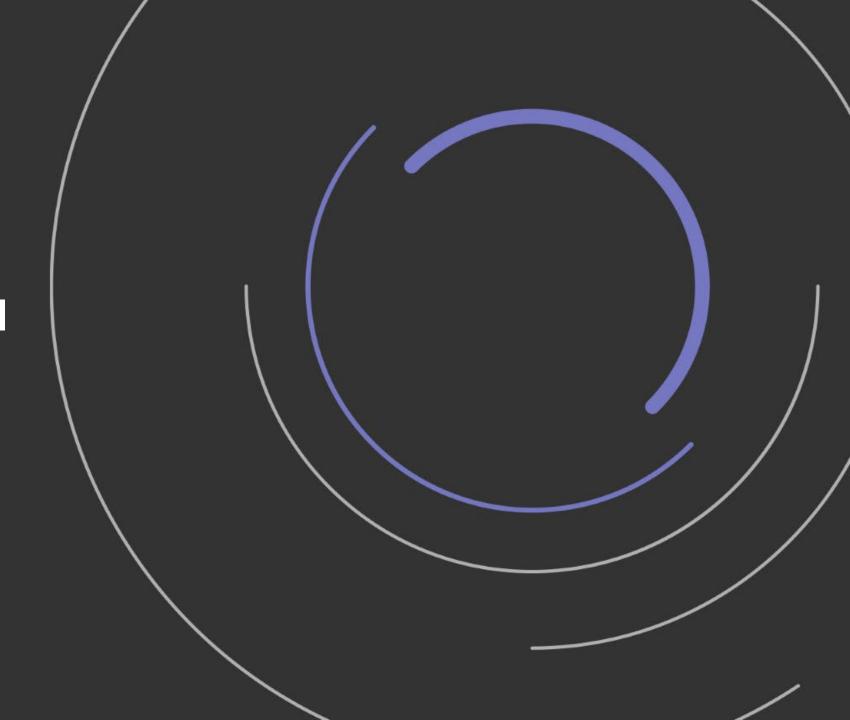


Springboard or Lifebelt? Universal Basic Capital vs Universal Basic income

Beveridge 2.0

29 Jan 2019



Assets and Outcomes

Evidence from US and UK longitudinal studies that individuals who own assets, when compared with those who do not, have:

- Better health
- Lower mortality
- Higher marital stability
- Less domestic violence
- Better educational outcomes for children
- Higher savings when children become adults

Source: Kelly and Lissauer (2000)





Assets and Life Course

Asset holding at 23 has strong links with:

- Time spent in full time employment between 22-33 for men and women
- Earnings at age 33 for men
- Health of men and women at 33

Links remain even when income, class and personality type controlled for.

Source: Bynner and Despotidou (2001)





Recent UBC schemes

UK

- Le Grand (1989, 1991, 2000). £10,000 at age 18, funded by inheritance tax
- Institute for Public Policy Research (2000). A 'baby bond': £1000 grant at birth funded from general taxation.
- IPPR Commission on Economic Justice (2018): £10,000 at age 25
- UK Child Trust Fund

US et al

- Ackerman and Alstott (1999). \$80,000 at age 21 funded from wealth tax.
- US Presidential candidates (Clinton 2008, Booker 2019)
- Le Grand and Carvallo (2008) EU 'Bambini bond'. €1000 grant at birth. €1500 for low income families.
- Italy, Hungary, France, Canada, Singapore have all proposed or have actually introduced schemes





UK Child Trust Fund(2002-2011)

Every child at birth received a grant of £250 to set up an account. All types of accounts available: shares, savings, sharia etc

Children from disadvantaged families or with a disability received a further £250.

At age 7 parents received a further voucher of £250 or £500. Children in care a further £100 on top

Parents, grandparents, friends and children could save up to £1200 into account. Income from account tax free.

Account available for use when child reaches 18. No restrictions on use.

Financial help and education available





Views of Parents in Deprived Areas

- Approved of the policy
- Preferred it to be spent on CTF than on education or child benefit
- Supported the fact that it was 'locked away'
- Supported its universalism. Didn't like the means-tested addition (the poor)
- Encouraged them and others to save
- Mixed views about restrictions on use





CTF effectiveness

- Every child born between Sept 2002 and December 2010 has a CTF
- 74% opened by parents, rest by government.
- £3 billion in accounts by 2010
- One third of households received extra payments
- £289 added to each CTF per year on average
- In 2009/10, 12% of 'extra payment households' CTFs were topped up by £181 on average.

Wealth accumulation

- Basic grant invested at average UK savings account interest rates 2003-2008, 2009-2020, no savings: £710.
- Basic grant invested in stock market plus £24 per month saved: £9,700.
- In 2021....?



UBI?

