



International  
Inequalities Institute

International  
Inequalities Institute Annual  
Report 2016



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# The International Inequalities Institute

Over the past few years the growth of inequalities has emerged as the biggest challenge of our times. The International Inequalities Institute at LSE aims to link the best research with innovative teaching and leadership programmes by:

- Supporting and promoting innovative thinking and research examining the mechanisms generating inequalities;
- Providing and supporting postgraduate teaching and study related to inequality across the LSE's disciplines and areas of expertise;
- Developing and securing funding for research related to inequality within and between the School's departments and research centres, as well as within the Institute, especially cross-disciplinary research;
- Providing a forum for cross-disciplinary exchange and collaboration across the School and its partners;
- Supporting a programme of public engagement and outreach to promote debates on inequality both within the UK and globally, including running and supporting programmes aimed at supporting emerging leaders to work in arenas where inequalities are a key concern.

# Co-Directors introduction

The International Inequalities Institute started work in May 2015. Since then we have run an exciting events programme; started an interdisciplinary MSc in Inequalities and Social Science; accepted students onto a PhD programme supported by the Leverhulme Trust; awarded grants to pump-prime research related to inequality across the LSE's departments and research centres; appointed our first research and administrative staff; published the first working papers and established a web portal through to other LSE research related to inequality; and started our first externally-funded research, while seeking funding for other initiatives involving colleagues from across the LSE. In June 2016 the Atlantic Philanthropies announced that they would be giving LSE its largest ever charitable gift to support a twenty year programme, training and supporting Atlantic Fellows, whose careers and work would benefit from intensive periods examining different aspects of social and economic inequality.

Our aim is to bring together research and teaching that crosses disciplinary – and in LSE's case, departmental – boundaries (see page 4). We are proud to be working with colleagues from across LSE, including from Anthropology, Economics, Gender, Geography and Environment, Government, Law, Media and Communications; Social Policy, Sociology, other Departments, and research centres such as LSE Cities and the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion.

We also think it is fundamental that we build on the best quality academic research but that we also engage with policy makers and public debates. The III will be an outward looking Institute, seeking to influence thinking and debate and very keen to work with external organisations and academics at every opportunity.

This report presents key highlights from our research and activities between May 2015 and July 2016. It contains information on:

- The Atlantic Fellows programme, which will be selecting its first cohorts of Atlantic Fellows in the summer and Autumn of 2017 (page 5)
- Our partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, investigating the links between poverty and inequality, including the research of Aaron Reeves, who joined us to work on the programme in March 2016 (page 6)
- The nine Leverhulme Trust doctoral scholars, whose doctoral research we are supporting (page 7), and who form part of wider cross-disciplinary seminar groups with other doctoral students in the same 2015 and 2016 entry cohorts.
- The new MSc in Inequalities and Social Science, the full-time members of the first cohort of which completed in September 2016, just as the second cohort of students arrived (page 9).
- The projects that we are supporting through our Research Innovation Fund (page 10)

- Our events programme, including our own international conferences in May 2015, and May 2016, hosting the 2016 annual international conference of the Association of Public Policy and Management, lectures and a new seminar programme from September 2016 (page 16). Video recordings of many of our events are available on our website, forming an archive of contributions from some of the world's leading thinkers on different aspects of inequality.
- Our own publications (page 19) and the portal to related LSE research (page 19).

We were delighted to welcome Liza Ryan as Manager of the Institute in July 2015, and Billie Elmqvist Thuren as Institute Assistant in September 2016. As well as Aaron Reeves, working on the JRF partnership, Luna Glucksberg joined us to carry out postdoctoral research in July 2016, and David Hope in October 2016. More information on their work can be found on page 21. The staff who will support and run the Atlantic Fellows programme are being appointed during the 2016-17 academic year. Mike Savage is acting as Interim Academic Director of the programme in 2016-17, supported by John Hills, and we are currently recruiting for a permanent director of the programme.

Our work is overseen by a Management Committee from different parts of LSE (page 22), and the members of our Advisory Board, who are meeting for the first time in the Autumn of 2016 (page 24).

The volume of activity reported here and our exciting programme for the future would not be possible without all of their efforts, and those who are supporting us, including the Atlantic Philanthropies, Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Leverhulme Trust, as well as the LSE itself.

For more information about the ILL and our work, including the seminar series and our publications, please visit our website [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/)

### **John Hills and Mike Savage** **Co-Directors, International Inequalities Institute**



Professor John Hills is Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy at LSE.



Professor Mike Savage is Martin White Professor of Sociology at LSE.

# III Research Agenda

The question of inequality has moved decisively to the top of the intellectual agenda in recent years. Prompted in significant part by the work of leading economists such as Tony Atkinson, Amartya Sen and Joseph Stiglitz, and underlined most spectacularly by the reception of Thomas Piketty's important *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, increasing inequalities of various kinds, and their impact on social, political and economic life now present themselves as one of the most urgent issues facing contemporary social scientists.

The III has been set up to build on LSE's longstanding tradition of leadership in the study of social and economic inequality, bringing together scholars from across the School to coordinate our efforts to further understanding of the genesis and nature of inequalities; of the structural, institutional and cultural factors which shape them; of their socio-economic and political significance, including through the lived experience of inequality; and of how inequalities may best be countered in different contexts.

The research agenda of the III is rooted in the LSE's commitment to an international perspective, and seeks to analyse different forms, sources and dimensions of inequality. We bring methodological expertise from across the social sciences, including cutting edge quantitative and qualitative methods; and we are committed to asking fundamental questions about the causes, nature, and political challenges of inequality.

Our research agenda focuses on three themes:

## What causes inequality?

*Towards a social and political economy of inequality: understanding the mechanisms underlying the production and reproduction of inequalities*

We see a fundamental issue as lying in the nature of changing economic inequalities: how and why is the share of value added going to labour falling in many countries across the world? Why should the relationship between productivity and earnings have changed? How are these economic inequalities shaped by both social and political systems? Our aspiration, therefore, is to build up an integrated social and political economy of inequality through the pursuit of interlinked research projects.

The mechanisms involved in producing inequality have fundamental implications for social and political systems. There has been a profound reconfiguration of the "advanced" societies over the last quarter century, radically changing the nature of and interrelations between economic, social and political systems. While this has taken different forms in different countries (in say Sweden or Denmark compared with the UK or the US), there have been similar basic changes. Rising economic and social inequality is affecting the configuration of classes; fragmenting the "old" pattern of political involvement via stable parties with high trust in politicians, and participation through voting and party membership, as well as civic culture; and leading to low participation, low party membership, as well as populist ("radical right" and "radical left") parties, and low trust in political systems. These developments have been prompted in large part by technological change which has caused the collapse of stable employment in key sectors and which has brought with it a generation of winners and losers, shaped by differential access to higher education and other avenues towards skill-acquisition as well as by broader vectors of power and social norms. The polarisation between winners and losers has in turn prompted a reconfiguration of class affiliations and a realignment of political preferences, leading to a reconfiguration

in many countries of party politics and new forms of democratic organisation and participation.

Our work will advance the existing scholarship on advanced countries, while also asking what the advanced democracies can learn from scholarship on developing countries of the global South. Here, analogous changes have been felt in economies such as Brazil, South Africa and Taiwan, while global geo-political and technological forces underlying the growth in inequalities in the advanced democracies have been shaped by distinctive institutional and political dynamics, with consequences for inequalities both within and between countries. Our work will also examine the role that new inequalities in the resources, skills and connections related to fast-changing media and information infrastructures play in reproducing or potentially challenging deep-seated inequalities.

## In what ways does inequality matter?

*The social impact of inequality: understanding how we live with inequalities*

Economic inequalities and their production also have to be understood in terms of the experience of both winners and losers; how do material inequalities affect status inequalities, and vice versa? People's lived experiences of inequality – whether socio-economic, gender, ethnicity or other forms of inequality – have implications for their experiences, incentives, motivations and sense of self. And these implications have far-reaching effects upon social, political and economic life. Our research agenda will encompass ethnographic and other studies which seek to understand the changing impact of inequalities on lived experience in different parts of the world. Current projects include the impact of time inequalities in India and the impact of economic, ethnic and spatial inequalities on levels of violence and social disorganisation/fragmentation in both the US and South America.

## What can be done about inequalities?

Our final question is whether inequality is inevitable, and what might mitigate or curtail it? We pose this question mindful of the significance of the kind of wealth and inheritance effects which Thomas Piketty has emphasised will generate increasing levels of inequality as those with most wealth will tend to disproportionately accumulate more in the future. We are also mindful of the way that cultural and social capital can re-inforce the inheritance of economic inequalities, possibly reinforced by new forms of social and economic differentiation based on automated data collection and data processing. Information technologies with zero marginal costs and huge returns to scale, along with robotisation, is likely to drive trends into the future, with possible implications in rewards to different kinds of skills, and the generation of huge geographical differences between economies in different parts of the globe. We see geographical reinforcement processes also tending towards the reproduction of inequality.

Our research in this area will have a strong comparative and international focus, examining why it is that some systems appear to produce higher levels of inequality; asking why high levels of inequality appear to be so readily tolerated in many areas; and analysing the implications of this understanding for the possibilities for countering inequality in particular contexts, through coalition-building of various kinds and the development of policy instruments such as taxation, wage regulation and the instantiation of rights.

# Atlantic Fellows programme

The ILL is thrilled to house the Atlantic Fellows programme in Economic and Social Equity, which is empowering a new generation to advance fairer, healthier, more inclusive societies. The 20-year Atlantic Fellows programme at the ILL is created with a grant of £64.4m (\$91m) from The Atlantic Philanthropies. This is the largest philanthropic donation in LSE's history, and we admit our first cohort of Fellows in summer 2017.

This ambitious programme designed to build a global community of leaders dedicated to changing policy, practice and public dialogue around inequalities has been developed by the International Inequalities Institute. The 20-year fellowship initiative will train the next generation of leaders seeking to influence and facilitate changes in global policy and practice to enable greater equality, opportunity and outcomes for all. It is expected that well over 600 Atlantic Fellows will be developed across geographic and disciplinary boundaries over the duration of the programme.

Atlantic Fellows will be **dynamic emerging leaders – activists, artists, journalists, health professionals, entrepreneurs, researchers, teachers, lawyers and others** – with innovative ideas and the courage, conviction and capacity to bring lasting improvements to their communities and the world. Fellows **work together across disciplines and borders** to tackle some of the today's most pressing issues: systemic inequality and racial equity; barriers to full participation in democracy; and major health challenges such as dementia and a lack of access to care. The programme has been designed with the flexibility to offer different levels of engagement in order to create and continue to support an international community of diverse multidisciplinary and action-oriented leaders.

Participants will follow one of three tracks – residential at LSE over a full year; non-residential for periods over 12-18 months; and a visiting fellows programme for senior academics and practitioners to work together at LSE in teams to combine research and practical knowledge to respond to key challenges.

All Fellows will be supported by a group of expert mentors drawn from LSE faculty and collaborating academic and civil society organisations, including the **University of Cape Town Poverty and Inequality Initiative**, led by Professor Alan Hirsch, Director of UCT's Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP). Recognising that academic training in this field is meaningless if not applied, the GSDPP's teaching staff includes practitioners with deep, high-level experience in the public sector, versed in dealing with real-world problems of policy development. The school also promotes co-operation between leaders in government and other fields such as academia, business and civil society.

Completing Fellows will become part of a **network with continuing collective and individual support** from both the LSE programme team and the Atlantic Institute, which is being established to connect The Atlantic Philanthropies' comprehensive, multi-year global initiatives to promote leadership in social-economic, health and racial equity.

Mike Savage is acting as Interim Academic Director of the programme in 2016-17. Verity Treadwell started as Executive Assistant to the programme from October 2016.

The application process for Atlantic Fellows is opening in November 2016. Further information will become available in the coming months. Please visit our dedicated AFp website for further details of the Fellowship schemes, and how to apply:

[lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/AFp/people.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/AFp/people.aspx)





# Partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation:

## investigating the empirical evidence for causal links between inequality and poverty

This research aims to review the relationships between inequalities of various kinds and poverty. It will investigate areas such as the consequences of living in an unequal society for the lives of those in poverty; how people's prospects of social mobility are affected if parental resources are unequally distributed between families; the links between poverty, inequality and geographical and neighbourhood segregation; how inequality affects risks of poverty for different groups, such as by ethnicity, gender, disability and migration status; and the political and attitudinal effects of inequality for support (or otherwise) for effective collective action against poverty. There are four main parts to the 3-year programme of research:

1. Exploring the conceptual issues
2. Extending the evidence base
3. Understanding the mechanisms
4. Analysing policy responses

The programme is based in the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at LSE and the ILL. The programme will be interdisciplinary, drawing on the expertise of colleagues across the International Inequalities Institute at LSE and beyond, including in economics, sociology, political science, geography and social policy.

Within the Institute, the Programme supports the 3-year appointment of Aaron Reeves as Associate Professorial Research Fellow in Poverty and Inequality. His research has looked at four main topics: the legal determinants of HIV among sex workers; the economic returns to symbolic resources; the political determinants of health inequalities; and the determinants of sanctions across the UK. The box describes the results of the last of these projects.

### Are sanctions higher in local authorities where more JSA claimants are disabled and lone parents?

In 2015, a Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Select Committee heard evidence from frontline agencies documenting how sanctions disproportionately affect vulnerable groups, concluding that intensified conditionality has led to "some vulnerable individuals... being 'set up to fail'". One of the problems with the current system of conditionality and sanctions is that JSA claimants are assumed to be able to meet the Claimant Commitment. Yet, academics and frontline services have expressed concern that these new expectations are, at times, incongruent with the capabilities of some JSA claimants, particularly among those who were disabled or lone parents. Data from the DWP suggests many believed at least some of the actions in their Claimant Commitment did not "take account of personal circumstances" and were not "achievable".

Similarly, two thirds of single parents were not aware there were "flexibilities" that can allow the jobseeker to tailor conditionalities to their circumstances; and many single parents do not receive the support they believe they need. Sanctions may be penalising people who are - in many cases - unable, not unwilling, to meet these new norms. As a result, the obligations of this new citizen, created by this policy instrument, may disadvantage some groups of individuals more than others, removing the financial protections offered to those who have a different set of capabilities.

We test these questions by bringing together data on claimant characteristics at the LA level and sanction rates across England.

Using longitudinal, cross-local authority regression models, we find that sanction rates are higher in areas where there are more disabled and lone parent JSA claimants. These relationships remain stable even after we adjust our regression models for the age distribution of claimants, their ethnicity, and the background economic conditions, such as unemployment rates and the number of vacancies advertised at the local job centre.

Moreover, we observe that the relationship between sanctions rates and both the number of disabled and lone parent claimants increases after the reforms to the Work Programme and Claimant Commitment were introduced. This suggests that claimants living with a disability or who are lone parents are more likely to be sanctioned after these reforms were implemented. The Work and Pensions Select Committee's report on sanctions observed that the conditionality regime may have inadvertently set up some vulnerable groups to fail. We have found that sanction rates are highest in areas where more claimants are disabled or lone parents (i.e. groups that are potentially less able to comply with welfare conditions), suggesting the procedures of conditionality may be biased against those who are already at risk of social exclusion.

Taken together, these papers illuminate how policy and legal structures can exacerbate inequalities by disadvantaging particular groups. They suggest that the links between poverty and inequality are embedded within institutional rules that mean accessing resources is harder for some groups than others.

Reeves, A. and Loopstra, R., forthcoming, 'Set up to fail'? How welfare conditionality undermines citizenship for vulnerable groups, Social Policy and Society [http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/67724/1/Reeves\\_Set%20up%20to%20fail\\_2016.pdf](http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/67724/1/Reeves_Set%20up%20to%20fail_2016.pdf)

Other recent articles by Aaron Reeves include:

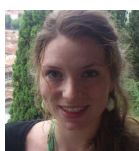
Reeves et al., forthcoming, Public pensions and unmet medical need among older people: cross-national analysis of 16 European countries, 2004-2010, Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health



# Leverhulme Trust Doctoral Scholarships and Leverhulme Programme at III

The Leverhulme Trust has awarded LSE 15 doctoral scholarships worth £1 million for students to undertake interdisciplinary research on “the challenge of escalating inequalities”. The first four studentships were awarded in 2015, with a further five awarded for start in September 2016. A further six will be awarded to start in September 2017. The students are based in LSE Departments but are associated with III through the Leverhulme Programme, an interdisciplinary seminar programme with a small group of other doctoral students from across the School studying aspects of inequalities. The overarching aim of the Programme is to increase our understanding of the mechanisms that link the economic dimensions of inequality with their social, cultural and political dimensions at the global level through a series of taught seminars and discussions.

## 2015-16 recipients



**Kristina Kolbe** is based in the Department of Sociology. In her PhD project, Kristina looks at newly arising forms of cultural expression, production and consumption in contemporary urban spheres in light of an increasing sociocultural diversity. More specifically, her research focuses on emerging forms of cultural capital, aiming to examine the role of diversified settings for processes of cultural and social representation, exploring in particular the reformation of cosmopolitan urban elites.



**Fabian Mushövel** is based in the European Institute. In his thesis, Fabian analyses how austerity policies affect inequality in Europe. His other research interests include the political economy of the welfare state and the Economic and Monetary Union.



**Nora Ratzmann** is based in the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion and the Department of Social Policy. Her research examines EU migrants’ (in)equalities of access to German social security, with a particular focus on their interactions with the street-level bureaucracy.

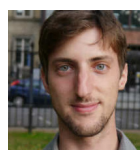


**Sandhya Fuchs** is a Leverhulme award doctoral student at the Social Anthropology Department.

## 2016-17 recipients



**Imani G. Strong** is based in the Department of Anthropology. Her research is focused on African-American entrepreneurship and affirmative action programs in the United States. She is especially interested in the social and political processes surrounding network and community formation, the role of the state and government intervention on capitalist markets, and racial identity as it relates to class and sociality.



**Joel Suss** is based in the department of Social Policy and CASE research centre. He will be researching the consequences of economic inequality for individual behavior and decision-making.



**George Maier** is based in the Department of Media and Communications. He is researching the causality of digital inequalities, but also with a focus on government policymaking and problematising the contemporary focus on neoliberal approaches to addressing inequality.



**Emma Taylor** is based in the Department of Sociology. Her PhD research seeks to investigate how the (re)production of privilege occurs within an independent school setting in England through a specific focus on the concept of confidence. The study will explore how *confidence* is inculcated as well as the ways in which it is articulated and embodied by students.



**Selena Gray** is based in the Department of Sociology. Her PhD research seeks to investigate how some groups of adolescent girls become vulnerable to victimisation within gangs with a particular focus on street gangs and grooming gangs.

# 2015-16 Thomas Piketty PhD Masterclass

Thomas Piketty was a Centennial Professor of the International Inequalities Institute at LSE for the 2015-16 academic year and held a masterclass for fifteen PhD students who had already started their research. Teaching was led by Thomas Piketty, supported by Laura Bear (Anthropology), John Hills, Mike Savage and other colleagues involved in the International Inequalities Institute. Three of the Masterclass projects were chosen to be presented at the International Inequalities Institute annual conference 2016 introduced by Thomas Piketty and Mike Savage:

**Katharina Hecht** Perceptions of top incomes and wealth at the top end of the distributions

**Sutanuka Roy** Affirmative action policy in scholarship design: evidence from India

**Rebecca Simson** Africa's middle class of the public service? Public employment and pay in Kenya and Tanzania since independence

Working papers based on their work will be published by the Institute in 2016-17.

## Katharina Hecht, Perceptions of top incomes and wealth at the top end of the distributions

This PhD thesis investigates how top incomes and wealth in the UK are perceived by individuals situated at the top end of the income and wealth distributions. The research findings, based on a mixed-methods interview study with 30 top income earners complemented by analysis of data from the World Wealth and Income Database, the Great British Class Survey and Understanding Society, provide novel insights into how the rich perceive economic inequality. They show that most participants experience 'relative (dis)advantage': comparative disadvantage resulting from looking up the skewed distribution, mediated by an awareness of advantage compared to the general population. Crucially, wide-ranging upward social comparisons are seen in a positive light; and as a driver to do better economically. This process works through economic evaluation, determined by the market. The market is seen as a rational, neutral instrument; hence rankings appear to be based on objective merit. As a result, economic evaluation not only rationalises and legitimises the unequal distribution of material resources but also drives economic inequality because those at the top are evaluated as being 'the best'.

## Rebecca Simson, Africa's middle class of the public service? Public employment and pay in Kenya and Tanzania since independence

This thesis seeks to address whether the composition of the African middle class has fundamentally changed since independence. In particular, and using the case study countries of Kenya and Tanzania, it examines the role of the public employment in creating and perpetuating the postcolonial middle and upper class. Drawing on administrative data on employment and wages and available household surveys, the preliminary findings challenge the notion of a politically favoured public sector interest group. While public sector employees may have started the postcolonial era as an important share of the middle and upper classes, this share gradually declined. These findings suggest that the economic turbulence of the postcolonial era may have hastened the transition away from an East African middle class dominated by public servants. A larger share of the relatively prosperous Kenyans and Tanzanians are today business owners and employees at banks and in other service jobs. As public sector salary scales tend to be more compressed than in the private sector, a relative decline in public employment may well be driving changes to the income distribution.



# MSc Inequalities and Social Science

We are delighted to host what we believe is the first interdisciplinary Masters course in the world examining issues of inequality. We admitted our first cohort of 18 students in 2015; those studying it full-time have now completed. A second cohort of 20 students started in September 2016. We are hoping to expand the programme for 2017-18, which will include some of those who become Atlantic Fellows, under the residential stream of that programme. More information about how to apply is on the Institute's website.

## MSc Aims

The MSc offers a comprehensive and wide-ranging programme which includes expertise from leading academics in the Departments of Sociology, Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Government, Law, Social Policy, Media and Communications, Gender, and Statistics and provides students with state-of-the-art teaching in this area. The programme:

- introduces students to a range of interdisciplinary approaches to the social scientific analysis of inequality
- develops theoretical awareness of different conceptions of the meaning of inequality and its various dimensions
- introduces students to the political economy of inequality and the role of political institutions in combating inequality
- introduces students to different methods for the measurement of inequality, both quantitative and qualitative
- makes students familiar with debates on the causes and consequences of increasing global inequality
- allows students to place issues of inequality in a fully international context
- give students the skills and awareness to go onto conducting research in the area of inequalities

The inter-disciplinary core course for the programme, Social Scientific Analysis of Inequalities, is organised by the III and includes teaching by leading academics from across the School.

[lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/associatedTeaching/Associated-teaching.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/associatedTeaching/Associated-teaching.aspx)



# Research Innovation Fund

Over the last year we have been delighted to run competitions for LSE-based projects which would benefit from pump-priming support, and lead to larger externally funded projects in the future or other increased research activity in the School. Members of all departments and research centres are eligible to apply for these; we hope to hold a further competition in 2017. Those receiving support will be presenting their findings in future III seminars and/or in our working paper series.

## 2015 awards

Seven projects were successful and received funding in round one in 2015 for research taking place in the 2015-16 academic year (in some cases extending into 2016-17). *(In alphabetical order):*

### Decentralized, Democratic Land Management in Kenya: Implications for Land Inequality, Land Security, Land Markets

**Researcher: Professor Catherine Boone, Department of International Development and Government with international partners**

It is almost axiomatic in the international development literature that “democratic decentralization” will mitigate socio-economic inequality, it is assumed to enhance the welfare of the poor through improved governance, better representation, and stronger downward accountability. In Kenya, decentralized land administration should be one of the main mechanisms producing these hoped-for effects. Kenya is a largely agrarian society beset by acute land inequalities, rural poverty, and a bitter history of conflicts over land misallocation and

land grabbing. Kenya's 2010 constitution empowered 47 new counties to take over key aspects of land administration, including public lands oversight, land registry clean-up, and management of “trust lands”. These new structures are slowly coming online, creating a vast new research terrain for scholars interested in the causes of equality and inequality in Kenya and in other developing countries. This project exploits variation in county-level land administration in an effort to identify local level determinants of equity-enhancing outcomes.

### Global Dynamics of Inequality: An Interdisciplinary Examination of the “Decoupling” of the Political and the Economic

**Researchers: Professor Deborah James and Dr Dena Freeman, Department of Anthropology**

The first part of this study is an interdisciplinary historical examination of the relationship between the “political” and the “economic” in Europe from 1700-1970, as both capitalism and democracy developed. The central hypothesis that will be tested and refined is that in the period from 1700-1945 the spheres of political decision-making and of economic activity were largely separate as most people, whether in Europe or the colonies, had no political voice regarding the economic policies that were implemented. It was only in the period from 1945-1970 that the spheres of the political and the economic largely “overlapped” in Europe. In this period there was for the first

time universal suffrage and an economy that centred to a great extent at the national level. It is no coincidence that this is the only time in European history, since the 14th century, that economic inequality has declined. It is hypothesised that the increasing rate of inequality that can be seen developing since 1970 is due to processes that are leading again to the decoupling of the political and the economic. The second part of this research will therefore examine contemporary processes of “decoupling” and explore a number of national and global institutions in which this process takes place, such as national debt management offices and “independent” central banks.

### Income and Health Inequality Aversion: Space, Stability and Determinants

**Researchers: Dr Joan Costa-Font, Department of Social Policy and Professor Frank Cowell, Department of Economics**

This project aims to improve our understanding of individual inequality aversion (IA) in the spaces of both income and health, as well as to assess the stability of IA parameters over time. There are two main sets of research questions: First, what factors determine individual preferences for more equal distributions of income and health? Are there differences between individuals evaluation in both spaces? Second, are IA estimates

stable over time? On determinants we plan to examine the influence of risk and time preferences, more general individual's attitudes to redistribution and the NHS as well as individual characteristics such as their health status, income and wealth, gender and age. We plan to examine evidence from a representative survey of the English population in two periods of time using an innovative elicitation technique.



## Inequality and the Firm

**Researchers: Professors Sandy Pepper and Paul Willman, Department of Management**

The central focus of the proposal is to look at the role of the modern firm in the creation of inequality of income. Specifically, we will examine the growth in the use of asset based rewards for senior executives, combined with continued use of salaried rewards for other employees, and the impact this has on measures of inequality within the firm. This relates the Piketty argument to corporate policies on remuneration; if Piketty is correct that asset values tend to outstrip

GDP then, other things equal, policies that reward one group with assets and others with wages will increase income inequality within the firm over time. We argue that, since employment in firms that use asset based rewards for executives remains a substantial proportion of overall employment, the use of the firm as the unit of analysis for the examination of inequality, whether from a theoretical or policy based point of view, has some merit.

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## Morals or Markets? Understanding Public Discourse on Income Inequality

**Researchers: Dr Patrick McGovern, Department of Sociology and Professor Martin Bauer, Department of Social Psychology**

Despite the increased prominence of income inequality as a subject of mass media interest, we do not have any systematic analysis in either sociology or social psychology as to how the media inform, cultivate ideas and contribute to debates about income inequality. We believe that examining media reporting will contribute towards an understanding of how dramatic rises in income inequality are tolerated on the basis that the media can influence what people think

by shaping what they think about. We will address this gap through an examination of the way that income inequality is framed in mass media discourse, how these frames relate to different social strata, and how the issue of income inequality has evolved over time. We are especially interested in understanding how such inequalities are normalized within Neo-liberal discourse (a term that is also much discussed by little studied) and contested as a moral issue.

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## Patient experiences of hospital care: bringing socio-economic inequality into the analysis

**Researchers: Dr Tania Burchardt and Dr Polly Vizard, Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion**

Concern with patient experience of hospital care has moved up the political and public policy agenda following the Independent and Public Inquiries into Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. However, quantitative analysis of patient experience data remains limited and the evidence base on inequalities even more so. The research is examining how patient experiences of hospital care in England relate to socio-economic inequality. The research findings will extend and deepen a previous study which examined how inequality in patient experiences

of hospital care relate to factors such as gender, age, disability, length of hospital stay, number of wards stayed in, quality and quantity of nursing staff, and hospital trust. Whereas the previous study did not assess the importance of socio-economic inequality as a driver of patient experience, this project the proposed research examines the relationship between patient experiences of hospital care (the outcome variable with which we are concerned) and inequality along the spectrum of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage (as an explanatory variable).

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## Tracking intersecting inequalities in a context of declining income inequality: a case study of Brazil

**Researchers: Professor Naila Kabeer, Professor of Gender and International Development at the Gender Institute and Ricardo Santos, PhD researcher in Economics from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex**

In an influential paper commissioned by the UN-MDG Achievement Fund, Kabeer (2010) used the concept of "intersecting inequalities" to critique the averaging methodology of the MDGs, its preoccupation with income poverty and its failure to acknowledge how progress (or lack thereof) on the different goals was unequally distributed among different socio-economic groups. Using empirical evidence, the paper argued that "it was the socially excluded sections of the poor who are systematically left out or left behind from their countries' progress. For such groups, economic inequalities are compounded by forms of discrimination based on socially devalued identities (race, ethnicity, caste, with

gender cutting across these), locational disadvantage and political disenfranchisement. A follow up paper, subsequently commissioned by the MDG Achievement Fund, drew out policy lessons for addressing intersecting inequalities. Not surprisingly, Brazil featured centrally as a country from which lessons could be drawn. While income inequality remains high, it has experienced steady reductions in income inequality, particularly since 2001, giving rise to a literature seeking to offer explanations. What is less well documented is how those at the intersection of income and other inequalities have fared in relation to key capabilities over this period and why. This is what this project is exploring.

## 2016 awards

Seven projects were successful and received funding in round two. (In alphabetical order):

### De-industrialisation through the lens of working class women

**Researcher: Dr Lisa Mckenzie, Department of Sociology**

This research continues the work started by the Great British Class Survey through examining the lens of working class post-industrial women's lives and identities. Since the slow process of Britain's de-industrialisation began in the early 1970's to its almost conclusion in the 1990s traditional working class identities have viewed problematically in the British psyche. This research focusses on women's industrial- and consequently post-industrial- identities which are often overlooked. The research is being undertaken in a small town in North Nottinghamshire. Once a busy and industrious place, by early 1990s all of the coal mines were closed, and by the early 2000s all of its textile factories had closed. The researcher will undertake an

intense ethnographic project living in the town for two months. The methodology will include in-depth interviews with women aged 18 and over in order to speak to those women that worked in the factories, and whose husbands, fathers, brothers and boyfriends were miners, to the younger women in the town who have not known this type of employment security, or working class identity based on industrialised work. The aims of the research are to begin to unravel the complicated politics, and what could be seen as a nostalgic collective grief, focusing on the narrative that emerges through the visual and the interviews with the women of the town.

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### Network effects in digital exclusion: Social contextual explanations of the links between social and digital inequalities

**Researcher: Professor Ellen Helsper, Department of Media and Communications**

This is a digital age; most aspects of our lives have online parallels, both positive and negative. An established negative relation is the replication and even exacerbation of forms of inequalities through inequalities in digital resources. Currently digital inequalities are theorised and researched referring to access, different ICT related skills, types of engagement, and the tangible outcomes of this use. The From Digital Skills to Tangible Outcomes (DiSTO) project on which this research builds, has developed a conceptual framework and measures around these resources. Two aspects still remain undertheorised and

underresearched: motivations for (dis)engagement and the impact of everyday social contexts on the acquisition of digital resources. This study develops a theoretical model and empirical instruments around motivational factors and relates these to network effects. Qualitative and quantitative comparative research will be conducted in London and Los Angeles. These cities show high levels of traditional inequalities but differ in terms of the homogeneity of their neighbourhood, making them ideal to examine differential network effects.

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### Private renting and social landlords: how does this expanding sector help address homelessness and vulnerability, insecurity and other signs of deep inequality?

**Researcher: Professor Anne Power, LSE Housing and Communities**

Private renting is growing extremely fast, faster than any other tenure. It has recently overtaken social housing in numbers of households accommodated, and totals over 5 million units. It increasingly houses low-income families who are unable to access social housing; it also houses large numbers of vulnerable single and formerly homeless people, as well as many younger households on modest incomes who cannot access social renting or owner occupation. This project will examine both the problems and potential of private renting in tackling homelessness, unaffordability, insecurity and poor conditions, by involving social landlords. It will directly address inequality in access

to, and ability to pay for, a decent home. It will collect and disseminate previously hard-to-access and disparate information on private renting, drawing on evidence from social and private landlords, practical examples and models that tackle homelessness, insecurity, affordability and quality. An objective is to strengthen the policy focus on private renting, highlighting its value, challenges and opportunities in tackling homelessness, insecurity and affordability. The project will inform government, professional housing bodies leading housing associations, private landlord bodies, accreditation and licensing bodies, tenants' and residents' organisations.

## Private tutoring and its implications for inequality: what can England learn from South Korean attempts to regulate “shadow education”?

**Researcher: Professor Sonia Exley, Department of Social Policy**

Private tutoring is a phenomenon which has been growing significantly among more affluent groups in England over the last decade and it poses a real risk of undermining social policy efforts towards equalising opportunities in childhood through public social investment. Governments in England have to date shied away from imposing any clear regulations on the country's growing “shadow education”, but they may have much to learn from a country such as South Korea. Pioneering measures aiming to regulate and disincentivise such markets which have been tested in the “critical case” of South Korea will

be explored and evaluated with a view to considering their specific relevance for England. The project will explore government policy responses in South Korea to major inequality implications posed by vast private tutoring (supplementary or “shadow” education) markets which have become endemic in East Asia. The project will examine how far South Korea and England may be converging over time in terms of societal expectations about what should be “public” and “private” in the financing, delivery and regulation of education. It seeks to explain possible convergence and explore implications for inequality.

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## The Effects of Welfare Programs on Formal Labour Markets in Middle-Income Countries: Evidence from Conditional Cash Transfer Programs in Brazil

**Researcher: Professor Joana Naritomi, Department of International Development**

Latin America remains the most unequal region of the world (Tsounta and Osueke, 2014). Welfare programs, such as Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs), have expanded widely in the region in the past 15 years and have been credited for a sizable reduction in poverty rates (Soares et al., 2009). Yet, potential unintended consequences on labour markets have spurred a heated political debate over the future of these programs. There is a concern - similar to the debate about welfare programs in richer countries - that they create substantial efficiency costs by lowering incentives to work, particularly in the formal sector

as many programs condition continued eligibility on observed or reported income levels. This project will use unique data to provide new evidence on the partial and general equilibrium effects of welfare programs on formal labour markets in Brazil. Our results on equilibrium wages will also provide new evidence on indirect effects of welfare programs on wage inequality in the formal sector. The study, therefore, will contribute to the academic literature and inform the debate on the future of a key policy instrument to reduce income inequality in middle-income countries.

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## The role of capital income, capital gains and their taxation in the development of UK income inequality – feasibility study

**Researcher: Dr Abigail McKnight, of the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion**

This research seeks to understand how capital income and capital gains have contributed to trends in UK income inequality and the role of taxation in shaping these trends. Many studies have documented changes to UK income inequality but very little is known about the role of capital income and capital gains in shaping these trends. Previous studies have shown that those on higher incomes are most likely to receive income from capital and the composition of income among this group fluctuates over time and appears to be sensitive to tax policy incentives. Tax policy in relation to wealth, particularly capital gains is topical and a number of changes have been introduced in

recent years. It will use the rich underutilised administrative data made available through the HMRC Datalab. The advantage of these data over household survey data is their good coverage of high income individuals. However, income is computed at a personal level rather than the more conventional household level and individuals without tax liabilities are under-represented as is capital income and capital gains that are not liable for tax. This research will compare the statistics with other data sources conducting a feasibility study linking HMRC data series and the production of descriptive statistic to assess the data series in terms of quality and validity.

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## US Investors as Exporters of the “Winner-Take-All” Economy

**Researcher: Professor Jonathan Hopkin, Department of Government**

Recent scholarly work has effectively drawn public attention on the stark increases in top incomes and the concentration of wealth during the period of globalisation. A crucial aspect of the phenomenon, are the significant cross-national differences that have accompanied such trends. The increases in average salaries (and share of national income) of the top one percent from 1960s – 2000s have been particularly sharp in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Norway or Australia, but were much more moderate (or even decreased) in most other advanced economies including Switzerland, France, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Denmark. To explain such differences, previous scholarship has highlighted the role of corporatist institutions in reducing pressures to increase executive pay, but it remains largely silent on the question of the source of these pressures.

This research will challenge the notion that this is an exogenous “common trend” or an “inherent law” of capitalist development, and argues that it is primarily an outcome of political decisions that were taken in the USA in the 1970s and 1980s that led to the adoption of executive remuneration practices, which were subsequently exported to other advanced economies through the operations abroad of US multinational companies and institutional investors. It proposes that national levels of executive remuneration depend not only on the configuration of corporatist institutions in an economy, but also the degree of exposure to US investors.



## Inequality: What can be done?

30 April 2015



Speaker: Professor Sir Tony Atkinson

Discussants: Tom Clark (The Guardian) and Professor Baroness Lister

Chair: Nicholas Stern (IG Patel Chair of Economics and Government)

Professor Sir Tony Atkinson presented key findings from his new book, *Inequality: What is to be done?*, arguing that present levels of inequality are not inevitable and that there are concrete measures to be taken to tackle inequality. Discussing Professor Atkinson's ideas at this event were Guardian journalist Tom Clark and Baroness Lister, Emeritus Professor of Social Policy at Loughborough University. A podcast of Professor Atkinson's presentation is available at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Atkinson.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Atkinson.aspx)

## Inequality in the 21st Century Conference with Thomas Piketty

11 May 2015



An all-day conference with speakers including Professors David Soskice, Wendy Carlin, Naila Kabeer, Stephanie Sequino, Bob Rowthorn, Gareth Jones, Mike Savage, John Hills, Julia Black and Tony Atkinson. The conference was the official launch of the III, consisting of four sessions: 1) Economics, Political Economy and Democracy; 2) Gender and Everyday Life; 3) Accumulation and Timespaces of Class; and 4) The Policy Implications. A video recording of the conference can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/21\\_conf.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/21_conf.aspx)

## The Great Divide with Joseph E. Stiglitz

19 May 2015



Speaker: Joseph Stiglitz (Columbia Business School and winner of the Nobel Prize for Economics 2001)

Chair: John Hills (International Inequalities Institute, LSE)

Joseph Stiglitz talked about his new book, *The Great Divide*, expanding on the diagnosis he offered in *The Price of Inequality*. He suggested ways to counter the growing problem of rising inequality in the Western world. A video recording of the event can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Stiglitz.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Stiglitz.aspx)

## Elites and Urban Dynamics: New Perspectives Conference

22 July 2015

An all-day conference with speakers including Will Davies, Rowland Atkinson, Roger Burrows, Luna Glucksberg, Caroline Knowles, David Rhodes, Daniel Laurison, Sam Friedman, Charis Thompson, Hang Kei Ho, Simon Parker, Richard Webber, John Hills, Tania Burchardt, Tim Butler, Niall Cunningham and Mike Savage. The conference consisted of three sessions: 1) The resurgence of elite sociology; 2) Urbanism and wealth; 3) New agendas and future research. Presentation slides are available at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Elites\\_conf.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/Elites_conf.aspx)

## Too Many Children Left Behind

21 October 2015

Speaker: Jane Waldfogel (Columbia University)

Discussant: Dr Lee Elliot Major (Chief Executive of the Sutton Trust)

Jane Waldfogel presented her work as part of a team of social scientists who compared educational outcomes and their link to family socio-economic status across the English speaking world. Their striking findings included that much inequality is present before children start school, and in some areas widens during school. She presented key policy recommendations to reduce the gap and increase achievement. A video recording of the event can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/TMCLB.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/TMCLB.aspx)

## Social Class in the 21st Century

2 November 2015



Speakers: Mike Savage, Niall Cunningham, Fiona Devine, Sam Friedman, Daniel Laurison, Lisa McKenzie, Andrew Mile, Helene Snee, Paul Wakeling.

In the context of social class having re-emerged as a topic of enormous scholarly and public attention, Mike Savage and the team of sociologist responsible for the *Great British Class Survey* discussed their findings and proposed a new way of thinking about social class in Britain today. They argued that while the class war was over the new politics of class are only just beginning. The event also saw the launch of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Poverty and Inequalities Programme. A podcast of the event is available at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/class.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/class.aspx)

## Standing Out: Transgender Candidates Around the World

4 November 2015

Speakers: Bemz Benedito (founding member and chairperson for the Ang Ladlad Party in the Philippines); Logan Casey (doctoral candidate in the University of Michigan's Department of Political Science); Andrew Reynolds (Director of the LGBTQ Representation and Rights Research Initiative and Professor of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).

At this event, transgender candidates from around the world shared their experience of politics and elections, and academics discussed how increased visibility increases acceptance.

## Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City

21 March 2016



Speaker: Matthew Desmond

Chair: Dr Michael McQuarrie (LSE Department of Sociology)

MacArthur "Genius" award winning ethnographer Matthew Desmond spoke about his investigation into the low-income rental market and eviction in privately owned housing, and argued it is a cause, not just a symptom, of poverty. He explored how struggling families survive and how entrenched poverty and racial inequality are built and sustained by housing policies in large cities. A podcast of the event can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/evicted.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/evicted.aspx)

## International Inequalities Institute Annual Conference 2016

25 May 2016



A full-day conference to discuss inequality held at Friends House, London. Speakers included Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw (UCLA and Columbia School of Law), Professor Nicola Lacey (LSE), Professor Kim Weeden (Cornell Univ), Professor Stephen Jenkins (LSE), Dr Facundo Alvaredo (Paris School of Economics and Oxford University) and Professor Thomas Piketty (LSE Visiting Professor, Paris HSE). Discussants included Professor Murray Leibbrandt (University of Cape Town), Professor Catherine Boone (LSE), Professor John Hills (LSE), Deborah Hargreaves (High Pay Centre) and Professor David Soskice (LSE). Video recordings of the conference can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/conf16.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/conf16.aspx)



## Challenging Inequalities

25 May 2016

Speakers: Shami Chakrabarti (former Director of Liberty and author of *On Liberty*), Duncan Green (Senior Strategic Advisor at Oxfam GB and author of *From Poverty to Power: How Active Citizens and Effective States can Change the World*), and Phumeza Mlungwana (General Secretary of the Social Justice Coalition, South Africa).

Chair: Craig Calhoun (Director, LSE)

This public debate discussed different approaches to challenging inequality across the globe. A video recording of the event is available at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/challenging.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/challenging.aspx)

## 2016 APPAM International Conference

13 and 14 June 2016

The Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management 2016 conference *Inequalities: Addressing the Growing Challenge for Policymakers Worldwide* was held at the International Inequalities Institute. This international conference gathered policy researchers and analysts from around the globe to share the latest research and knowledge on the pressing challenge of inequality. Links to video recordings and student coverage of the event can be found at [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/APPAM.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/events/Podcasts/APPAM.aspx)

## Michaelmas Term 2016 events

### Public lectures

#### **Taxing the Rich: a history of fiscal fairness in the United States and Europe**

Speaker: Professor David Stasavage (New York University)

#### **Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report 2016**

Speaker: Anthony Shorrocks (Director, Global Economic Perspectives; Senior Research Fellow, World Institute of Development Economics Research)

#### **Success and Luck: good fortune and the myth of meritocracy**

Speaker: Professor Robert H Frank (Cornell University)

### Inequalities seminar series

#### **Top Incomes and the Gender Divide**

Speaker: Dr Sarah Voitchovsky (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva) and Professor Alessandra Casarico (Bocconi)

#### **The Organizational Production of Earnings Inequalities**

Speaker: Professor Donald Tomaskovic-Devey (UMASS)

#### **The Strength of Weak Performance: A Relational Theory of Executive Pay**

Speaker: Professor Thomas A DiPrete (Columbia University)

#### **Redefining Support for Redistribution: Preferences for Reducing Economic Inequality in the US and Sweden**

Speaker: Professor Leslie McCall (Northwestern University)



# Publications

## Working Papers

### Working Paper 1: An Interview with Thomas Piketty

by **Mike Savage**

III Co-director Mike Savage's interview focuses on Thomas Piketty's future intellectual plans after *Capital* in the 21st Century. Includes insights into Piketty's views of new elites, social class, Bourdieu and Marx.

### Working Paper 2: Inequality: what can be done?

by **Tony Atkinson**

Economic inequality has become centre stage in the political debate, but what the political leaders have not said is what they would do about it. In this Working Paper, Tony Atkinson seeks to show what could be done to reduce the extent of inequality if we are serious about that objective.

### Working Paper 3: European Identity and Redistributive Preferences

by **Joan Costa-Font and Frank Cowell**

Did the introduction of the Euro change public preferences for redistribution? This Working Paper examines how the emergence of a European identity impacts support for poverty reduction policies.

### Working Paper 4: The challenge of measuring UK wealth inequality

by **Facundo Alvaredo, Anthony B. Atkinson and Salvatore Morelli**

The concentration of personal wealth is now receiving a great deal of attention as an important part of understanding rising income inequality. But how can we measure the wealth of the super-rich? This Working Paper looks at the challenges of understanding the assets of the top 1% and 0.1%.

### Working Paper 5: Top incomes and the gender divide

by **Tony Atkinson, Alessandra Casarico and Sarah Voitchovsky**

In the recent research on top incomes, there has been little discussion of gender. How many of the top 1 and 10% are women? A great deal is known about gender differentials in earnings, but how far does this carry over into the distribution of total incomes, bringing self-employment and capital income into the picture? This paper investigates the gender divide at the top of the income distribution using tax record data for a sample of 8 countries with individual taxation.

### Working Paper 6: The measurement of health inequalities: does status matter?

by **Joan Costa-Font and Frank A. Cowell**

This paper examines several status concepts to examine self-assessed health inequality using the sample of world countries contained in the World Health Survey. The authors also perform correlation and regression analysis on the determinants of inequality estimates assuming an arbitrary cardinalisation. The findings indicate major heterogeneity in health inequality estimates depending on the status approach, distributional-sensitivity parameter and measure adopted. The authors find evidence that pure health inequalities vary with median health status alongside measures of government quality.

### Working paper 7: Gendering the elites: an ethnographic approach to elite women's lives and the re-production of inequality

by **Luna Glucksberg**

This paper argues that the process by which accumulated capital is socialized and passed down the generations of the "super-rich" is gendered in nature, heavily reliant on women, and currently under-researched. The author addresses this gap ethnographically, focusing on the gendered labour that women perform to sustain and reproduce the dynastic projects of elite families. In light of this data, elite London emerges as a social space structured around strong hierarchies not just of class but also gender. The paper concludes that it is essential to understand more about the interplay of these two structuring principles within elite spaces, focusing on the "invisible" labour performed by elite women.

## LSE Inequalities Publications Portal

As well as the papers we publish ourselves, the portal on our website gives links to research about inequality from across the LSE, indexed according to the main thematic focus. [lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/publications/lsepubs.aspx](https://lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities/publications/lsepubs.aspx)

# Staff 2016

## Co-Directors



### Professor John Hills

**Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy, LSE.**

John Hills is former Director of the LSE's Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) having stepped down after over 17 years; he remains as Chair of the research centre. His research interests include income distribution and the welfare state, social security, housing and taxation. His latest books are *Good Times, Bad Times: the welfare myth of them and us* and *Social Policy in a Cold Climate* (coedited with Ruth Lupton and others, 2016).



### Professor Mike Savage

**Martin White Professor of Sociology, LSE.**

Mike Savage is Professor of Sociology and previously Head of the Department of Sociology at LSE. His research focuses principally on social inequality, with a particular interest in social stratification and inequality. In 2013 he led the research for the BBC's The Great British Class Survey. Savage is a Fellow of the British Academy and was the founding Director of CRESC (the ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change) at the University of Manchester (2002-10) and Director of the York European Centre for Cultural Sociology at the University of York (2010- 12). His book with Sam Friedman et al *Social class in the 21st century* was published in 2015.

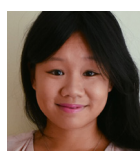
## Institute Manager



### Liza Ryan

Liza Ryan manages the International Inequalities Institute having previously co-ordinated the Europe – Russia – Ukraine Relations working group of the Dahrendorf Forum at LSE IDEAS. She graduated from University College London School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies (SSEES) in "Russian and Soviet Studies" and completed her Masters in MSc "Economics of Rural Change" at Imperial College at Wye.

## Institute Assistant



### Billie Elmqvist Thuren

Billie Elmqvist Thuren holds a BSc in International Relations from LSE and recently completed an MSc in Development Management at LSE, during which she carried out an external consultancy project for Transparency International, investigating the potential of income and asset disclosure of high-level politicians as an anti-corruption strategy in low-income countries.



## Research Staff



### Dr Aaron Reeves

#### Associate Professorial Research Fellow in Poverty and Inequality

Aaron Reeves' research is focused on understanding the causes and consequences of social, economic, and cultural inequality across countries. He is a sociologist with interests in public health, culture, and political economy; examining inequality through a number of different lenses and using a variety of methods. To date, his work has broadly been in three areas: 1) the political economy of health, 2) the political and cultural consequences of the mass media, and 3) the cultural politics of class.

His research on the political economy of health has used natural experiments to understand whether poverty reduction policies affect health and alter health inequalities. Relatedly, he has published on the influence of the Great Recession and austerity policies on health in Europe and North America. His research on the media has begun tracing the economic, social, and political factors linked with attitudes toward people in poverty and the welfare state, with a specific focus on how the media shapes these narratives. Finally, Aaron has used interview data, small-scale experiments, and large-scale surveys, to explore the cultural politics of class, examining how social inequalities are linked with economic inequalities.

Prior to joining the LSE III, Aaron was Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Sociology at Oxford University – where he was also a research fellow at Nuffield college – and has worked briefly at the University of Cambridge. He completed his PhD (2013) in Applied Social and Economic Research with the Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex.



### Dr Luna Glucksberg

#### Researcher

Luna Glucksberg is an urban anthropologist looking at socio-economic stratification in contemporary British society. Her current work focuses on the reproduction of wealth amongst elites in the UK, considering the roles of two key and so far under-researched actors: family offices and women.

Luna's work attempts to understand how wealth is passed down the generations: the relationships and tensions between family values and financial viability, and issues around inheritance. She looks at the roles of the wealth sector, asset managers, private banks and fund managers but also at the family offices that specifically look after family dynamics as well as financial affairs. Within this context the role of elite women – highly educated, competent and driven – in producing and reproducing their families is a key concern in her work.

Prior to joining the LSE III, Luna gained her degree from UCL and PhD from Goldsmiths, University of London. She then joined the Centre for Urban and Community Research (CUCR) as a Research Associate at Goldsmiths, where she maintains a Fellowship.

## David Hope



#### Researcher

David Hope is a political scientist who works on the comparative political economy of advanced democracies. His specific areas of interest include growth models, macroeconomic imbalances, inequality and redistribution, and electoral politics. David's current research agenda uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods to explore two prominent empirical phenomena in the field of inequality. The first phenomenon is the pervasive decline in labour's share of national income in advanced democracies since the 1980s. His work on this topic attempts to (i) unpack the part played by political-economic institutions and government policies in the decline; and (ii) estimate the effect of the decline on various aspects of political preferences. The second phenomenon is the persistence of differences in household income inequality across advanced democracies. His work on this topic aims to map out the complex set of interrelationships between the distribution of income, national growth models, varieties of capitalism and political systems. Prior to joining the LSE III, David gained his degree in Economics from UCL and his masters in Economics from the LSE. He recently completed his PhD in Political Science with the Department of Government at the LSE. During his academic studies, David also spent time working as a research officer on Wendy Carlin and David Soskice's *Macroeconomics: Institutions, Instability and the Financial System* (2015, OUP) and as Economics Editor for the Curriculum in Open-access Resources in Economics (CORE) project.

# Management Committee



**Professor Laura Bear**

Department of Anthropology



**Professor Nick Couldry**

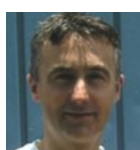
Professor of Media, Communications and Social Theory  
Department of Media and Communications



**Professor Frank Cowell**

Professor of Economics  
Department of Economics, CASE, STICERD

**Professor John Hills** – see previous pages



**Professor Gareth Jones**

Professor of Urban Geography  
Department of Geography and Environment



**Professor Nicola Lacey**

School Professor of Law  
Department of Law and International Inequalities Institute



**Professor Diane Perrons**

Professor of Economic Geography and Gender Studies  
Director, Gender Institute

**Dr Aaron Reeves** – see previous pages

**Professor Mike Savage** – see previous pages



**Professor David Soskice**

Professor of Political Science and Economics  
Department of Government

# Associate members

Our associate members are faculty members across the LSE who are carrying out research into inequality. Please get in touch if you are an LSE colleague and would like to be involved as an Associate member of the Ill.

## Dr Fabien Accominotti

Department of Sociology

## Dr Tania Burchardt

Department of Social Policy and Deputy Director, Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion.

## Professor Cathy Campbell

Department of Social Psychology and Behavioural Sciences

## Dr Joan Costa-Font

Department of Social Policy

## Dr Sam Friedman

Department of Sociology

## Professor Ian Gough

Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion.

## Dr Ellen J Helsper

Department of Media and Communications

## Dr Jonathan Hopkin

Department of Government

## Dr Armine Ishkanian

Department of Social Policy

## Professor Gareth Jones

Department of Geography and Environment

## Professor Naila Kabeer

Gender Institute

## Dr Neil Lee

Department of Geography and Environment

## Dr Grace London

Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), Department of Social Policy, LSE Health

## Dr Patrick McGovern

Department of Sociology

## Dr Lisa Mckenzie

Department of Sociology

## Dr Abigail McKnight

Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion

## Dr Joana Naritomi

Department of International Development

## Professor Anne Phillips

Department of Government

## Dr Ricardo Santos

Gender Institute

## Dr Alpa Shah

Department of Anthropology

## Dr Waltraud Schelkle

European Institute

## Dr Hyun Bang Shin

Department of Geography and Environment

## Professor Fiona Steele

Department of Statistics

## Professor Michael Storper

Department of Geography and Environment

## Dr Polly Vizard

Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion

## Related research centres

Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE)

<http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/case/>

Centre for Economic Performance (CEP)

<http://cep.lse.ac.uk/>

Centre for the Study of Human Rights

[lse.ac.uk/humanRights/home.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/humanRights/home.aspx)

Department of Anthropology Research Unit in Inequality and Poverty

[lse.ac.uk/anthropology/research/Inequality-and-Poverty/Home.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/anthropology/research/Inequality-and-Poverty/Home.aspx)

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

[lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/](http://lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/)

LSE Cities

<https://lsecities.net/>

LSE Health and Social Care

[lse.ac.uk/LSEHealthAndSocialCare/home.aspx](http://lse.ac.uk/LSEHealthAndSocialCare/home.aspx)

# Advisory Board

## External board members



**Dame Nicola Brewer** is Vice-Provost (International) at UCL, responsible for UCL's Global Engagement Strategy: London's Global University working with partners to achieve fair solutions to global challenges.



**Professor Wendy Carlin** is Professor of Economics at University College London (UCL) and Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR). Her research focuses on macroeconomics, institutions and economic performance, and the economics of transition.



**Aditya Chakraborty** is senior economics commentator for The Guardian. An alumnus of St Hugh's College, Oxford, he was previously a senior producer for Newsnight and the Ten O'Clock News, and an economics producer working with Evan Davis.



### **The Hon. Dame Linda Dobbs**

Following a successful career at the Bar, in October 2004, Dame Linda became the first non-white high court judge in the UK. At the Bar she was a member of, and chaired, a number of different committees, including the Race Relations, Equal Opportunities, Professional Conduct and Professional Standard Committees.



**James Holston** is Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, where he is also founding co-director of the Social Apps Lab and co-director of Global Metropolitan Studies. He is a political anthropologist whose work focuses on the worldwide insurgence of democratic citizenships, especially urban citizenship and right-to-the-city movements.



**Professor Brian Nolan** (Chair of the Board) is Director of INET's Employment, Equity and Growth Programme and Professor of Social Policy at the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford. His main areas of research are income inequality, poverty, and the economics of social policy.

## Internal board members



**Stephan Chambers** took up the post of inaugural director of the Marshall Institute at LSE in May 2016. The Marshall Institute is committed to increasing the impact of private contributions to public benefit through teaching, research, and convening.



### **Professor Stephen Machin**

is Research Director, Centre for Economic Performance; Professor of Economics, University College London Professor of Economics at University College. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and the Society of Labor Economists. His current research interests include inequality, education and crime, and the interactions between them.



### **Professor Linda Mulcahy**

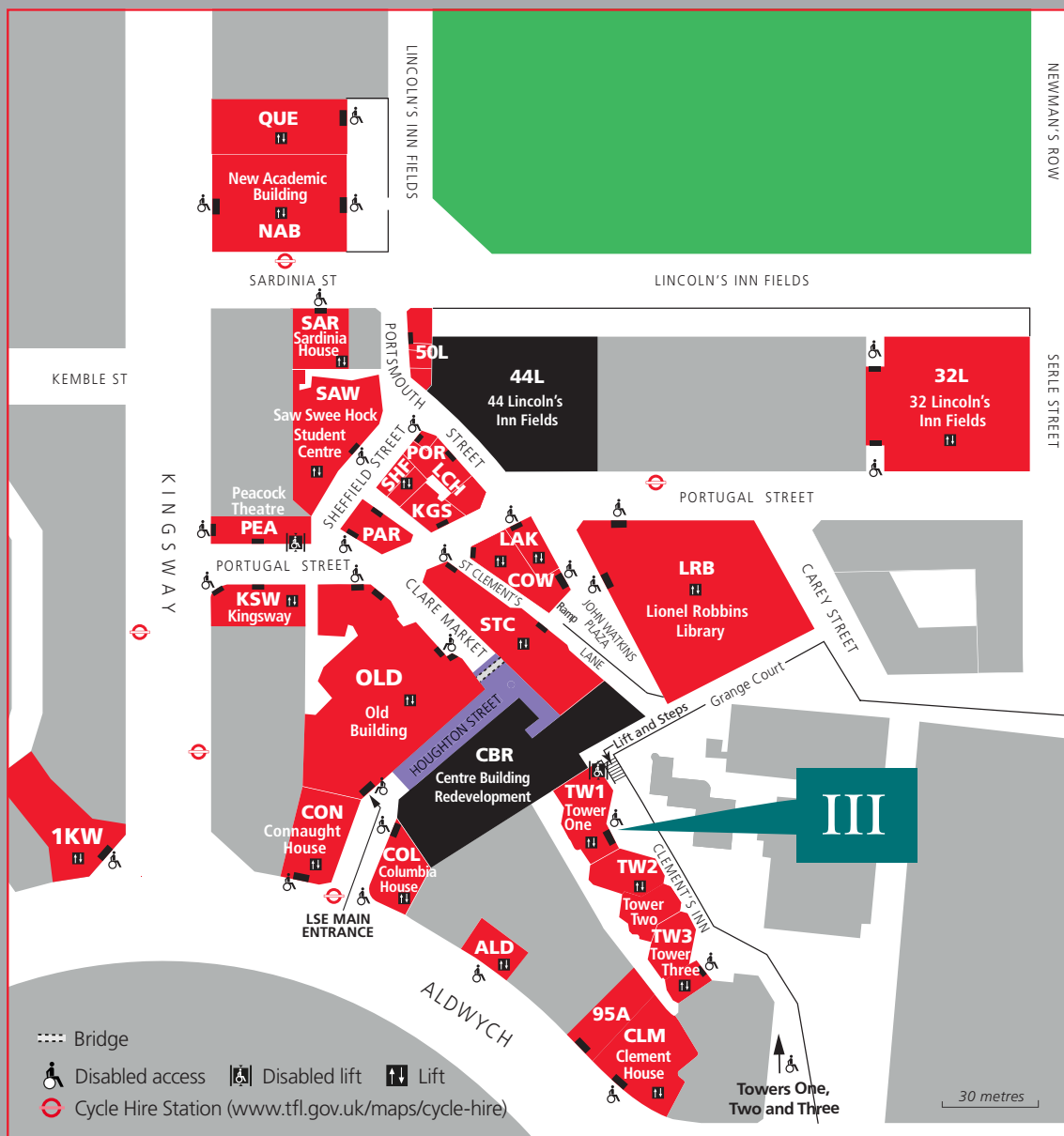
joined the Law Department at LSE in 2010. Her research focuses on disputes and their resolution and she has studied the socio-legal dynamics of disputes in a number of contexts including the car distribution industry, NHS, divorce, public sector complaints systems and judicial review.



### **Professor Naila Kabeer**

is Professor of Gender and Development at the Gender Institute, LSE. Prior to this, she was Professor of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at London University, and Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex to which she is still associated as an Emeritus Fellow.

## How to find us



- LSE buildings ■ No access ■ LSE redevelopment sites

- |            |  |            |                                     |            |   |            |  |
|------------|--|------------|-------------------------------------|------------|---|------------|--|
| <b>95A</b> | 95 Aldwych, Aldwych                          | <b>1KW</b> | 1 Kingsway                          | <b>LRB</b> | Lionel Robbins Building, Library and LSE Research Lab | <b>SAR</b> | Sardinia House, Dentist, Sardinia Street |
| <b>CBR</b> | Centre Building<br>Redevelopment (2015-2019) | <b>KSW</b> | 20 Kingsway                         | <b>NAB</b> | New Academic Building, Lincoln's Inn Fields           | <b>SAW</b> | Saw Swee Hock Student Centre             |
| <b>ALD</b> | Aldwych House, Aldwych                       | <b>LAK</b> | Lakatos Building, Portugal Street   | <b>OLD</b> | Old Building, Houghton Street                         | <b>SHF</b> | Sheffield Street                         |
| <b>CLM</b> | Clement House, Aldwych                       | <b>LCH</b> | Lincoln Chambers, Portsmouth Street | <b>PAR</b> | Parish Hall, Sheffield Street                         | <b>STC</b> | St Clement's, Clare Market               |
| <b>COL</b> | Columbia House, Aldwych                      | <b>5LF</b> | 5 Lincoln's Inn Fields              | <b>PEA</b> | Peacock Theatre, Portugal Street                      | <b>TW1</b> | Tower One, Clement's Inn                 |
| <b>CON</b> | Connaught House, Aldwych                     | <b>32L</b> | 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields             | <b>POR</b> | 1 Portsmouth Street                                   | <b>TW2</b> | Tower Two, Clement's Inn                 |
| <b>COW</b> | Cowdray House, Portugal Street               | <b>44L</b> | 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields (2017-2020) | <b>QUE</b> | Queens House, Lincoln's Inn Fields                    | <b>TW3</b> | Tower Three, Clement's Inn               |
| <b>KGS</b> | King's Chambers, Portugal Street             | <b>50L</b> | 50 Lincoln's Inn Fields             |            |   |            |  |

## Disabled access

After 6.30pm, please call Security Control on 020 7955 6200 to ensure the disabled access doors are open.



International  
Inequalities Institute

This information can be made available in alternative formats, on request. Please contact: Liza Ryan, [e.ryan@lse.ac.uk](mailto:e.ryan@lse.ac.uk)

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