

Robert Laurent Scharff
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EDUCATION

- 2005 **J.D. George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, VA.**
- Graduated *cum laude*
 - Robert A. Levy Fellow in Law and Liberty
 - Articles Editor: Journal of Law, Economics, and Policy
 - Staff Member: Civil Rights Law Journal
 - Teaching Assistant, Fall 2002 (Law and Economics)
- 1999 **Ph.D. Duke University, Durham, NC.**
- College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Economics.
 - Fields: Public Economics; Environmental Economics; Industrial Organization
 - Dissertation title: "Three Essays in Public Economics"
 - *Research Assistant for W. Kip Viscusi (1994-1997).*
 - *Teaching Assistant for multiple classes (1993-1996).*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 08/05 - present **The Ohio State University, Columbus. OH.**
- Assistant Professor, Department of Consumer Sciences.
 - Center For Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evaluation Studies, Center Associate Member, 2006-present
 - Moritz College of Law: Fellow, Center for Interdisciplinary Law and Policy Studies, September 2005-present
 - John Glenn School of Public Policy: Affiliated Faculty, May 2006-present.
- 06/04 - 08/04 **Institute for Justice, Washington, DC.**
- Law Clerk.
 - Engaged in legal research utilized in a U.S. Supreme Court brief that argued successfully for the overturn of a New York State law discriminating against interstate shipment of wine. *Swedenburg v. Kelly* 544 U.S. 460 (2005).
- 06/99 - 07/02 **Food and Drug Administration, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), College Park, MD.**
- Economist
 - Focused on evaluations of food safety programs designed to counter known foodborne pathogens.
- 07/98 - 06/99 **Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.**
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics
 - Classes Taught: Introductory Macroeconomics, Health Economics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of risk, health economics, regulatory economics, law and economics, food safety

GRANTS

Robert L. Scharff. "Foodborne Disease Surveillance Cost Benefit Analysis." Association of Public Health Laboratories." January 2009-December 2009. **\$100,000.**

Robert L. Scharff. "The Economic Cost of Foodborne Illness Attributable to Contaminated Produce Products in the United States." May 2009-December 2009. **\$47,000.**

Robert L. Scharff. "Evaluation of Food and Drug Administration Rules for Food Safety." Mercatus Institute. January 2008-August 2009. **\$3,000.**

Neal H. Hooker, Robert Scharff, Hugo Melgar-Quininez, Curtis Haugtvedt, and Gail Kaye. "Time Preference, Commitment Mechanisms, and Obesity." OARDC SEEDS Interdisciplinary Team Grant, May 2007-May 2009, **\$100,000.**

Lydia Medeiros, Jeffrey LeJeune, Robert Scharff, Patricia Kendall, Susan Bake, John Sofos. "Risk and Protection Factors for Foodborne Illnesses in Perinatal and Infant Populations." USDA/CSREES, October 2006-October 2010, **\$1,500,000.**

PUBLICATIONS

Robert L. Scharff and W. Kip Viscusi. "Heterogeneous Rates of Time Preference and the Decision to Smoke." *Economic Inquiry*. 2008. (Forthcoming)

Robert L. Scharff. 2009. Obesity and Hyperbolic Discounting: Evidence and Implications. *Journal of Consumer Policy*. Vol. 32: 3-21.

Robert L. Scharff, Joyce McDowell, and Lydia Medeiros. 2009. Evaluation of an Educational Intervention Using the Enhanced Food Safety Cost-of-Illness Model. *Journal of Food Protection*. Vol. 1, no. 72: 137-141.

Robert L. Scharff, Joyce McDowell, and Lydia Medeiros. 2009. The Economic Cost of Foodborne Illness in Ohio. *Journal of Food Protection*. Vol. 1, no. 72: 128-136.

Robert L. Scharff and Amber Jessup. 2007. Evaluating Chronic Disease for Heterogeneous Populations: The Case of Arthritis. *Medical Care*. Vol. 45, no. 9: 860-868.

Robert L. Scharff. 2007. A Common Tragedy: Condemnation and the Anticommons. *Natural Resources Journal*. Vol. 47, no. 1. Edited by Susan Tackman: 165-194.

Robert L. Scharff and Francesco Parisi. 2006. The Role of Status Quo Bias and Bayesian Learning in the Creation of New Legal Rights. *Journal of Law, Economics and Policy*. Vol. 3, no. 1: 25-45.

Robert L. Scharff. 2005. An Analysis of Municipal Drug and Prostitution Exclusion Zones. *Civil Rights Law Journal*. Vol. 15, no. 2: 321-340.

W. Kip Viscusi and Robert L. Scharff. 1996. The Structure of the Legal Bargaining Game. In *Dispute Resolution: Bridging the Settlement Gap*. Edited by David Anderson. Greenwich, Connecticut: JAI Press. 145-166.

W. Kip Viscusi, Wesley Magat, and Robert L. Scharff. 1996. Asymmetric Assessments in Valuing Pharmaceutical Risks. *Medical Care*. Vol. 34, no. 12: DS34-DS47.

WORKING PAPERS

Robert Scharff, Richard Williams, and David Bieler. "More Deliberative Action is Needed for Food Safety"

Richard Williams, Robert L. Scharff, and Dave Bieler. "If You Want Safer Food, Make Better Markets"

Robert Scharff and Hua Zan. "Regional Differences in the Value of Statistical Life"

Robert Scharff and Jodi Letkiewicz. "State Differences in the Cost of Foodborne Illness"

Robert L. Scharff, Angela Lasher, Karl Klontz, Lydia Medeiros, Clark Nardinelli, and David Zorn. "The Economic Cost of Acute Health Losses from Foodborne Illness"

Cäzilia Loibl, and Robert L. Scharff. "The Effect of Discretionary Goal-Setting on Consumers' Savings Behavior"

Tansel Yilmazer and Robert Scharff. "Precautionary Savings against Health Risks: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study"

Robert L. Scharff. "Obesity Suits: Fat Chance or Fat City?"

Robert L. Scharff. "Rethinking Coming to the Nuisance"

PRESENTATIONS

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2009. Prevention through Surveillance: The Efficacy of the PulseNet Laboratory System as a Means of Preventing Foodborne Illness. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD. (December 8)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2009. Foodborne Surveillance Benefit Cost Analysis. Presented at Advancing the Practice of Benefit-Cost Analysis, to Society for Benefit Cost Analysis. Washington, DC. (October 20)

Robert Scharff, Presenter. 2009. Evaluating the Cost of Foodborne Illness to Consumers. Presented at NCCC-052 Family Economics Research Meeting. (October 15)

Robert Scharff, Presenter. 2009. Regional Differences in Value of Statistical Life and Value of Statistical Life Year Estimates. Presented at 2009 AAEA & ACCI Joint Annual Meeting. Milwaukee, WI. (July 28)

Tansel Yilmazer and Robert Scharff. 2009. Precautionary Savings against Health Risks: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. Presented at 2009 AAEA & ACCI Joint Annual Meeting. Milwaukee, WI. (July 28)

Lydia Medeiros, Robert Scharff, et. al. 2009. Education Influences Food Safety Knowledge and Behavior of Pregnant, Low-Income English- and Spanish-Speaking Women. Presented at International Association for Food Protection 96th Annual Meeting. Grapevine, TX. (July 12 - 15)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2009. The Economic Cost of Health Losses from Foodborne Illness. Presented at International Association for Food Protection 96th Annual Meeting. Grapevine, TX. (July 12 - 15)

Joyce R. McDowell, Robert Scharff, and Lydia Medeiros. 2009. Evaluating an Educational Intervention Using the Enhanced Food Safety Cost of Illness Model. Presented at Society for Nutrition Education Annual Conference. (July 11 - 15)

Robert Scharff, Presenter. 2009. The Economics of Foodborne Illness in the United States and China. Presented at Interdisciplinary Conference on Food, Environment, and Public Health. X'ian City, China. (June 20 - 22)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2008. Effectiveness of Food Safety Education for Low-Income Pregnant Women. Presented at Society For Risk Analysis Annual Meeting 2008. Boston, MA. (December 7 - 10)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2008. The Economic Burden of Foodborne Illness in the United States. Presented at Society For Risk Analysis Annual Meeting 2008. Boston, MA. (December 7 - 10)

Robert Scharff, Presenter. 2008. Why Do the Insured Use More Health Care? The Role of Insurance-Induced Unhealthy Behaviors. Presented at Southern Economic Association 2008 Annual Meetings. Washington, DC. (November 20 - 23)

Mei-Chi Fang and Robert L. Scharff. 2008. Determinants of Elderly Obesity in Urban, Suburban and Rural Communities. Presented at 2008 AAEA & ACCI Joint Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL. Orlando, FL. (July 29)

Robert L. Scharff and Tansel Yilmazer. 2008. Uncertain Health Expenditures and Precautionary Savings: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. Presented at 2008 AAEA & ACCI Joint Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL. Orlando, FL. (July 27 - 29)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2007. Effect of Food Code Adoption on the Risk from Foodborne Illness. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. San Antonio, TX. (December 10)

Robert Scharff, Joyce McDowell, and Lydia Medeiros, Poster Presenter. 2007. Toward A Comprehensive Economic Evaluation of Food Safety in Ohio. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. San Antonio, TX. (December 10)

Neal H. Hooker, Wenjing Shang, and Robert Scharff. 2007. Crisis Communication during Food Recalls: The Role of Retailers. Presented at 2007 ACCI Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO. St. Louis, MO. (April 19)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2007. Obesity and Hyperbolic Discounting: Evidence and Implications for Consumer Policy. Presented at 2007 ACCI Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO. St. Louis, MO. (April 17)

Robert Scharff and Neal Hooker, Presenter. 2006. Hyperbolic Discounting and the Failure of Risk Management Efforts to Combat Obesity. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. Baltimore, MD. (December 3 - 6)

Wenjing Shang, Neal H. Hooker and Robert Scharff. 2006. Crisis Communication During Food Recalls: The Role of Retailers. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. Baltimore, MD. (December 3 - 6)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2006. Obesity Suits: Fat Chance or Fat City? Presented at Southern Economic Association, 76th Annual Meeting, Charleston, SC. Charleston, SC. (November 18 - 21)

Cäzilia Loibl and Robert Scharff. 2006. Are Good Intentions Enough? Evaluation of an America Saves Program. Presented at 2006 Annual Conference of the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education (AFCPE), Orange County, CA. Orange County, CA. (November 15 - 17)

Cäzilia Loibl and Robert Scharff. 2006. Intra- and Interpersonal Commitment Mechanisms to Encourage Regular Savings. Presented at Association for Consumer Research, North American Conference, Orlando, FL. Orlando, FL. (September 28 - October 1)

Meebok Kim, Neal Hooker and Robert L. Scharff. 2006. Regional-Level Comparison of the Cost of Food Safety Failures. Presented at American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA. Long Beach, CA. (July 23 - 25)

Cäzilia Loibl and Robert L. Scharff. 2006. Intra- and Interpersonal Commitment Mechanisms to Encourage Regular Savings. Presented at IAREP-SABE Congress, Paris, France. Paris, France. (July 5 - 8)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2006. Demographics, Politics, and the Rise of Cigarette Regulation. Presented at Western Economic Association International 81st Annual Conference, San Diego, CA. San Diego, CA. (June 29 - July 3)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2006. Risk Analysis in Consumer Sciences. Presented at Fostering Collaboration in Risk Analysis, Agricultural Risk Analysis Program, Columbus, OH. Columbus, OH. (May 17)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2006. Using Consumer Information to Improve Recalls: A Response. Presented at Battelle Policy Day, The John Glenn Institute, The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. (February 7)

Robert L. Scharff, Presenter. 2005. Food Safety at the Food and Drug Administration. Presented at Ohio ServSafe. Columbus, OH.

Robert L Scharff and Daniel Polsby, Presenter. 2005. A Deadly Solution: Crack, Homicide, and the Decline of Crime in America. Presented at American Law & Economics Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY. New York, NY. (May 7)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2003. The Role of Status Quo Bias and Bayesian Learning in the Creation of New Legal Rights. Presented at Robert A Levy Fellows Workshop, George Mason University School of Law, Fairfax, VA. (November 6)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2003. The Effect of Changes in the Voting Population on Optimal Candidate Strategy: The Case of Cigarette Smoking. Presented at Robert A Levy Fellows Workshop, George Mason University School of Law, Fairfax, VA. (April 3)

Robert L. Scharff and Amber Jessup. 2002. Valuing Chronic Disease for Heterogeneous Populations: The Case of Arthritis. Presented at Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Seattle, WA. (June 29 - July 3)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2001. Is There More to Life than Health? Life than Health? Limitations in QALY Valuation. Presented at Seminar Series on Practical Issues in Regulatory Economics, Washington, DC. Food and Drug Administration. Washington, D.C. (January 31)

Robert L Scharff, Presenter. 2000. Economic Valuation of Health Risks. Presented at Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. (December 3 - 6)

TEACHING

The Ohio State University

Solutions to Consumer Problems (U)

Theories and Models in Consumer Sciences (G)

Managing Consumer Risk (G)

Tulane University

Introductory Macroeconomics (U)

Health Economics (U)

Duke University

Law and Economics (U)

MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association

American Council on Consumer Interests

International Association for Food Protection

Society for Benefit Cost Analysis
Society for Risk Analysis
Western Economic Association International