annual Review of Economics. doi: 10.1146/annurev-economics-022020-032512
- 2015 Gitlow S, Richter K, Levy S, Harris SK, Zinsmeister J, **Caputi TL**, Titelbaum S, Samuels H, Atkinson D. [The International Center for Science in Drug Policy \(ICS DP\) publishes misleading report on marijuana](#). *Published by the University of Florida Drug Policy Institute*.
- 2015 **Caputi TL**. [Improving admissions and impacting society: The case for social-emotional intelligence as an undergraduate admissions criterion](#). 3808: *Journal of Critical Writing*. 9(1):13-17. Available at <http://www.writing.upenn.edu>.
- 2014 [The clinical and cost effectiveness of three FDA-approved addiction medications](#). [Policy Brief]. *Published by the American Society for Addiction Medicine and the Treatment Research Institute*.
- 2014 Acknowledged contribution to: [Paving the way to change: Advancing quality interventions for adolescents who use, abuse, or are dependent upon alcohol and other drugs](#). *Published by the Treatment Research Institute*.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Invited Speaker, **Empirical Health Law Conference**
- 2019 Oral Presentation, **Society for Social Medicine and Population Health and International Epidemiology Association European Congress Joint Annual Scientific Meeting 2019**
- 2019 Panel Moderator, **Smart Approaches to Marijuana Education Summit**
- 2018 [Invited Speaker & Poster Presentation](#), **University College Cork Cameron Lecture**
- Best Poster
- 2018 [Poster Presentation](#), **New Horizon Research Conference 2018**
- 2018 [Webinar Panelist](#), **UCSD Connected and Open Research Ethics Project**
- 2018 [Invited Seminar Presentation](#), **University College Cork School of Public Health**
- 2018 Poster Presentation, **American Society for Addiction Medicine 49th Annual Conference in San Diego**
- 2018 Featured Poster Presentation, **39th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society for Behavioral Medicine in New Orleans**
- 2017 Poster Presentation, **38th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society for Behavioral Medicine in San Diego**
- 2016 Invited Speaker, **Unmasking the Ivy League: College Mental Health Conference**
- 2015 Invited Plenary Speaker (with stipend), **Western States Marijuana Summit in San Diego**
- 2015 Presenter, **Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowships Research Expo**

- 2015 Invited Presenter, **Wharton Undergraduate Research Symposium**
- 2015 Invited Speaker, **Harvard Symposium on Alcohol**
- 2015 Invited Panelist, **Fox Rothschild Conference on Juvenile Justice**
- 2014 Invited Speaker, **Wharton Undergraduate Research Symposium**
- 2013 Invited Speaker, **Science Talk at Treatment Research Institute**

Teaching experience

- F 2015 Teaching Assistant, MATH 104: Single Variable Calculus (Penn)
- F 2015 Teaching Assistant, FNCE 101: Macroeconomics & the Monetary Economy (Penn)
- S 2015 Teaching Assistant, STAT 102: Second-Semester Business Statistics (Penn)
- F 2014 Teaching Assistant, FNCE 711: Financial Derivatives (Penn)
- 2012, 2014 Instructor, English as a Second Language (Nationalities Services Center)

Software

[gtrendspy](#) and [gtrendR](#): Complementary Python and R packages for pulling, analyzing, and visualizing data from the Google Trends for Health API

[cdcwonderpy](#) and [wonderR](#): Complementary Python and R packages for pulling, analyzing, and visualizing data from the CDC WONDER Multiple Cause of Death Online Form

Professional activities

- 2019- Member, American Economic Association
- 2018- Student Member, American Society for Addiction Medicine
- 2015- Advisory Board Member, Drug Free America Foundation
- 2016-2017 Board Member, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Prevention Alliance
- 2015-2017 Student Advisory Board Member, Netter Center for Community Partnerships
- 2015-2017 Board Member, Jed-Penn Mental Health Advisory Committee
- 2012-2017 Institutional Review Board Member, Treatment Research Institute

Service to the field

Ad Hoc Reviewer: Addiction; Addictive Behaviors; American Journal of Preventive Medicine; American Journal of Public Health; Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health; Drugs: Education, Prevention, and Policy; Injury Prevention; International Journal of Drug Policy; JAMA;

Journal of the American Medical Association; JAMA Network Open; Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs; Substance Use and Misuse; Tobacco Control

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<https://www.TheodoreCaputi.com/files/TheodoreCaputiShortCV.pdf>