

Summer Conversation Series with John Kraemer and Jason Roffenbender

Helmet Wearing Among Users of a Public Bicycle- Sharing Program in the District of Columbia and Comparable Riders on Personal Bicycles

Thursday, July 12, 2012 · 12:30 – 2:00 PM
Georgetown University Law Center
E. B. Williams Library, **Room 358**
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW · Washington, DC 20001

John Kraemer

Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Systems Administration

Jason Roffenbender

Research Associate at the School of Nursing & Health Studies

Moderated by Susan Kim

Project Director, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law

Abstract

Bicycle-sharing programs are increasingly popular and have the potential to increase physical activity and decrease air pollution, but anecdotal evidence suggests helmet use is lower among users of bicycle-sharing programs than cyclists on private bicycles. We conducted a cross-sectional study to assess helmet use among users of a bicycle-sharing program in Washington, DC. Helmet use was significantly lower among cyclists on shared bicycles than private bicycles, highlighting a need for targeted helmet promotion activities.