STI

Social Trends Institute
FOSTERING UNDERSTANDING

STI is an independent, non-profit research center that offers institutional and financial support to academics in all fields who seek to make sense of emerging social trends and their effects on human communities.
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Message from the President</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities 2004-2017</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experts Meetings 2017</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Activities</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications 2017</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications 2004 - 2017</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights 2017</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is my pleasure to present the Social Trends Institute’s 2017 Annual Report. It was a productive year, with contributions in several areas of study.

2017’s three Experts Meetings reflected STI’s commitment to interdisciplinary and international research, and to forming alliances with prestigious institutions of knowledge.

*Family Inequality: Causes and Consequences in Europe and the Americas* was held in Rome at the Roma Tre University. This family branch meeting took up where last year’s *Money vs. Marriage* debate in New York left off. It began with a session open to university students, faculty and press, presenting the latest *World Family Map* data to the public.

There were two civil society meetings. *Cultural Diversity and International Order* brought scholars from four continents and five disciplines to Barcelona to examine how cultural and political change might affect modern international order. In June, STI collaborated with the University of Edinburgh, holding the *Visualizing Peace* Experts Meeting on the Scottish campus. Scholars, photographers and journalists reflected on how images impact conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

Many STI collaborators shared their work through STI’s newsletter and social media, which expanded their reach in 2017. And four publications came out in 2017: two from Experts Meetings, and two from STI’s continued investment in the World Family Map project.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, the second group of students began their Master’s Degree in Social Science Research at the University of Navarra supported by STI grants.

These results encourage STI’s organization and supporters to continue to work to foster understanding of current global social realities and challenges.

The Social Trends Institute is grateful for its collaborators’ scholarly contributions and for the generosity of its international donors.
Activities 2004-2017

413 experts from some 175 institutions in 24 countries have participated in 37 experts meetings and 4 graduate seminars, resulting in 42 publications.
Visualizing Peace: Photography, Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding

Edinburgh, UK | June 14-16, 2017

Photographic images are powerful means of communication that can be used to inform and shape perceptions. This responsibility should be exercised with care, especially in documenting situations of strife.

How things look and how they are perceived are not superficial issues. They are relevant not only to fomenting and depicting conflict, but also to creating, sustaining and even rebuilding civil society.

Photographic images are part of the infrastructure of civil society. The digitization of these images has further extended their reach, ubiquity and in many cases significance. They are a vital means of communication, connecting communities to one another within and across national boundaries. Photography is thus an essential part of the process of building bridges in post-conflict societies.

Photography permeates all aspects of peace-building work, from the process of reintegrating combatants and the efforts to rebuild city space, social networks and legal systems, to initiatives aimed at fostering dialogue and attaining sustainable justice.

Providing interdisciplinary and international perspectives on the question of photography and conflict transformation, this initiative addresses salient and influential cultural trends. Experts addressed vital questions of identity construction, collective memory and imagined futures in the creation and maintenance of civil societies.

“Photographs have not only been vital in depicting and in some cases fomenting conflict, but have also played a part in creating, sustaining and rebuilding civil society.”

Jolyon Mitchell
Principal Inquiries

The capacity of photographs to intervene and contribute to social relationships that transform conflicts and reconcile communities represents a crucial facet of peace-building work in the image-saturated world of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. To explore this capacity, the meeting addressed the following discussion questions:

• What are the markers of ‘peace photography’ and to what extent does it exist as a genre?
• In what ways can ‘moral imagination’ or ‘civil imagination’ be stimulated to action by photographic reportage?
• What motivates photographers, curators and editors to convey narratives of peace and not just stories of war?
• Have changes in the medium of photography (wrought by technology as well as by creative artists) enhanced or diminished its potential for peace-building?
• How far does the digital afterlife of iconic images reveal or suggest movements in society towards peace and conflict transformation?
• How is photography used therapeutically by groups recovering from conflict to move towards healing and reconciliation?
• How have civilians, protestors and terrorists engaged with and created visual material to achieve public visibility for a given people or cause as part of contemporary cycles of conflict and conflict transformation? And in the light of the uses of such photography, how far is it necessary to rethink notions of the public sphere to meet the challenges of contemporary peace-building?
• Given increasing reference to ‘humanitarian wars’ and the deployment of military personnel to fulfill a ‘responsibility to protect,’ should we review rigid distinctions between conflict and peace, especially as represented through photography? To what extent is a fuzzy or flexible understanding of the uses of photography required to acknowledge the complexity of security issues and peace-building work in the twenty-first century?
Jolyon Mitchell
University of Edinburgh

“Photographic images have come to play a significant role in forming and shaping the way in which human beings perceive, understand and act in the world.”

Stuart Allan
Cardiff University

“An examination of ‘humanitarian photography’ helps to illuminate important issues for efforts to secure a conceptual – and strategic – protocol for peace photography.”

Tom Allbeson
Swansea University

“The shift in photojournalism of the Vietnam era was not simply a shift in perspective on modern warfare; it was also a shift in publishing norms and political commitments.”

Heide Fehrenbach
Northern Illinois University

“To what extent did visual deployment of the figure of the civilian (including civilian suffering and imagery of the body) come to structure the polemics of peace in the era of colonial and world war?”

Astrid Jamar
University of Edinburgh

“Peacebuilding is a non-linear process that occurs in multiple temporalities within the everyday.”
What are the consequences of the impulse to document trauma as central to peace building? What normative values does attention to trauma invoke?

Photography is a useful lens to illustrate how peacebuilding is taking place through diverse and unstructured processes.

Photographs do not explain the world to us but offer us an emotional apprehension of the world represented.

What are the consequences of the impulse to document trauma as central to peace building? What normative values does attention to trauma invoke?

Photographs do not explain the world to us but offer us an emotional apprehension of the world represented.

Much peace photography represents attempts to re-envision society after a catastrophic conflict, and seeks to foster social relationships, transform conflicts and reconcile communities.

Photographers have collaborated with institutions and humanitarian organizations to produce visually led campaigns designed to raise awareness of the dangers of genocide.

“Historians have overlooked the politics of the visual, treating photographs as unproblematic illustrations of events, preventing accurate assessment of the ways that photography positively impacts society.”

Laura S. Martin
University of Edinburgh

Liam Kennedy
University College Dublin

Wendy Kozol
Oberlin College

Jonathan Long
Durham University

Paul Lowe
University of the Arts London

Pippa Oldfield
Durham University
Chairs and respondents

Sharon Sliwinski
Western University

“The collective social imagination prefers fantasy images to truthful recreations of reality.”

Jennifer Wallace
University of Cambridge

“What is the relationship between the tragic event, the literary notion of tragedy and what might be termed the tragic photograph?”

Frank Möller
University of Tampere

“Postmemory suggests that the ‘generation after’ remembers the experiences of the preceding generation so deeply that these experiences seem to constitute memories in their own right.”

Christine Bell
University of Edinburgh

“My interests lie in the interface between constitutional and international law, and gender and conflict, with a particular interest in peace processes and their agreements.”

Alison Elliot
University of Edinburgh

“In the kind of university we dream about, people have time to think and to spark off each other and stretch and deepen our understanding of human achievements and endeavors.”

Mathilde Bertrand
Université Bordeaux Montaigne

“How some images circulated is indicative of the strength of activist networks. The iconicity of certain images gave them particular strength as visual tropes in generating support.”
Agata Fijalkowski  
Lancaster University  

Mihaela Mihai  
University of Edinburgh  
“I am interested in political emotions, political judgment, the politics of memory, art and politics, gender, and theories of oppression.”

Katy Parry  
University of Leeds  
“I research war and media; photojournalism and visual culture; visual media activism, political communications and election coverage; and political culture across media genres.”

Geoffrey Stevenson  
University of Edinburgh  
“I studied philosophy and theology at Oxford, then trained as an actor and mime artist. I teach homiletics and media literacy at the University of Edinburgh where I am an Honorary Fellow.”

Susan St. Ville  
University of Notre Dame  
“My research and clinical interests focus on trauma healing, gender issues in war and peace, and the psychological effects of violence.”

Kate Wright  
University of Edinburgh  
“My research sits at the intersection of media, activism and global governance, with a particular emphasis on constructions of Africa.”
Family Inequality: Causes and Consequences in Europe and the Americas

Rome, Italy | February 16-18, 2017

Why are families increasingly unequal throughout North America and Europe, the college-educated being much more likely to get and stay married, while the less-educated face higher levels of singleness, family instability, and single parenthood?

The steady rise in income inequality in advanced and developing economies has become a clear and persistent fact for most societies during the early 21st century. With this growth in inequality has come increasing concern over the fraying of the social fabric that often emerges when the gap between rich and poor widens and political and economic power becomes concentrated in the hands of a select few. As a result, many policymakers have moved inequality to the top of their agendas, arguing for a range of measures designed to promote economic mobility at the bottom of the income ladder, as well as others to address the growing power of economic and political elites at the top.

An implicit assumption in many of these policy responses is that the causes of inequality are primarily economic in nature, and hence require primarily economic solutions. But while it is true that economic trends like globalization have exacerbated the inequality problem, it is too often the case that matters of family structure have been largely ignored in this debate.

“There is reasonable consensus on the facts and that there are social/cultural and economic arguments.”
Andrew Cherlin
Principal Inquiries

These questions were addressed, among others:

- How does growing family inequality and the retreat from marriage fuel economic inequality and hinder growth in countries across the West?

- Why has there been a “retreat” from marriage among poor and working-class citizens? How has this retreat widened the gap between rich and poor?

- How has the concentration of poverty in households headed by a single parent with children stifled upward mobility for the poor and working class?

- What percentage of the growing gap between rich and poor since 1980 can be attributed to the decline in the number of two-parent households?

- Is the connection between higher income inequality and single-parent households stronger or weaker depending upon country of origin?

- Has the rise in co-habitation as a substitute for marriage led to different causal results when it comes to its relationship with income inequality?

- Is there a connection between family instability and declining birthrates that could further exacerbate income inequality in the future?

- What public policies and civic initiatives can bridge this family divide?

- What kind of public campaigns would raise awareness about this family divide?

Academic Leaders

Naomi Cahn
George Washington University

“Economic and cultural changes interact; viewing them as independent of each other is neither necessary nor sustainable.”

June Carbone
University of Minnesota

“Changes in family structure may be connected to economic inequality, both as a consequence and as a cause of this inequality.”
Nicholas Eberstadt
American Enterprise Institute
“The long-term decline of work for prime age men in modern America has coincided with the long-term decline of the married two-parent family structure.”

Albert Esteve
Center for Demographic Studies
“In Latin America, early union formation and childbearing, cohabitation, single motherhood, and union dissolution are more common among women with low education.”

Marcia J. Carlson
University of Wisconsin-Madison
“Only within the past decade or so has there been growing awareness of the extent to which changes in family demography are unfolding unevenly by socioeconomic status.”

Laurie DeRose
University of Maryland
“Working class and poor families face higher levels of family instability and single parenthood, and lower levels of relationship quality.”

Speakers

Anna Garriga
Pompeu Fabra University
“The effects of parental divorce and growing up in a single mother family are not lower in countries and time periods that have more favorable conditions for these children.”

Andrew J. Cherlin
Johns Hopkins University
“Economic conditions are not all powerful. The changes in family formation would not have happened had the Western world not seen a great shift in attitudes toward marriage and cohabitation.”

W. Bradford Wilcox
University of Virginia
“Strong families deepen men’s connection to the workforce, boost family income and assets and foster better educational and labor force outcomes for children and young adults.”
Frances Goldscheider  
University of Maryland  
“In the long run, preferences adapt to structure. As structures have changed, there have been drastic changes in gender role attitudes.”

Lynn Prince-Cooke  
University of Bath  
“Education predicts much more than economic outcomes—even in the United States—that also have a bearing on family commitment and stability.”

Brienna Perrelli-Harris  
University of Southampton  
“We need to support the development of a culture that is pro-family without being anti-modern. Responsible childbearing, committed parenting, stable families: these are not antiquated ideas.”

Richard Reeves  
Center on Children & Families  
“Discussions on how family structures can impact on the intergenerational transmission of poverty are crucial.”

Joseph P. Price  
Brigham Young University  
“Children from intact, married families are more likely to acquire the human capital they need to thrive in today’s marketplace.”

Reynaldo Rivera  
Intermedia Social Innovation  
“Discussion on how family structures can impact on the intergenerational transmission of poverty are crucial.”
Cultural Diversity and International Order
Barcelona, Spain | March 30-April 1, 2017

The modern international order is undergoing far-reaching change. Power is shifting: horizontally to non-Western great powers, and vertically to non-state actors.

This transformation is not just about power: it is about culture. Shifting configurations of power are entwined with new articulations of cultural difference. Rising powers such as China and India bring their own cultural values, practices, and histories. And new forms of transnational non-state violence are being justified in the name of religion.

The dominant way that international relations scholars think about culture and international order assumes that orders emerge in unitary cultural contexts—‘the West,’ for example—and that diversity is corrosive of order. Yet these views are contradicted by key insights from anthropology, cultural studies, political theory, and sociology, and also by a wave of new histories of past orders. This research tells us that there is no such thing as a unitary cultural context—all cultures are highly variegated, riven with contradictions, loosely integrated, and deeply interpenetrated—and that international orders, including the modern, have historically evolved in heterogeneous cultural contexts, and that managing or governing diversity has been a crucial imperative of order building.

The dominant view is countered by liberal pluralists who think that the institutions of the modern order are a unique solution to the problem of cultural diversity. Some argue that sovereignty allows states of different cultural backgrounds and political purposes to coexist; others hold that the institutions of the post-1945 liberal international order give diverse states ‘opportunities for status, authority, and a share in the governance of the order’. Yet in both versions culture is assumed to matter only at the origins of an order, but then it disappears, institutionally washed out. Might it not be a more permeating force?

“International orders can’t arise out of unitary cultural contexts, as no such contexts have ever existed.”
Christian Reus Smit
Principal Inquiries

• Can culture be defined, and if so how?
• How should we conceive cultural diversity? Is diversity the same as heterogeneity?
• If culture is always heterogeneous and interpenetrated, what gives it form?
• Can we speak of ‘cultures’ or only ‘cultural phenomena’?
• How should we define international order/s?
• Are international orders necessarily made up of sovereign states, or can they take different forms: suzerain, imperial, heterogeneous?
• How have historical, and historiographical, assumptions conditioned current debates about cultural diversity, power, and international order?
• How do new histories of the modern international order challenge such debates?
• What new histories of other international orders, such as the Ottoman and Chinese, tell us about the relationship between cultural diversity, power, and international order?
• Is a comparative history of cultural diversity and international order possible, and what would the contours of such a history be?
• What implications do the insights of new histories, and the potential of a comparative history, have for theorizing international order?
• Can the essentialist and pluralist positions be sustained in the face of such knowledge?
• Given our discussions, what might the contours of an alternative perspective on cultural diversity and international order be?
• If present debates are so flawed, what implications does an alternative view have for these debates?
• What does an alternative view tell us about the resilience of the current order?
• From an alternative standpoint, what are the principal challenges facing the contemporary order, and how can a peaceful and just order be sustained?
“Understanding how new expressions of cultural difference, entangled with new axes of power, will affect the modern order is one of the most urgent challenges facing contemporary world politics.”

“I am interested in the dialectical, transnational process of how states assessed the probability that the Jewish community could become integrated into the body politics, and how these communities responded.”

“International orders are like ecosystems: they are the fundamental context in which states and peoples, like individual species, flourish or decline.”

“A more formal concept of law and sovereignty creates an order open to wider diversity between legal subjects.”
Ellen Berrey
University of Toronto
“The international order exists, in part, through the discourses, politics, and institutional actions of people who live within sovereign states.”

Maria Birnbaum
University of Oslo
“The prevailing idea of cultures as compartmentalized units able to influence or threaten each other furthers the idea of diversity as a threat to order and stability.”

Victoria Tin-bor Hui
University of Notre Dame
“If Asia Pacific is hardly pacific today, why do we presume that the region was the paragon of peace and prosperity in history?”

Andrew Hurrell
University of Oxford
“What does the power of global capitalist modernity mean for the shifting role of cultural diversity?”
“Many transnational institutions operate on the model of the regulatory state, seeking to stabilize and sustain a global market, but also to counterbalance powerful global economic actors.”
“Culture’ is commonly invoked in debates over gender equality, as a way to interpret differences and to marshal action.”

“It could be argued that all of the current problems of the Republic of Turkey are a consequence of its inability to deal with cultural diversity, providing a stark contrast to the Ottoman Empire.”

“My research interests lie at the intersection of IR theory, political theory and history, and particularly in the relationships between international politics and ideas about freedom and security.”

“What does the crisis of world heritage tell us about other international regimes that hinge on universalist, apolitical framings of their central concerns?”
Other Activities

Master’s Grants in Social Science Research
University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

STI is committed to supporting international university programs in human and social sciences, sponsoring and fostering the development of young scholars who work with recognized academic experts in their fields.

The Social Trends Institute Grants for Master’s in Social Science Research (MICS in their Spanish acronym) have supported seven young scholars’ Master’s studies during the 2016-2017 and the 2017-2018 academic years.

Program director Ana Marta González describes it like this:
We live in an age of rapid social change. Many other ages have had the same sensation. But going beyond feeling to thinking, in order to better understand one’s own time, and to better direct one’s own actions – bringing understanding to realms often marked by rupture and division – has always required special effort. Reflexive effort is not always fruitful on its face. Only people and institutions especially committed to knowledge undertake it.

The Social Trends Institute’s motto is ‘fostering understanding.’ Its dedication to preparing new generations of researchers interested in and devoted to social realities – like the candidates for the Master’s in Social Science Research at the University of Navarra, comes as no surprise, then. The aim of this Master’s program, in which professors who have collaborated with STI in Experts Meetings participate, is to offer students from diverse cultural and disciplinary backgrounds the sociological categories and methodological tools to carry out rigorous research in specific areas of social life, especially in those areas that have been of interest to the Social Trends Institute from its outset.

“By offering these grants, STI is able to identify young students with great potential to share in STI objectives and activities, developing and discussing those themes in a relevant and responsible way:”

Ana Marta González
Class of 2016-2017

**Mª José Benítez**
Maria José Benítez studied how violence in El Salvador has changed family structure and how public policy can better support family units.

**Marta Castillo**
Through her research project, she analyzed whether divorce provokes social inequalities. Her work is based on the conviction that the family is the seedbed of sociability.

**Mª Fernanda Novoa**
The magazine *Dígitos* selected her Master’s thesis, titled ”Femininity in Family Sitcoms: Representation and Stereotypes”, for the II Pre-Doctoral Research Prize.

**Pablo Quiñonero**
Quiñonero focused his Master’s in Social Science Research on the hermeneutic analysis of globalization’s effect on audiovisual narratives.

Class of 2017-2018

**Teresa Isabel Espinel**
Espinel, who has an undergraduate degree in music, is writing her Master’s thesis on the impact of music education on social cohesion and inclusion.

**Gabriela Pilar García**
García, a psychologist, is researching the relationship between family structure and the resilience of adolescents living in poverty in Peru, Mexico and Spain.

**Regina Guzmán**
Guzmán plans to conduct a comparative analysis among women university professors, considering the ideals they harbor and the realities they face.

**Marta Castillo**
Through her research project, she analyzed whether divorce provokes social inequalities. Her work is based on the conviction that the family is the seedbed of sociability.

**Mª Fernanda Novoa**
The magazine *Dígitos* selected her Master’s thesis, titled ”Femininity in Family Sitcoms: Representation and Stereotypes”, for the II Pre-Doctoral Research Prize.

**Pablo Quiñonero**
Quiñonero focused his Master’s in Social Science Research on the hermeneutic analysis of globalization’s effect on audiovisual narratives.
Global Finance on Screen: From Wall Street to Side Street

Routledge

Finance film reconstructs for the screen and for broader audiences finance’s logics, responsibilities, practices, and ethos, and traces the effects of money, markets, investment, credit, debt, bubbles, and crashes on our well-being, desires, values, and actions.

This is the first collection exclusively dedicated to a growing body of multi-format and multimedia audiovisual work that this book designates as the finance film. The genre provides critical visualizations of the secretive, elitist, PR firewalled, and gender- and race-biased world of finance, and its mysterious characters, jargon and products.

The chapters for this interdisciplinary collection are written by European and North American scholars in film studies, anthropology, business ethics, cultural studies, political economy, and sociology. They reveal and evaluate the ability of film to document financial cultures; reflect economic, cultural and political transformations related to financialization; indicate the alienating and exploitative consequences of the growing role played by financial services in the global economy; mobilize social action against finance’s excesses, and spread finance and capitalist mythology. The collection offers in-depth investigations of feature films such as Wall Street, Downfall, Margin Call, Justice&CO, The Wolf of Wall Street, and The Big Short, and documentaries such as Inside Job.


Experts related to the publication

Robert Burgoyne, Pablo Castrillo, Pablo Echart, Ignacio Ferrero, Karen Ho, Scott Loren, Jens Maesse, Graham Murdock, Constantin Parvulescu, Marta Rocchi, Araceli Rodríguez Mateos.
How humanitarian is humanitarianism? Here it is assessed both in terms of its progressive potential and its potential to collude with relationships of domination. The collection examines the moral dimension of humanitarianism and its sociological value.

Humanitarianism has often been understood by researchers as a moral doctrine that guides the actions of a set group of international organizations and agencies committed to the relief of global human suffering. However, contemporary academic accounts of humanitarianism are being challenged to combat its ‘presentist orientation’ by engaging more critically and analytically in its origins, diversity and current status.

This special issue starts from the premise that the study of modern humanitarianism requires new understanding of our societies and their history. The articles featured are examples of scholarship critically questioning the values, practices and representations of humanitarianism, while also being invested in the effort to re-think and reappraise its meaning and involvement in changing socialities and political aspirations. In each instance the authors attend to many conflicts of interpretation and contestations of value to reveal how these are productive for thought and action.

Experts related to the publication

Michael Barnett, Claire Moon, Peter Stamatov, Iain Wilkinson.
World Family Map 2017: Mapping Family Change and Child Well-being Outcomes

Social Trends Institute

This year’s lead essay “The Cohabitation-Go-Round: Cohabitation and Family Instability across the Globe,” addresses whether the rise in childbearing within cohabitating unions is contributing to instability in children’s lives, concluding that children born to these unions are more likely than children of married parents to see their parents separate.

The rest of the report uses the latest data for 49 countries on 16 indicators of family well-being in four major areas: Family Structure; Family Socioeconomics; Family Process and Family Culture. Family structure considers with whom a child lives, including parents and other family members, and the relationships between them. Graphs chart living arrangements; marriage and cohabitation; total fertility rate; and births outside marriage. Socioeconomics include poverty, undernourishment, parental education and employment, and public benefits for families. Graphs exhibit data on absolute poverty; relative poverty; undernourishment; parental education; parental employment; and public spending on family benefits. Family processes describe how families operate: how family members interact with one another, how often they spend time together, and whether they are satisfied with their family lives. Charts are presented on family satisfaction and views on household income; parental involvement; and family meals. And finally, the family culture indicators monitor national attitudes and values on family issues. They describe the cultural climate in which children grow up. This section graphs attitudes toward voluntary single-motherhood; attitudes about the need for two parents; support for working mothers; and family trust.

W. Bradford Wilcox and Laurie DeRose (eds).

Experts related to the publication
Laurie DeRose, Frances Goldscheider, Reynaldo Rivera, W. Bradford Wilcox.

Publication in Spanish
World Family Map 2017: Mapa de los cambios en la familia y consecuencias en el bienestar infantil
Publications 2004-2017

Family

2005
Social Trends Institute
W. Bradford Wilcox

2006
Witherspoon Institute
Peter Pettigrew and Manfred Spieker

2006
Spence Pub
W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert P. George and Jean Bethke Elshtain

Civil Society

2007
Social Trends Institute
Ana Marta Gonzalez and Laura Bovone

2007
Social Trends Institute

2008
Metropolis Veerlag
Hans Thomas and Johannes Hattler

2008
Witherspoon Institute
Samuel Gregg and James R. Stoner

2008
Prometheus books
Ana Marta Gonzalez and Victor Seidler

2009
Thomson Reuters
Aranzadi
Robert P. George

Cultural & Lifestyles

2007
Matrimonio y bien común
Ana Marta Gonzalez and Laura Bovone

2008
Gender Identities
Ana Marta Gonzalez and Victor Seidler

2009
Imprint Academic
Samuel Gregg and James Stoner

Governance

2006
Die neue Ordnung
W. Bradford Wilcox

2008
Witherspoon Institute
David Forte, Jean Bethke Elshtain, Roger Scruton, Mary Ann Glendon, David Eggebeen, Maria Sophia Aguirre, Robert P. George, Daniel Cere and Hadley Arkes

Bioethics

2008
Le meaning of Marriage
Robert P. George and Christopher Tollefson

2009
Marriage and Public Good
David Forte, Jean Bethke Elshtain, Roger Scruton, Mary Ann Glendon, David Eggebeen, Maria Sophia Aguirre, Robert P. George, Daniel Cere and Hadley Arkes

Family
Civil Society
Cultural & Lifestyles
Governance
Bioethics
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Witherspoon Institute</td>
<td>James R., Jr. Stoner and, Donna M. Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Witherspoon Institute</td>
<td>Mary Eberstadt and Mary Anne Layden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Africa World Press</td>
<td>Ana Marta Gonzalez, Florence Oloo and Laurie DeRose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Springer</td>
<td>Antoine Suarez and Peter Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>B de F</td>
<td>José R. Agustina and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Oxford University Press</td>
<td>Colin Crouch and Camilla MacLean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Social Trends Institute</td>
<td>W. Bradford Wilcox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Witherspoon Institute</td>
<td>Mary Eberstadt and Mary Anne Layden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Witherspoon Institute</td>
<td>Mary Eberstadt and Mary Anne Layden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
<td>Antoine Suarez and Peter Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Berg Publishers</td>
<td>Ana Marta Gonzalez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Social Trends Institute</td>
<td>W. Bradford Wilcox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Imprint Academic</td>
<td>Samuel Gregg and Harold James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Paradigm Publishers</td>
<td>Eric P. Kaufmann and Wilcox W. Bradford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Springer</td>
<td>Antoine Suarez and Peter Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Child Trends</td>
<td>Antoine Suarez and Peter Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Child Trends</td>
<td>Antoine Suarez and Peter Adams</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Will Artificial Intelligence Make the World a Better Place?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications already outperform humans in many tasks. Luciano Floridi reflects on some of the possible consequences of the incursion of new technologies on the status quo. Though we may be just at the beginning of epochal change, he says, we should be prepared rather than fearful. People, societies, businesses and governments will surely find ways to adapt to new circumstances. Artificial Intelligence, after all, is “almost an oxymoron.”

Apt to Be Overlooked

If domestic tasks and direct care were assigned a monetary value, they would constitute between 10% and 39% of Gross Domestic Product, yet they are generally unrecognized and undervalued by policymakers and legislators. Beyond economic contribution, paid and unpaid work has social value with considerable human development implications. Policies should be considered that would assure that this invaluable service does not limit the prosperity of those who provide it.

Truth Seeking, Democracy, and Freedom of Thought and Expression

With freedom of expression under attack at academic institutions and elsewhere, two prominent American public intellectuals – known for taking stances on opposite ends of the ideological spectrum - issued a joint statement calling people to respectfully engage with those who challenge their views. Robbie George and Cornel West pose intellectual humility, openness of mind and love of truth as necessary to maintaining free and democratic societies.
Halal Markets as Sites of Cultural Hybridity: Moral Agency and Public Participation

Turkish scholar Neslihan Cevik expands her work on Muslimism – the brand of Muslim orthodoxy that seeks to formulate a lifestyle in which the individual believer can be incorporated into modern life while holding passionately onto religion – to explain the significance of halal markets. Cevik claims that halal fashion is primarily about providing tools for devout Muslims to participate in spaces and activities heretofore off limits to them.

A Call for Moral Toughness in an Age of Amoral Niceness

The Holy Land Dialogues are an open forum for discussion of different ways of understanding the cultural aspects of modern social challenges. In the first sessions, sponsored by STI, Jewish public intellectual Eric Cohen exhorted all people of faith to work together to reassert the moral high ground of Judeo Christian civilization, citing Jews’ and Christians’ “sacred responsibility, to organize, to mobilize, to never be afraid, and to fight for our own vision of good.”

The Golden Rule as Good Business

For the market economy to function at its best, both in economic and in ethical terms, we must improve the value system and the cultural, legal and institutional frameworks in which it functions. Everyone knows the golden rule – do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Yet we sometimes lose sight of it as we pursue even worthy goals. The First International Conference of Humanist Economics encouraged businesses to get ‘Back to Basics,’ and apply the golden rule within the corporate environment for the benefit of all.

Neslihan Cevik
Eric Cohen
Antonio Argandoña
Why Do We Treat the Disease Instead of the Person? And Why Is Everything a Disease?

Sociologist Joe Davis describes how society developed from a holistic approach to health to first a reductionist and now even a medicalized one. He explains why medicine is ever more reductionist and technical, and why society seems to invite medicine's extension into more and more area of our lives. He identifies disease specificity and treatment specificity as two developments that put an end to holistic thinking in mainstream medicine and turned the focus away from the patient and onto the disease.

International Relations: Anarchy or Hierarchy?

In the modern, international system, states recognize each other as equally sovereign, yet there is no sovereign above the state level. Thus, international relations are often understood to be characterized by anarchy, in which states must protect their own interests. Zarakol's work challenges this perspective, and posits a hierarchical perspective to understanding world politics. She points out that historically, world politics have tended to be hierarchical and identifies social, economic and political hierarchies even within the current system.

Cheap Sex

Regnerus' work provides an overview of modern sexual relationship behavior and decision-making. It explores how contemporary ease of sexual access has made sex “cheap,” and identifies some of the consequences for society. He claims that artificial contraception, Internet pornography and online dating sites are technologies that have altered social structures. In an environment in which sex is readily available at low cost, the incentives to get and stay married are lowered, and the power dynamics between men and women shift.
Robot Ethics Is Not an Oxymoron

“When it comes to the possibilities and consequences of technology, everyone is a stakeholder.” That’s how Coeckelbergh, a philosopher of media and technology frames his appeal to society to take a pro-active approach to the ethics of technology. We should reflect on the potential effects of innovations while they in development. Rather than fearing that technology will take over the world, we should be constructive, so that it enriches human experience.

Economist Alicia Adserà explains the economic factors that determine what might seem to be an internal family matter: the decision of how many children to have. Her studies indicate that a high percentage of women actually have fewer children that they would ideally prefer to have, and that wage is the most important single factor in choosing to go forward.

And also...

Additional news items presented the three experts meetings held, and the incoming class of Master’s researchers. We addressed business as a pillar of society, but recognized that society must work to make sure it lives up to its positive potential and to mitigate the negative. Policy was challenged in several articles to keep up to date with technical innovation, changing family scenarios, and the sustainable development goals. Media was also much discussed: how democracy depends on robust journalism; how to contribute to a shared civic ethos; how active citizens must be media literate; how real news can be distinguished from propaganda; and how families are represented. The increasing inequality between families and the relative instability of working class families was also an issue that was treated from more than one angle. And science and faith, divine law and the political leanings of American Jews had their turn in the spotlight as well.
STI is an independent, non-profit research center that offers institutional and financial support to academics in all fields who seek to make sense of emerging social trends and their effects on human communities.

© Social Trends Institute 2018

Carrer d’Arnús i de Garí 3-7  08034 Barcelona, Spain
99 Park Avenue, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10016-1601, USA

info@socialtrendsinsitute.org
www.socialtrendsinsitute.org