Publishing in The Annals

A scholarly voice that communicates scientific knowledge accessibly to a broad audience interested in the dynamics of significant social problems or challenges.

About the The AAPSS / *Annals*

- 131 years and 1 month of systematic application of social science to extant national / international challenges.

- In large measure, AAPSS has made this happen through *The Annals*

  - Vol. 140 (1928): The American Negro

  - Vol. 385 (1969): The War on Poverty

  - Vol. 641 (2012): Immigration and the Changing Social Fabric of American Cities

  - Vol 665 (2016): Tough on Crime, Tough on Families: Criminal Justice and Family Life in America

  - Vol 687 (2020): Fatal Police Shootings: Patterns, Policy, and Prevention

Writing for *The ANNALS' Audiences*

You are writing for:

- **Scholars with expertise in mobility / econ / public policy.** So they learn something new, discover fresh methodological approaches, organizational logics, etc…

- **Scholars and analysts who are NOT expert in mobility / econ / public policy.** So they understand/appreciate the state of science (and the limits of social science) in this area.

- **Public servants (policymakers?) and the educated general public.** So they become aware of perspectives from social science and to arm them with useful perspectives; contribute to the quality and depth of public discourse.

Tools

- Yes to the conventions of traditional academic papers (intro, lit review, data & methods, findings, discussion), but you have some flexibility.

- Provide technical detail that's appropriate to a research journal, but don't make technical justificaion your dominant concern. Aggressively use endnotes and appendicies (esp. online appendix)

- Methods and data: assume your readers know nothing, so take a moment to explain whence the data came and what the methods are good for. E.G.: "Traditional regression models estimate the average effect of a predictor on an outcome, but latent class models locate density in the data, therefore describing statistically distinct classes (if they exist). In other words, the latent class model can identify latent variables which were theretofore unknown."

Tools (cont'd)

- Don't build narrative suspense (don't bury your lede):

  - Tell me what your going to tell me (and why an educated public should care) – Abstract, intro, Lit review

  - Tell it to me – data, methods and findings

  - Tell me what you just told me (recasting its significance) – Discussion and Conclusion

- Abundant use of plain-language examples and illustrations.

- Tight and succinct – word count matters.