



2024 LINOWES LECTURE



**CHRIS BLATTMAN**

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# HOW ORGANIZED CRIME IS ORGANIZED: Lessons from the Gangs of Medellin

▶ **March 27, 2024 | 3:30–5:00p**  
**160 English Building**

- ▶ Medellin, Colombia, has roughly 400 highly organized, highly profitable drug-selling gangs. Despite the large number of gangs, however, Medellin has one of the lowest homicide rates of any large city in the region. Why is Medellin peaceful, and what does this have to do with the industrial organization of crime in the city?

In this talk, Dr. Blattman will discuss findings from gang member interviews, how peace is partly driven by the development of criminal governance institutions and government policies to incentivize peaceful bargaining among gangs, the parallels to US, Brazilian, and other cities across the Americas, and what this implies for policy.



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