

Dylan W. Groves

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor, Lafayette College

2023-Present

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, Columbia University

2023

Dissertation: "Media and accountability in Tanzania" (distinction)

M.S., Foreign Service, Georgetown University

2013

B.A., Political Science, University of California at Berkeley

2010

Research

Published & Forthcoming

The effect of radio dramas on willingness to report Intimate Partner Violence: evidence from a survey experiment in Tanzania. Kate SantaMaria, Noela Ringo, Kasim Abdallah, Dylan W Groves, Brenda Nyambo. 2026. *Frontiers: Health Communication*

Narrative entertainment changes minds: A meta-analysis of recent experiments. Bardia Rahmani, Dylan W. Groves, Donald P. Green, and Beatrice Montano. 2025. *Behavior Science and Public Policy*.

Media capture in Africa: a case study on Tanzania. Maro Kitundu, Dylan W. Groves, Anya Schiffrin, Francis Nyonzo. 2025. *Routledge Handbook on Corruption*.

Better together: The perceived impact of the ICIJ on journalism and journalists. Anya Schiffrin, Dylan W. Groves, Audrey Hatfield, Lindsay Green-Barber. 2024. *Information, Communication, and Society*.

The effects of public affairs radio on Tanzanians' knowledge about politics: evidence from a planned natural experiment. Donald P. Green, Dylan W. Groves, Constantine Manda, Beatrice Montano, and Bardia Rahmani. 2023. *Journal of Politics*.

Perspective taking through partisan eyes: cross-national empathy, partisanship, and attitudes towards international cooperation. Donald Casler, and Dylan W. Groves. 2023. *Journal of Politics*.

Seeing cattle like a state: sedentist assumptions of the Namibian Livestock Identification and Traceability System. Max Mauerman, Venomukona Tjiseua, and Dylan W. Groves (author-order randomized). 2023. *Nomadic Peoples*.

Understanding journalism impact: A multi-dimensional taxonomy for professional, organizational and societal change. Anya Schiffrin, Andre Corrêa d'Almeida, Lindsay Green-Barber, Adelina Yankova, and Dylan W. Groves. 2023. *Journal of Applied Journalism & Media Studies*.

A radio drama's effects on attitudes toward early and forced marriage: results from a field experiment in rural Tanzania. Donald P. Green, Dylan W. Groves, Constantine Manda, Beatrice Montano, and Bardia Rahmani. 2022. *Comparative Political Studies*.

Community-based rangeland management in Namibia improves resource governance but not environmental and economic outcomes. D. Layne Coppock*, Luke Crowley, Susan L. Durham, Dylan W. Groves*, Julian C. Jamison*, Dean Karlan*, Brien E. Norton, and R. Douglas Ramsey (*means equal authorship). 2022. *Nature - Earth & Environment*.

A radio drama's effects on HIV attitudes and policy priorities: A field experiment in Tanzania. Donald P. Green, Dylan W. Groves, and Constantine Manda. 2021. *Health Education & Behavior*.

The mismeasurement of cattle ownership In Namibia's northern communal areas. Dylan W. Groves and Venomukona Tjiseua (author order randomized). 2020. *Nomadic Peoples*.

The influence of two levels of debushing in Namibia's thornbush savanna on overall soil fertility, measured through bioassays. Ibo Zimmermann, Matti Nghikembua, D. Shipingana, T. Aron, Dylan W. Groves, and L. Marker. 2017. *Namibian Journal of Environment*.

Working Papers

The long-term and spillover effects of a drama on HIV attitudes and priorities. Savannah Nivin, Alphoncina Kagaigai, Benjamin White, Dylan W Groves, Bardia Rahmani, Beatrice Montano, Donald P Green (*under review*)

Climate and cooperation. Garret Adler, Dylan W. Groves (*under review*)

The persuasive power of Africa's High Courts: evidence from Tanzania. Salma Emmanuel; Donald P Green; Dylan W. Groves; Constantine Manda; Bardia Rahmani; Beatrice Montano (*revise and resubmit*)

Information and motivation: how watchdog journalism can improve village government responsiveness in Tanzania. Dylan W. Groves

A radio drama's effects on environmental protection: experimental evidence from Tanzania. Bardia Rahmani, Dylan W. Groves, Donald P. Green, Beatrice Montano

Governments respond to local journalism: experimental evidence from Tanzania. Dylan W. Groves

Party at the courthouse: evidence from Tanzania. Kate SantaMaria, Kasim Abdallah, Brenda Nyambo, Noela Ringo, and Dylan W Groves

The effect of climate change news on public opinion about the environment: evidence from a lab-in-the-field experiment in Tanzania. Salma Emmanuel, Dylan W. Groves, Alexander Brown, Beatrice Montano, Bardia Rahmani, and Donald P Green

Religious elite messaging and women's political participation. Bardia Rahmani, Dylan W. Groves, Donald P. Green, and Beatrice Montano, Francis N'gatigwa

Journalism and blame attribution in hegemonic party regimes: evidence from Tanzania. Benjamin Risley, Dylan W. Groves, Zakayo Zakaria

A radio drama's effects on gender-based violence awareness and responses: experimental evidence from Tanzania. Beatrice Montano, Dylan W. Groves, Donald P. Green, and Bardia Rahmani

What drives household solar adoption in Africa? Athena Wagner, Salma Emmanuel, Dylan W. Groves

The authority gap: differential effects of judicial and religious elite messages on social policy attitudes in Tanzania. Benjamin Risley, Kate SantaMaria, Dylan W. Groves

Radio distribution and health information. Savannah Nivin, Alphoncina Kagaigai, Dylan W. Groves

Narrative entertainment shapes policy priorities: evidence from four field experiments in Tanzania. Donald P. Green, Dylan W. Groves, Constantine Manda, Beatrice Montano, and Bardia Rahmani

Works in Progress

A national-scale field experiment to improve public health services in Tanzania, with Salma Emmanuel, Constantine Manda, and John Marshall

A national-scale field experiment on radio messaging and family planning in Nigeria, with John Marshall, Mahesh Karra, and Nneka Osalador

A national-scale field experiment of digital feedback to improve health services, with Robbie Dulin, Pascaline Dupas, Alphoncina Kigaigai and John Marshall

Can radio dramas reduce intimate partner violence? Experimental evidence from Rwanda, with Aline Umubyeyi and Donald P. Green

Leveraging religious leaders to counter human trafficking in rural Tanzania, with Salma Emmanuel and Beatrice Montano

Grants

2025 Lafayette College: \$4,000

Ambitious Impact, One Individual, & Bloom Wellbeing Fund: \$90,000 (with Aline Umubyeyi and Donald P. Green)

IPA Intimate Partner Violence Initiative: \$50,000 (with Aline Umubyeyi and Donald P. Green)

NOVAH: \$55,000 (with Aline Umubyeyi and Donald P. Green)

2024 Fund for International Development: \$800,000 (with Alphoncina Kagaigai, Pascaline Dupas, Robbie Dulin, and John Marshall)

Anonymous Donor: \$100,000 (with John Marshall, Maggie McConnell, Mahesh Karra, and Nneka Osalador)

Development Innovation Ventures: \$1,500,000 (with John Marshall, Maggie McConnell, Mahesh Karra, and Nneka Osalador)

Innovations for Poverty Action Intimate Partner Violence Research Initiative: \$110,000 (with John Marshall)

2023 Human Trafficking Research Initiative: \$13,000 (with Beatrice Montano and Salma Emmanuel)

New Venture Fund: \$208,777 (with John Marshall and Danford Sango)

J-PAL Governance Initiative Pilot Grant: \$74,134 (with John Marshall)

2022 Mercury Project: \$475,000 (with Tausi Kida, Constantine Manda, and John Marshall)

2019 Columbia University Travel Grant: \$3,000

Crime and Violence Initiative Exploratory Grant: \$8,000

J-PAL Governance Initiative Pilot Grant: \$34,000

2018 J-PAL Governance Initiative Exploratory Grant: \$8,000

2017 Millennium Challenge Corporation: ~\$2,000,000 (with Dean Karlan and Julian Jamison)

2016 Deans Fellowship, Columbia University

External Affiliations

Innovations for Poverty Action (2013-Present)

Jameel Poverty Action Labs Governance Initiative (2026-Present)

Languages and Skills

Languages: Swahili (Intermediate), Spanish (Beginner)

Statistical skills: ArcGIS, CloudRF, Python (intermediate), QGIS, R, STATA, SurveyCTO

Teaching

African Politics, American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Media and Politics

Referee Service

American Economic Review: Insights, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Modern African Studies, Journal of Politics, Nature Social Science

Conferences

- 2025 Midwestern Political Science Association, Experiments in Government and Politics, Center for the Study of African Economies
- 2024 Midwestern Political Science Association, African Studies Association, Center for the Study of African Economies
- 2023 Midwestern Political Science Association, American Political Science Association, African Studies Association
- 2022 Northeast Workshop in Experimental Political Science (NEWEPS), American Political Science Association, Duke INCITE, Columbia Experimental Design Workshop, BBC Media Action Conference, UNICEF Conference on Edutainment
- 2021 American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, International Studies Association, Political Economy of International Relations
- 2020 American Political Science Association
- 2019 Midwestern Political Science Association
- 2018 Millennium Challenge Corporation Results Endline (Washington DC), Millennium Challenge Corporation Results Endline (Windhoek), Resource Governance Institute (Accra), Geo 4 Dev (UC Berkeley)
- 2014 Behavioral Economics and Community Resource Management (University of Cologne)

Service

- 2025 Faculty Advisor, Human Trafficking Initiative
- 2024-25 Faculty Advisor, GovLab
- 2023-25 Founder, Global Media Lab
- 2022-23 Mentor, ESRF scholars training
- 2020-24 Mentor, Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN)
- 2018-20 Director, Graduate Student Seminar
- 2018 Linkages Chair, Columbia Political Science Graduate Student Committee
- 2017-19 Mentor, New York City Urban Debate League
- 2010-12 Mentor, Bay Area Urban Debate League

Honors Theses

- 2026 Victoria Hutchinson, "Drivers of ISIS Recruitment" (Primary Reader)
- 2026 Alexander Brown, "How Aid Organizations Overcome Aid Blockages" (Primary Reader)
- 2026 Isabella Tang, "Barriers to Social Reintegration of Human Trafficking Victims" (Primary reader)
- 2026 Danielle Archibold, "Legal Frameworks to Promote Corporate Responsibility for GBV Protection" (Primary Reader)
- 2025 Matthew Olson, "MCMC Sampling of Partially Observed Multivariate Normal Distributions" (Mathematics, Second Reader)

2025 Tara Amidon, "Humanitarian Intervention and the Responsibility to Protect" (Second Reader)
2024 Matwos Tadesse, "Ethnic Identity on Fuel: Dissecting the effect of ethnic federalism in Ethiopia" (Second reader)