

Erratum

ADDENDUM to “The Impact of Right-to-Carry Laws and the NRC Report: Lessons for the Empirical Evaluation of Law and Policy,” *American Law and Economics Review*, 13:2; Fall, 2011.

In section four (pp. 578-584) of the above referenced article the authors report their efforts to replicate some of the results of analyses conducted by a panel of the National Research Council (NRC) and reported in *Firearms and Violence* (2004). Based on this analysis, Aneja, Donohue and Zhang (2011) conclude that they “cannot replicate the NRC results using the NRC’s own data set” (p. 583) and that the NRC committee “published tables that could not be replicated.” (p. 614). Subsequent to the publication of this article, members of the NRC panel demonstrated to the authors that the results in question were replicable if the authors used the data and statistical models described in Chapter 6 of the NRC (2004) report. The results presented in Tables 1b and 2b of Section 4 of the article do not replicate the NRC results because different data and models were used in the attempted replication effort. Thus, the results reported in the article should *not* be interpreted to mean that if one uses the data and model used by the NRC panel the results they reported cannot be replicated. In fact, replication using the NRC’s data and models produces results that are identical to those reported by the NRC panel.

Once again, section four of the ALER article demonstrates one of the major conclusions of the NRC panel – assessments of the impact of right-to-carry laws are so subject to data, covariates, time frame used, and the model characteristics that it is impossible to credibly demonstrate their causal effects using the existing data and methods. In addition, we believe that the

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confusion over replicating the results on the NRC data highlights the value of making both data *and* replication files publicly available so that the variants on specification choice are fully apparent. The exact NRC data and our replication files (which demonstrate and replicate the NRC’s main analysis) as well as the data and do-files that illustrate the modifications discussed in this article, can be found at http://works.bepress.com/john_donohue/. In addition, Donohue, Aneja, and Zhang have now issued an amended version of the published paper, which removes the above inaccurate claim about replication of the NRC results and corrects some other minor errors that do not alter the major findings of the published paper: Donohue, John J., Aneja, Abhay and Zhang, Alexandria, The Impact of Right to Carry Laws and the NRC Report: The Latest Lessons for the Empirical Evaluation of Law and Policy (July 27, 2012). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2118893>.

Aneja, Donohue, Pepper, Wellford, and Zhang