



Centre for Analysis of  
Social Exclusion

# annual report 2012

CASereport 76

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# Contents

<b>CASE – An introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Review of the Year 2012</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Year at a Glance</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Looking forward to the year ahead...</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Wealth, house prices and the life cycle</b> Francesca Bastagli and John Hills	<b>8</b>
<b>Social mobility: Delusions and confusions</b> Leon Feinstein, Visiting Fellow	<b>10</b>
<b>Bigger than Business: Housing associations and community investment in an age of austerity</b> Anne Power, Eileen Herden and Bert Provan	<b>13</b>
<b>High Rise Hope: The social implications of energy-efficiency retrofit in large multi-storey tower blocks</b> Anne Power, Katie Bates and Laura Lane	<b>14</b>
<b>Material deprivation among children – how parents evaluate “need” in relation to available income</b> Abigail McKnight	<b>15</b>
<b>The geography of welfare benefits and the geography of poverty in Britain</b> Alex Fenton	<b>17</b>
<b>PhD Spotlight: The capability approach and poverty measurement</b> Rod Hick	<b>19</b>
<b>Life as a PhD student at CASE</b> Ben Richards	<b>21</b>
<b>Special Event to celebrate 25 years at LSE for Anne Power</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Current research and research staff</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>CASE Publications 2012</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>CASE seminars and events 2012</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>How to find us</b>	<b>35</b>

## CASE – An introduction



The Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) is a multi-disciplinary research centre based at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), within the Suntory and Toyota International Centres for Economics and Related Disciplines (STICERD). Our focus is on exploration of different dimensions of social disadvantage, particularly from longitudinal and neighbourhood perspectives, and examination of the impact of public policy.

CASE was established in October 1997 with funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). That research programme was successfully completed at the end of 2007. The Centre is now supported by STICERD, LSE and funding from a range of organisations, including the Nuffield Foundation, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the European Union, the British Academy, the Trust for London, Help Age, Eurofound, Office of the First Minister, Northern Ireland,

and the Department for Communities and Local Government. CASE includes the research and consultancy group, LSE Housing and Communities. The Centre is also associated with the School's Department of Social Policy and houses a number of postgraduate students working on topics related to its core areas of interest.

CASE organises regular seminars on empirical and theoretical issues connected with social exclusion, and co-organises the monthly Welfare Policy and Analysis Seminar, supported by the Department for Work and Pensions.

CASE hosts visitors from Britain and overseas, and members of the LSE teaching staff on special sabbatical leave. The Centre publishes a series of discussion papers, CASEpapers, and a series of CASEbriefs, which summarise the research. Particular conferences and activities are summarised in our occasional CASEreports series. All of our publications can be downloaded from our website.

This report presents some of the main findings from our research and activities during 2012. More detail on specific publications can be found at the end of this report.

**For more information about the Centre and its work, including the seminar series and our publications, please visit our website: <http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/case/>**

## Review of the year, 2012



**As 2012 finished CASE's offices were full of packing cases, ready to take books and papers across the road at the start of 2013 to our new offices on the third floor of 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields (see page 36). We are now settled into a space that works well for us, still alongside colleagues and sharing facilities with STICERD and other research centres.**

While the move caused some disruption and interrupted parts of what we were doing, the pages that follow show that our activities continued unabated, with a series of projects completed, others started, and funding for new ones approved. We were delighted that against the background of this activity the LSE's Research Committee approved CASE's status as an independent research centre within the School for a further five years following our Major Review during the year.

Completed work included our programme on the distribution of wealth, funded by the Nuffield Foundation and ESRC, which culminated in the completion of a book, *Wealth in the UK: Distribution, accumulation and policy*, to be published by OUP in May 2013 (see pages 8-9). We hope to follow this up with further work on these issues in both the UK and other countries in future.

The main report from another completed programme, *A job in itself: The thankless task of young unemployed people looking for work*, was published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation in September. This reported the results of a "CV experiment" to see if there was evidence of "postcode discrimination" in responses to job applications. Importantly, it did not find this, but it did show quite how hard it has been in the recession to get any kind of response to an application, even for the best qualified applicants.

The final report of the independent Fuel Poverty Review, which I led, was published in March, and the Department of Energy and Climate Change issued a consultation proposing adopting the review's recommendations in September, with final conclusions and a new government strategy to tackle fuel poverty promised for 2013.

The LSE Housing and Communities group within CASE published the results of two of the studies it has carried out for housing associations – one carried out by Katie Bates on energy efficiency retrofit (see page 14) and one on the role of associations in supporting community investment, with Eileen Herden joining the group to work on this. The speakers at the launch of the latter included the Minister for Civil Society (see page 13). Further work by the group on the experiences of tenants living in high cost areas will be published in 2013, and new research was approved at the end of the year for the London Borough of Newham and for a group of nine housing associations in the South West, both on the impact of welfare reform on the resilience of residents and tenants.

The European Commission-funded programme GINI (Growing Inequalities Impacts), in which Abigail McKnight plays a leading role, neared completion, with many papers now available on-line, while Oxford University Press will publish two volumes drawn from the programme late in 2013. We also started work on

the EC-funded "IMPROVE" programme co-ordinated by the University of Antwerp, while Francesca Bastagli's joint work on income inequality and fiscal policy for the International Monetary Fund was published.

At the centre of much of our work during year was the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, funded by the Nuffield and Joseph Rowntree Foundations and Trust for London, with Ruth Lupton, Kitty Stewart, Polly Vizard and myself leading on different component studies. During 2012, we have been working on documenting and analysing Labour's social policy record 1997-2010, with papers on health, education, the under-fives, tax and social security and neighbourhood renewal. We have also been analysing the changing distribution of economic outcomes between 2008-2010, updating much of the work of the National Equality Panel. These outputs will be published in the summer of 2013. Work on spatial inequalities has also been a major element (see Alex Fenton's article, pages 17-18). Alex has now left to study for a doctorate in Berlin but continues to collaborate actively with us on the programme. Amanda Fitzgerald joined the team working on this in June, and at the start of 2013, Ludovica Gambaro took over from Polina Obolenskaya while Polina took maternity leave.

We continued research comparing childcare provision and support in the UK with other countries, while Kerris Cooper joined us to start a new project with Kitty Stewart for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation carefully reviewing the range of evidence available internationally on the key question of whether family income independently affects children's outcomes. Polly Vizard and colleagues started a project for Eurofound on multidimensional deprivation in Europe, while she and Tania Burchardt won funding from ESRC's secondary data analysis competition for research on the treatment of older people in health

care to take place in 2013. We also won funding from LSE under the Higher Education Innovation Fund to support two initiatives promoting knowledge exchange – one on developments in housing and community organisation, and another extending the work of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, for which Bert Provan has now taken up the co-ordinating role alongside his work with LSE Housing and Communities.

As well as publications attributable to research in the centre averaging more than one a week over the year (see pages 30-32), we held more than 25 seminars and other events. As well as publication launches, we held special events with nef (the new economics foundation) on time and the working week and on “the wisdom of prevention”, as well as a special event to mark 25 years since

publication of Anne Power’s *Property before People* (see page 22). Seminar speakers included Karen Rowlingson from Birmingham University on the evidence on the controversies around the book *The Spirit Level*, Naomi Eisenstadt from Oxford University on her own book on the Sure Start programme, and Leon Feinstein – Visiting Professor in CASE – on the controversies around “regression to the mean” and his own research on differences in child development for children from different backgrounds (see pages 10-12).

As well as the new arrivals noted above, we were delighted that Ludovica Gambaro was awarded her doctorate and to welcome Rikki Dean and Milo Vandemoortele to our group of doctoral students. Alice Miles is currently on secondment from the group as an

adviser within the Department for Education.

Finally, Francesca Bastagli left CASE at the end of the year to take up an appointment at the Overseas Development Institute, while Ruth Lupton will be taking up a Chair at Manchester University from July 2013. As a centre we owe huge debts to both of them and are very sorry that we shall not see quite as much of them in future. However, Francesca has become a Visiting Senior Fellow to CASE, while Ruth will continue to work on the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme from her new base in Manchester, so both will continue to be part of what continues to be a very busy and active research programme.

**John Hills**  
March 2013



# The year at a glance

## January 2012

We kicked the new year off with a joint event on 11 and 12 January with nef (new economics foundation) entitled "About Time: Examining the case for a shorter working week". On 11 January there was a public lecture. This was followed on 12 January with a colloquium held in CASE with invited papers.

Ruth Lupton started working on a project in partnership with nef for the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Ministers in Northern Ireland.

## February

Our seminar series continued with Karen Rowlingson raising the question "Does income inequality cause health and social problems?" and Malcolm Torry of the Citizen's Income Trust considering whether universal benefits have a future.

## March

Further work by John Hills and the team from DECC built on last year's interim report and March saw the culmination of the Hills independent review of Fuel Poverty, titled *Final report of the Hills Independent Fuel Poverty Review: Getting the Measure of Fuel Poverty*.

The CASE team working on the GINI FP7 project attended and contributed to the research programme's mid-term conference in Budapest.

## May

An interesting piece of research published as CASEpaper 160 by John Hills and Ben Richards looked at the effects of localisation and means testing on the new systems of student finance and bursary support from a cross section of UK universities.

## June

A half-day special event was held to disseminate some of the key findings from the body of work funded by the Nuffield Foundation on the changing distribution of wealth. Francesca Bastagli, Frank Cowell, John Hills, Eleni Karagiannaki and Abigail McKnight presented to an audience of fellow academics, representatives from various think tanks, HMRC, and HM Treasury, among others. The series of related CASE papers are available from the CASE website.

## July

A special event was held to commemorate Anne Power's 25 years at LSE. Over 250 guests, colleagues, academics and former students attended (see page 22).

## September

Kitty Stewart, Ludovica Gambaro and Jane Waldfogel held an authors' conference at LSE for their edited volume, *Equal Access to Childcare: Providing Quality Early Education and Childcare to Disadvantaged Families*. The book will be out in January 2014.

## October

The LSE Housing and Communities research group launched the Rockwool commissioned report *High Rise Hope* (see page 14).

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation published the project report *A job in itself: the thankless task for young unemployed people looking for work* which included research by Ruth Lupton, Katie Bates and Becky Tunstall.

## November

Saw the successful launch of a multi-volume report for Orbit *Bigger than Business*. Speaking at the event alongside Anne Power was Rt Hon Nick Hurd and Paul Tennant. Peer researchers that had participated in the gathering of qualitative data for the report were also in attendance and were given the opportunity to put their questions to the Minister.

## December

CASE and LSE Housing and Communities spent the run up to Christmas in the final preparations for moving to our new home 32LIF, the former Land Registry building, situated next to Lincoln's Inn Fields.



## Looking forward to the year ahead...

**Here is just a taster of things to look forward to in 2013.**

### March

A breakfast briefing on the private rented sector is planned for 19 March. The event will be organised by LSE Housing and Communities and details are available on the website.

### April

LSE Housing and Communities' report for Octavia, exploring the experiences of Octavia tenants in expensive areas of London, is due to be released at the end of April or early May.

### May

A new book *Wealth in the UK* will be launched at an LSE public event in May. This publication is a collaborative output of the findings from work funded by the Nuffield Foundation on the changing distribution of wealth, and is co-authored by Francesca Bastagli, Frank Cowell, John Hills, Eleni Karagiannaki and Abigail McKnight.

A second *Housing Plus* Think Tank will be held at Trafford Hall, the National Communities Resource Centre in May. This will build on the successful "Housing Affordability" symposium event held in February, which brought together high-level strategic thinkers with ground-level providers and tenants, to propose an agenda for social housing providers to work through current changes and challenges.

A two-volume collaborative publication will be released from the GINI project authors, including Frank Cowell, Eleni Karagiannaki and Abigail McKnight, exploring wealth, educational, health, labour market and income inequality across the EU 27 nations. For details of the GINI project see [www.gini-research.org](http://www.gini-research.org)

### July

Papers from the first phase of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme will be launched in the first week of July. Please check the CASE website.

### December

A joint publication edited by Ludovica Gambaro, Kitty Stewart and Jane Waldfogel is due for release in January 2014, *Equal Access to Childcare: Providing Quality Early Education and Childcare to Disadvantaged Families* contains contributions from a broad range of international experts on childcare provision in Australia, France, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, the UK and the US.





# Wealth, house prices and the life cycle

Francesca Bastagli and John Hills

**While much of CASE's research is concerned with aspects of disadvantage, a major programme in the last few years, supported by the Nuffield Foundation and ESRC, has been focussed on personal wealth. There could hardly be a bigger topic. In the latest wave of the ONS's Wealth and Assets survey (2008-2010), total household wealth was put at £5.5 trillion pounds – £10 trillion, if people's rights to private pensions were included. Median household wealth – £232,000 including private pension rights – was ten times median pre-tax full time earnings.**

The results of the programme – looking at the distribution of wealth in the UK, how it compares internationally, inheritance, the impacts of wealth-holding on people's later lives, and policies towards it – are brought together in a book to be published in May 2013.<sup>1</sup> As part of it we looked in detail at the way in which the wealth levels of different kinds of household changed between 1995 and 2005, tracking the same households through the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS).<sup>2</sup>

Some of the results are at first sight surprising. While income inequality remained at a historically high level, wealth inequality in the survey, as measured by the Gini coefficient fell. Although the greatest *absolute* gains went to households starting with the greatest wealth, and virtually no rise in wealth for those starting at the bottom, in *relative* terms wealth grew fastest for households in the middle of the distribution. In turn, this mainly reflected housing wealth becoming a greater

share of total net worth, more equally distributed, and the highest percentage increase in housing wealth taking place in the middle of the distribution.

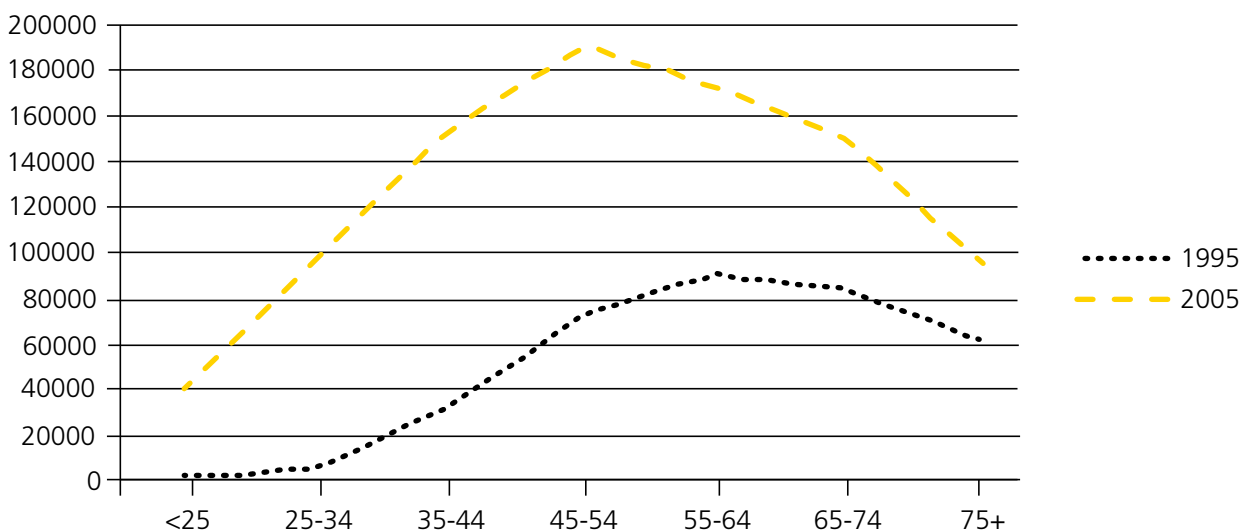
We therefore looked at how much of the change in wealth distribution was simply a result of the house price boom. To do this we simulated the distribution of net wealth in 2005 in the hypothetical scenario where house prices had remained at their 1995 levels in real terms (allowing for some knock-on effects on the level of mortgages new buyers would have taken out). This showed that the reduction in wealth inequality is almost entirely accounted for by changes in house prices.

Comparing the results with and without the boom we also found that, controlling for factors such as age, the households that gained most from the house price boom were mortgagors, in particular those that were initially wealthier, and were advantaged in other ways such as by level of educational qualification.

A second puzzle in the BHPS results was the lack of a strong life-cycle pattern in wealth levels when we followed the same households over the ten years from 1995. One of the main contributors to wealth inequality is normally expected to be the life cycle. Younger people have had fewer opportunities to save or buy housing equity, build up savings and other assets over their working lives. After retirement, one would expect people to run down their financial assets and possibly trade-down, reducing their household wealth. The age-wealth profile is expected to have a pronounced hump-shape, with a peak occurring at or near retirement.

While the cross-sectional picture shown in Figure 1 does have a hump shape in both 1995 and 2005, it also shows that all age groups increased their wealth over the period, including those that were initially over retirement age. For instance, the median net worth of households in the panel initially aged 45-54 grew from

**Figure 1 Age-wealth profile: Net household worth by age of head of household in 1995 (£, actual 2005 prices)**



Source: Own analysis of the British Household Panel Survey. 2,075 households for whom we have observations over the 10 year period. Age is that of head of the household in 1995.

£73,000 to £190,000, an increase of £120,000 over ten years. Those aged 25-34 at the start increased their net wealth by a remarkable £92,000 to nearly £100,000. If net wealth followed a purely life cycle pattern, we would expect to see wealth falling for the oldest cohorts, but it did not. For those aged 65-74 who survived the ten years, median net worth increased from £83,000 to £148,000.

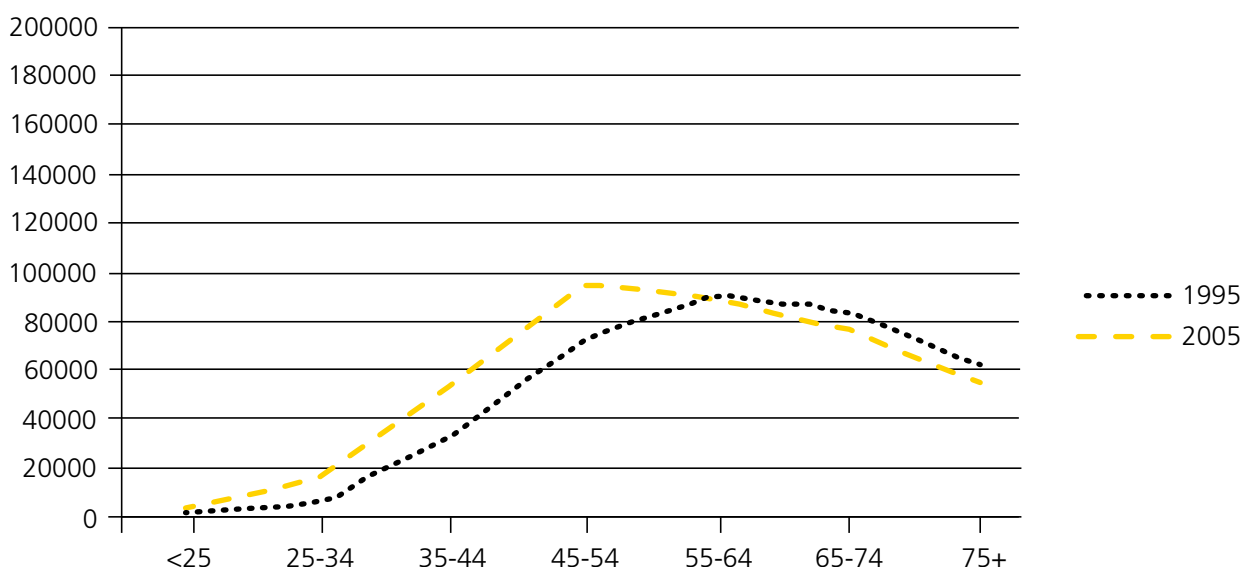
However, Figure 2 plots median net worth at adjusted values, under the hypothetical scenario that the house price boom hadn't happened. In these simulated results, the scale and pattern of wealth change are more in line with what might be predicted by life cycle savings patterns. Thus, for instance, median net worth would have risen by £10,000 for those aged 25-34

initially and by £22,000 for those aged 45-54 initially. Effective net savings – either through increasing financial assets or through paying off debt – at a rate of £1,000-2,000 per year for the working-age generation are also closer to what one might expect given their income levels.

At the same time, the retired generation would have emerged as net dis-savers, with, for instance, median net worth falling by £8,000 for those initially 65-74 and by £7,000 for those initially aged over 75. Note though that net worth does not tend towards zero towards the end of life even on this basis: the oldest group would still have had 88 per cent of their initial wealth ten years later, even if the house price boom had never happened.

Most of the changes in the period were thus “paper gains” caused by the house price boom. In one sense, this could be taken as meaning that little really has changed: for the most part, owner-occupiers were in the same houses in 2005 and 1995, enjoying the same way of life and the increase in their wealth only happened on paper. However, in the long term the house price boom – unless reversed (which does not look likely right now) – will have effects. First, some of those who own what are now more valuable properties in cash terms will trade down and convert their paper gains into much larger financial assets than they could otherwise have done. Secondly, it means that inheritance flows will be much larger. In that sense, a lot will have changed, particularly for the next generation.

**Figure 2: Age-wealth profile: Net household worth by age of head of household in 1995 without house price boom (£, adjusted house prices, 2005 prices)**



Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Wealth in the United Kingdom: Distribution, accumulation and policy, John Hills, Francesca Bastagli, Frank Cowell, Howard Glennerster, Eleni Karagiannaki, and Abigail McKnight, Oxford University Press (forthcoming, May 2013)

<sup>2</sup> Wealth accumulation in Great Britain 1995-2005: The role of house prices and the life cycle, Francesca Bastagli and John Hills, CASEpaper 166, December 2012

# Social mobility: Delusions and confusions

Leon Feinstein, Visiting Fellow

**On June 1, 2010 the Daily Mail ran a story about the “Social Mobility Myth: How Labour punished middle-class for a problem that doesn’t exist.” Based on work by Peter Saunders (Saunders, 2010), it argues that “our overall social mobility rates are roughly what they should be in a meritocracy.” “A crucial factor in determining why some children from poor backgrounds perform less well than their middle class counterparts is that they are not as bright.”**

The Saunders view combines a strong hypothesis about the existence and functioning of meritocracy, and a strong hypothesis that ability is heavily determined by heritable genetic capability. These are complex and uncertain issues on which the social and biological sciences are far from settled so we should be wary of simple statements. However, the resulting conclusions have important implications for public policy and for the public understanding of science.

This short note does not attempt to address the wide range of issues implicit in testing these questions. I focus on a narrow set of issues in consideration of developmental trajectories of sub-groups of children classified according to the occupational class of parents. More specifically, the focus is on Figure 2 of Feinstein (2003) which Saunders (2011) has taken as a challenge to his view and has argued is “just plain wrong”. Within

this, the note provides some new analysis of the original data to address the concern that the broad pattern is due to a focus on extreme sampling and a single early test.

Based on longitudinal data from the 1970 Birth Cohort Study the figure shows that children from working class backgrounds assessed in the 1970 Birth Cohort Study who score well on pre-school measures of cognitive development tended to be overtaken in relative position on those scores between ages 5 and 10 by children from middle and upper class homes who scored poorly on the early tests. The data are not contested so much as the interpretation that may be placed on the sub-groups, and on the observed pattern over time for those groups.

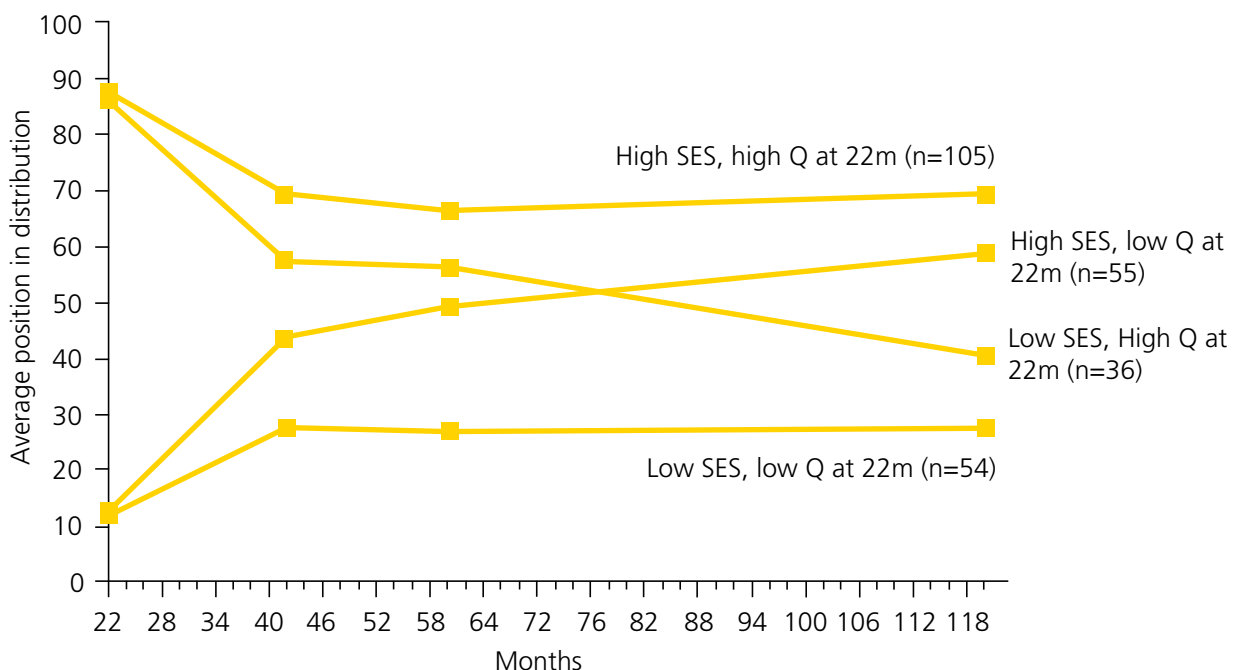
To explain the relationship between the graph and the question of meritocracy, a quick detour through some of this recent political debate is required. The note then

presents some new tabulations from the original data to challenge two particular misconceptions in the critique of the use of Figure 2. This is not intended to dispute the value and significance of the regression to the mean critique of much public debate that has resulted from the graph. However, as Jerrim and Vignoles emphasise, there is a need for further work to distinguish methodological and substantive issues and we are a long way from understanding the true relationships between ability, environments and SES at different times and places.

## 1. Background:

In April 2011 the then new Coalition Government published its social mobility strategy (HM Government, 2011). As a minor reference within the overall document, the strategy on 8 reproduced Figure 2 of Feinstein (2003) as a reference to the claim that:

Figure 2: Average rank of test scores at 22, 42, 60 and 120 months, by SES of parents and early rank position



*"Bright children from poorer families tend to fall back relative to more advantaged peers who have not performed as well."*

This claim in the Strategy brought an immediate response in a Press Release from Professor Daniel Read of Warwick Business School claiming that:

*"a key Government Strategy for Social Mobility is placing considerable reliance on a table which is simply replicating a well-known statistical trap or artefact that may not be the true picture...I am very worried that this graph is being used to shape policy when in fact many statisticians will instantly see that it simply replicates a statistical trap or artefact called "regression toward the mean". The apparently shocking pattern of results in the graph is simply what statisticians would expect when you measure extremes of performance in two populations of differing ability."*

*"The Feinsein graph is constructed ... with undue emphasis on extreme results"*

Simultaneously, Jerrim and Vignoles (2011), published a paper on the "use (and misuse) of statistics," undertaking a series of simulations and new analyses which demonstrate that the pattern in the chart could result entirely from mis-classification bias resulting from measurement error in the early tests.

These simulations were then referenced by Saunders (2012) as the basis of his claim that "the core evidence on which politicians have been basing their social mobility claims and interventions turn out to be just plain wrong. (p23)."

It should be emphasised that the extent to which real policy action resulted from this chart is highly overstated. Much of the chart's role in public debate was as a recognizable cipher for a much wider body of research.

## 2. Regression to the Mean

Regression to the mean is a general problem for inference from statistics that provide classification by a measure or measures that change over time. The original use was by Galton (1886) who discussed the issue in terms of the tendency of the individual deviation

from the mean in height to be larger in one generation than the next, ie, for tall parents to have slightly less tall children. Jerrim and Vignoles focus only on the statistical and measurement issues. They show that the trend between 22 months and 42 months can easily be explained by regression to the mean resulting from measurement error in the early classification. This early classification bias has never been in dispute, though it has been ignored in the standard popularization of the chart. Additionally, they provide new and insightful modeling of how the problem plays out in the data and also show that under assumptions about differences in true ability between low and high SES children, the different degree of change from 22 to 42 months between SES groups may result from greater misclassification bias for the high scoring low SES children than the high scoring high SES children.

They also assert that the subsequent trend between age 5 and 10 years can be explained by a different kind of regression to the mean, resulting from the fact that the underlying measures are rather different at the two ages. Although this element might be classified as a form of "regression to the mean" it is fundamentally different to the first kind, less narrowly statistical, and might be considered to have more substantive meaning, ie, that the group of low SES children who score well early on are less likely to translate this ability which survives from the early classification to the age 5 tests, into continued relative success between age 5 and 10. There may be a number of reasons for this, involving elements of measurement error, gene\*environment interactions and correlations as well as cultural bias in testing. Under common statistical assumptions, the measurement error element is much reduced in the later stages of the chart and it is reasonable to consider this "regression to the mean" as a substantive if unexplained phenomenon.

It is also important to distinguish it from a stronger form of "regression to the mean" in these sort of data, evinced by hereditarian writers such as Rushton and Jensen (2005) in relation to race:

*"For any trait, scores should move toward the average for that population. So in the United States, genetic theory predicts that the children of Black parents of IQ 115 will regress toward the Black IQ average of 85, whereas children of White parents of IQ 115 will regress toward the White IQ average of 100."*

Because of these differences of meaning it is important to recognise that "regression to the mean," though important, is not a simple nor single phenomenon and neither can it be entirely reduced to statistics.

## 3. New results

The rest of this short note shows that the relative decline of high scoring working class children in the 1970 Cohort is not explained away by either:

1. a focus on extreme groups, as Read argues, or
2. basing the approach on only a single test score or even tests at a single age.

This is not to suggest that the strong, literal interpretations of the chart are correct, but to address two particular misconceptions. Table 1 reports the mean ranks at age 5 years and 10 years for the three SES groups in the 1970 Cohort based on decile classification at 22 months and 42 months. The initial classification is not based only on the tests at 22 months but on tests spread across 20 months of development. The children are classified into deciles based on the average of 22 month and 42 month scores and all deciles are considered. Under weak regression to the mean you would expect to see convergence to the population mean by age 5 due to misclassification in the early tests but any change between age 5 and 10 cannot be explained by this, though it could be explained by a change in the underlying tests, with low SES children with high initial test scores (22 months to age 5) who do not translate that into high scholastic attainment at age 10. The p-values in the final two column are the tests of the hypothesis for each decile that within that decile the three SES groups have common scores at each age. The finding here is that at age 5 equality across the SES groups is rejected at 5 per

cent for only 2 of the 10 deciles but for 9 of the age 10 deciles. The differences in rank means between age 5 and 10 is even more marked. In every decile by age 10 the high SES group has a substantially higher score than the low SES group. This is not the case at age 5.

These additional, simple results show that the pattern shown in Figure 2 is not explained by a focus on extremes or by classification from a single test. Right through the distribution of scores in the pre-school years at the top middle and bottom of the early distribution, on average children in higher SES families in

this cohort study went on to have better relative cognitive development between age 5 and 10 than those from working class families in ways that is not explained by regression to the mean in terms of misclassification bias.

The reason why working class children in the 1970 Cohort who scored well early on failed to translate their early signals of ability into later success include unspecified elements of measurement error, genetics, culture and environment and the interactions between them. It should be clear that the chart in Feinstein (2003) is unable to test the extent to which any part

of the observed difference in cognitive development between social class groups is genetic, environmental or due to the substantial challenges of measurement of early ability. These problems remain. They have not been solved by Feinstein (2003), nor by Saunders. Jerrim and Vignoles take us some way forward in appreciating how the misclassification bias plays out, but do not solve the issue, nor prove in favour of any side in hereditarian debates, nor indeed do they claim to. All sides should be careful of overly strong statements in this complex and politically charged terrain.

Table 1.

Decile at 22 and 42 months	Age 5 Mean scores			Age 10 mean scores			p-value on equality of means	
	High SES	Medium SES	Low SES	High SES	Medium SES	Low SES	Age 5	Age 10
1	30.0	27.6	19.0	35.9	28.0	18.4	0.204	0.046
N=	15	80	27	15	80	27		
2	35.5	38.7	30.9	48.9	36.7	29.5	0.373	0.047
N=	19	84	19	19	84	19		
3	49.4	41.6	26.5	52.8	46.7	27.6	0.031	0.008
N=	13	86	24	13	86	24		
4	43.2	43.8	30.7	56.0	43.2	37.1	0.145	0.050
N=	24	79	19	24	79	19		
5	59.8	44.9	31.2	65.5	48.6	37.0	0.002	0.002
N=	34	78	11	34	78	11		
6	52.6	50.6	49.6	68.2	57.5	46.5	0.926	0.026
N=	30	76	16	30	76	16		
7	54.3	53.5	51.8	71.6	54.8	55.9	0.953	0.008
N=	31	75	16	31	75	16		
8	64.9	58.7	54.6	77.5	56.8	49.4	0.380	0.000
N=	42	74	7	42	74	7		
9	68.5	63.6	68.3	70.6	66.8	56.8	0.482	0.238
N=	35	77	10	35	77	10		
10	77.4	70.8	70.0	74.5	73.0	54.6	0.318	0.032
N=	47	65	11	47	65	11		

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# Bigger than Business: Housing associations and community investment in an age of austerity

Anne Power, Eileen Herden and Bert Provan

**In December 2011 Orbit Group, landlord to 35,000 social housing tenants, commissioned the LSE Housing and Communities team to develop a sustainable framework for future community investment in an age of austerity, localism and the “Big Society”. The study involved interviews with 170 residents, staff and community leaders alongside extensive secondary research.**

## Background

The substantial impacts of the financial and economic crisis on housing associations are compounded by radical changes in their operating environment. Associations are having to manage a careful balancing act between social, entrepreneurial and business activities. The major challenges include:

- Maintaining frontline services while streamlining management operations to reduce costs and retain viability in the face of funding cuts;
- Reconciling the needs of low income tenants living in social rented homes with the cumulative impacts of housing and welfare reform;
- Additional costs which particularly burden the poorest communities, including rising costs of energy, food and other commodities;
- Working out how social landlords can help create more viable, economically active and productive communities – responding to the Big Society and localism agendas while helping the most needy groups in society.

Orbit wanted to meet these challenges, by making a bigger contribution to communities and society, acting as a powerful community anchor and investor and enabling tenants themselves to do more.

## Key learning points and proposals from the report included:

**Peer research:** Six volunteer resident researchers were trained in interviewing techniques and conducted 60 of the resident interviews. This peer research method is intensive, but brings multiple, invaluable benefits for both the residents involved, the landlord and the wider community. LSE concluded that a peer training approach could support delivery of numerous community services.

**Resident priorities:** Residents’ general concerns align regardless of geography and local needs. Their top priorities for investment are youth activities, advice and

job access; employment and job training; tackling crime and anti-social behaviour; welfare and money advice; and support and provision for older people.

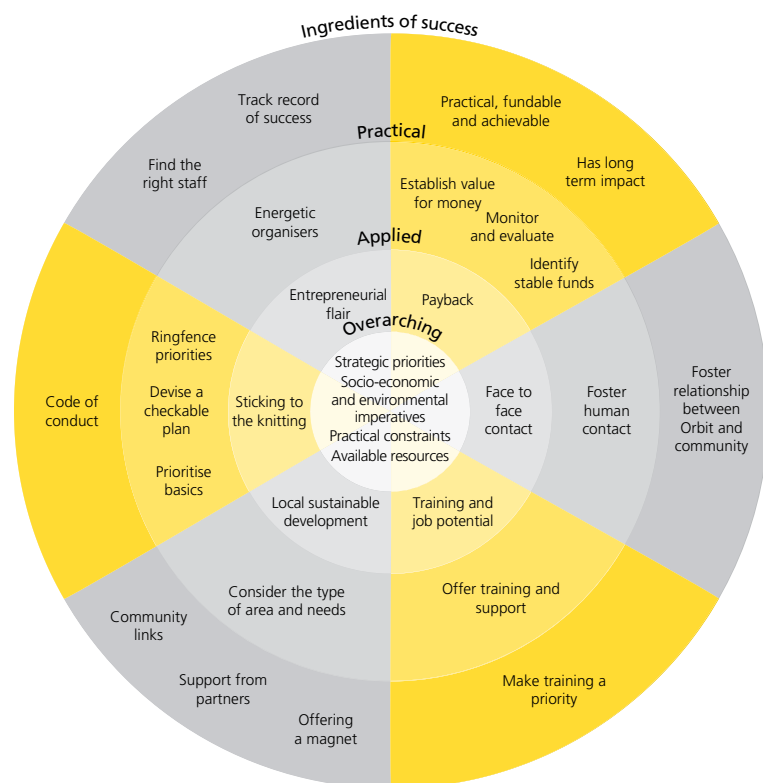
**Staff concerns:** Staff highlighted a number of core concerns and themes in relation to community outreach and activity. Themes included residents regarding frontline staff as “managers and enforcers” rather than supporters and enablers; strong frontline presence being limited by geography and resource limitations; the need to develop additional local and technical knowledge; the consequences resulting from incoming welfare and housing benefit reforms; and the importance of improved partnership work.

**Sharing and emulating good practice:** Geography and the realities of the landlord-tenant relationship can sometimes work against effective delivery of community projects. Both staff and local community leaders feel partnership working is vitally

important to enhancing value from community investment. The research team also found numerous exemplary Orbit projects illustrating key aspects of good practice.

**Future investment models:** LSE devised three potential models or scenarios for future community investment, able to stand independently or build cumulatively on each other – a “Freeway Community Chest” model; an “Invest to Save” model; and a preferred “Triple Bottom Line” approach, where community investment addresses social, economic and environmental needs, as part and parcel of the core landlord role.

**The full framework:** The complete framework offers a comprehensive guide to decision-making on the desirability, validity and viability of any form of community investment the landlord may consider. It should improve the sustainability of investments and projects and help maximise value from limited discretionary resources.



# High Rise Hope: The social implications of energy-efficiency retrofit in large multi-storey tower blocks

Anne Power, Katie Bates and Laura Lane

**In early 2011 Rockwool, a major insulation provider, commissioned the LSE Housing and Communities team to investigate the social implications of energy efficiency retrofit on low income areas.**

While policies to reduce carbon emissions are rising to the forefront, neighbourhood renewal programmes are in decline. But it may be possible that new policies such as the Green Deal can become the new vehicle for area renewal. The team explored this through research at Edward Woods, which is a large estate in the Shepherd's Bush Green ward in the north of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham containing three high-rises, where a landmark regeneration scheme has been underway since 2009. The scheme has multiple regeneration objectives, the major one of which is to improve the energy efficiency of the buildings. This scheme is an exemplar case study for how the Green Deal approach can apply to high-rise and concrete socially rented estates.

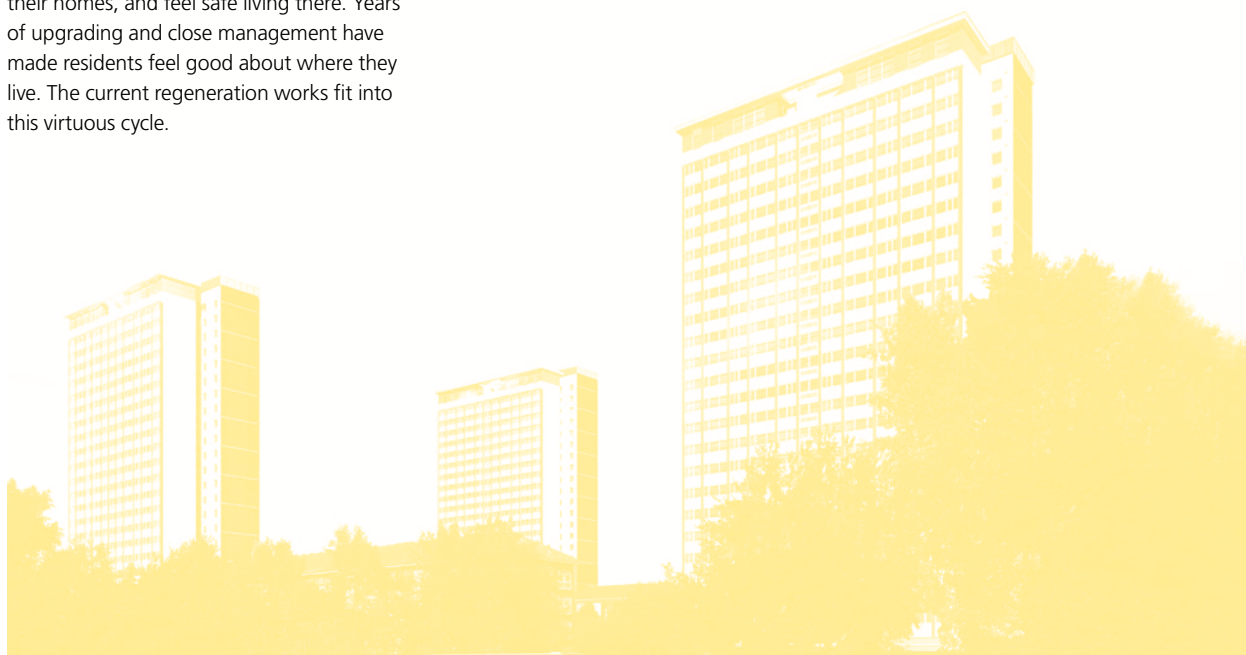
The LSE team interviewed 50 residents while works were underway. There are high levels of deprivation on the estate, and prior to the works many residents were in, or at risk of, fuel poverty. The flats within the tower-blocks showed extreme variations in thermal efficiency and energy bills, which ranged from £500 per year to over £2,000.

Residents are positive about the estate and their homes, and feel safe living there. Years of upgrading and close management have made residents feel good about where they live. The current regeneration works fit into this virtuous cycle.

However, many residents thought the regeneration works improved the appearance of the estate but did not know about the energy efficiency purpose of the investment. The value of the works, in reducing energy usage and costs, will only be fully realised if residents are made more aware of this purpose.

The works were tolerated and most residents were positive about the final outcome. The impact of the works, including two years of scaffolding and sheeting blocking their daylight, on residents ranges from mild inconvenience caused by noise and dust, to severe impacts on health for a smaller group of residents.

The impact of the retrofit needs measuring in a year's time, after residents have experienced the full energy saving measures. The LSE Housing and Communities team will return to the estate in 2013 to repeat interviews with residents, with a focus on energy-using behaviour. They will investigate the change in the amount of energy residents use, the social impacts of the intervention and the regeneration benefits of the scheme.



# Material deprivation among children – how parents evaluate “need” in relation to available income

Abigail McKnight

**As part of the GINI research programme Abigail McKnight has been examining material deprivation among children. This article draws on material presented in the UK Country Report: Growing Inequality and its Impacts.**

At the heart of the concept of material deprivation is the notion, or at least individuals’ understanding of, enforced deprivation, where enforcement is due to lack of income. Eurostat define material deprivation as follows:

*“Material deprivation refers to a state of economic strain and durables strain, defined as the enforced inability (rather than the choice not to do so) to pay unexpected expenses, afford a one-week annual holiday away from home, a meal involving meat, chicken or fish every second day, the adequate heating of a dwelling, durable goods like a washing machine, colour television, telephone or car, being confronted with payment arrears (mortgage or rent, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments).*

*The material deprivation rate is an indicator in EU-SILC that expresses the inability to afford some items considered by most people to be desirable or even necessary to lead an adequate life. The indicator distinguishes between individuals who cannot afford a certain good or service, and those who do not have this good or*

*service for another reason, eg, **because they do not want or do not need it.** (emphasis added) [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Glossary:Material\\_deprivation\\_rate](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Glossary:Material_deprivation_rate)*

It has been noted in previous studies the interpretation of “want” or “need” can vary between different groups of individuals (McKay, 2004). This can be related to peer-group social norms or affected by individuals’ sense of dignity. Alongside this debate is the continual consideration of which items should be included in a measure of material deprivation and whether or not these should vary for different groups, such as children or pensioners, to achieve a better fit between what people might want or need and therefore enforced absence of such an item leading to a real sense of deprivation.

A considerable amount of work has been conducted on the definition and measurement of child poverty in the UK following the government’s pledge in 1999 to end child poverty in a generation. While the targets have been defined in terms of income poverty, progress involves

the monitoring of a number of different measures including material deprivation. In 2009/10 the UK Family Resources Survey (FRS) started collecting official measures of material deprivation which are reported in the Households Below Average Incomes (HBAI) series. Parents are asked to indicate whether or not their “Child/ren has/have” an item, if they “want but can’t afford” an item or if they “don’t want or need; doesn’t apply”. The final category was included to get around the “problem” that the “does not have” category could include children who are not really deprived because they do not actually want or need an item (i.e. deprivation was not enforced but rather a choice). The following table shows the percentage of children who are reported by their parents not to have various items/activities because they cannot afford them. It is clear that there is an income gradient – income poor children are most likely to report not having, but not all children in the lowest income quintile (Q1) appear to be materially deprived and there are children in higher income quintiles who appear to be (no attempt is made here to sum over categories).

**Table 1: Percentage of UK children who do not have... by income quintile (2009/10)**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	All
Outdoor space/facilities to play safely	19	13	8	5	3	11
Enough bedrooms for every child 10 years or over of a different gender	30	19	10	4	3	17
Celebrations on special occasions	8	4	1	1	0	3
Leisure equipment such as sports equipment or a bicycle	16	8	3	1	0	7
At least one week’s holiday away from home with family	62	48	28	14	5	36
Hobby or leisure activity	14	9	3	1	1	7
Swimming at least once a month	22	14	6	2	1	11
Have friends round for tea or a snack once a fortnight	18	10	4	2	1	8
Go on school trip at least once a term	13	8	3	1	1	6
Go to a playgroup once a week	12	7	5	1	1	6

Source: FRS/HBAI.

Note: With the exception of “Outdoor space/facilities to play safely” children indicated that this was something they would like to have/do but could not afford to do so.

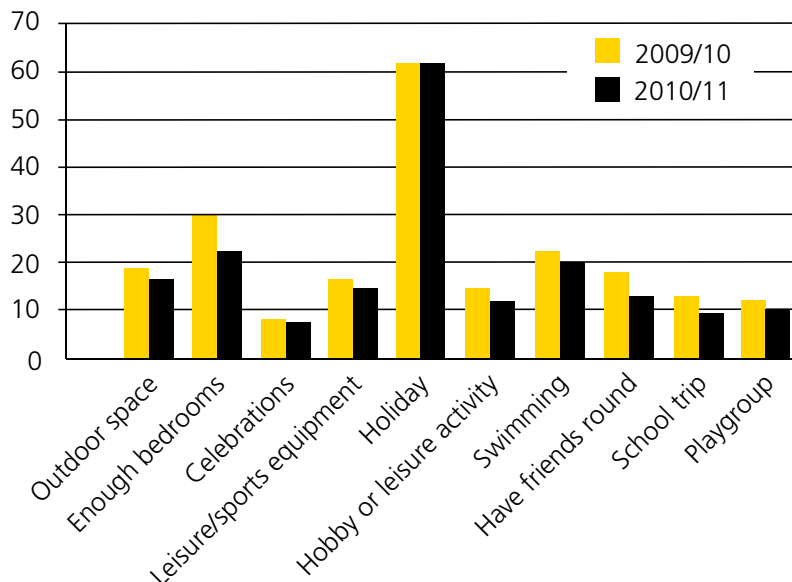


These questions have been asked in two waves of the FRS – 2009/10 and 2010/11. Given the economic crisis this is a very interesting time to observe what has happened to this measure of material deprivation. Figure 1 shows for the 10 items included in both years the percentage of children who don't have them (according to their parents' responses). For 9 out of 10 of these items the share of children not having them has fallen between these two years, a period marked by falling incomes. With only this information to hand, the naïve analyst could conclude that material deprivation had fallen between these two years.

However, the distribution of responses for those indicating that this was an item that they did not want or need is not even across the income distribution – the lower household income is the more likely parents are to say that an item is something that their children did not want or need. When income is tight parents rationally have a different perspective on "need". For example, in 2009/10 22 per cent of children in the lowest income quintile (Q1) do not want/need a hobby or leisure activity (according to their parents) while only 11 per cent of children in the highest income quintile (Q5) do not want or need this item. Most people would assume that children's desire to have a hobby or leisure activity is pretty universal.

The concern is that the apparent fall in material deprivation suggested by Figure 1 is influenced by an increase in the share of parents indicating that their children did not want or need these items. Figure 2 shows the share of children who don't want or need particular items (playgroup is excluded as it does not apply to school age children). Comparing the yellow bars shows very clearly the difference in the share of children who don't want or need these items in 2009/10 between Q1 and Q5 and the black/grey bars show what happened to these shares in 2010/11. It is clear that all parents made a re-evaluation of what their children "wanted or needed" as household incomes fell but this was greater among low income households.

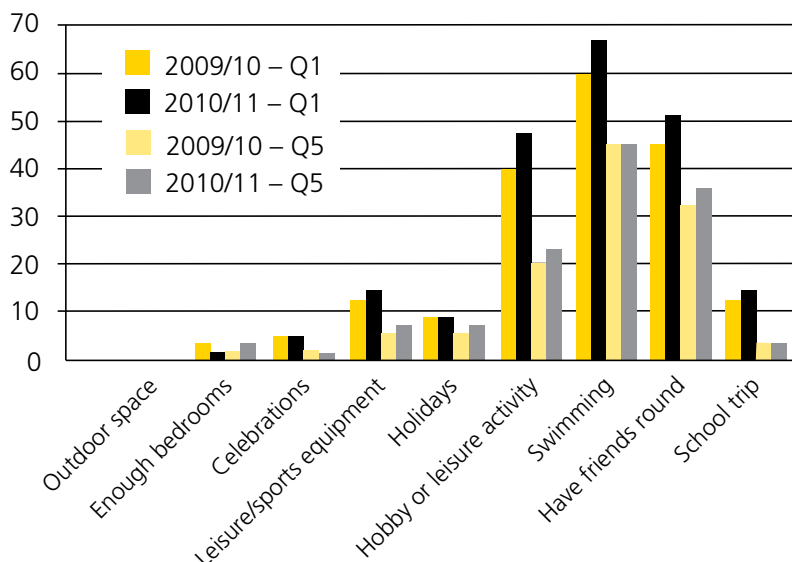
**Figure 1: Percentage of UK children who do not have... in 2009/10 and 2010/11**



Source: FRS/HBAI.

Note: With the exception of "Outdoor space/facilities to play safely" children indicated that this was something they would like to have/do but could not afford to do so.

**Figure 2: Percentage of UK children who do not want or need... by income quintile Q1 and Q5 2009/10 and 2010/11**



Source: FRS/HBAI.

Note: With the exception of "Outdoor space/facilities to play safely" children indicated that this was something they would like to have/do but could not afford to do so.

The research project "Growing Inequalities' Impacts" receives EU support under the European Commission's 7th Framework programme.

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# The geography of welfare benefits and the geography of poverty in Britain

Alex Fenton

**Data on welfare benefits are widely used in research and public administration to describe spatial variations in the prevalence of poverty in the UK. Many poor households, however, receive no benefits, and not all benefit recipients are income-poor. Are statistics on benefits receipts, then, really good proxies for describing the geography of poverty?**

Since the late 1990s, administrative data on the receipt of welfare benefits have become widely used as proxy measures of income poverty and deprivation. For example, the rates of receipt of Income Support are part of the elaborate formulae that allocate central financial support to local government districts. This is an adjustment for the level of “need” taken to arise from the varying proportion of low-income households in different council areas. Another example is the neighbourhood deprivation indices of the various countries within the UK. These are taken up by policy analysts and academic researchers as an authoritative statement of which neighbourhoods have the highest rates of deprivation. All the current official indices rely heavily on welfare benefits data to represent spatial differences in income poverty. Estimates of poverty based on benefits data are available more quickly and, most importantly, at smaller spatial scales (such as neighbourhoods, districts and cities) than traditional measures, which derive from large sample surveys such as the *Family Resources Survey*. As one part of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, CASE has been investigating the implications of using welfare benefits data to characterise differences in rates of poverty and deprivation between parts of Britain.

The basic reasoning behind using the receipt of benefits as a poverty indicator is plain: recipients of means-tested benefits, such as Income Support, normally *de facto* have an income that leaves them income-poor by conventional definitions, which set thresholds relative to national median income. However, these uses invite the question of how closely, in fact, the spatial distribution of poverty is represented by that of benefit receipt. So, for a start, are recipients of various benefits *always* income-poor by standard definitions, based on a conventional poverty line of 60 per cent median income? What percentage of income-poor households receive no welfare benefits, because they are ineligible, unaware, or choose not to claim? Does this

mean that benefits data are biased proxies – that is, they lead us systematically to over- or under-estimate the prevalence of poverty in different types of place? Is there a danger that the social problem of poverty becomes misunderstood as synonymous with the welfare benefits system? CASE’s work in 2012 has looked at some of the questions. We do this by first testing the validity and coverage of benefit receipt as poverty indicators within the best available source, the *Family Resources Survey*, and then by comparing survey estimates of poverty for different places with the rates of means-tested benefits receipt therein.

The *validity* of a poverty proxy (such as receiving a welfare benefit) is the proportion of households who are in fact poor. The *coverage* of a proxy is the percentage of all poor households who are identified by the proxy. The summary results (Table 1) are revealing. As one might expect, a sizeable majority of working-age benefit claimants do have incomes so low that they are income-poor by conventional and international standards. However, people who report receiving such a benefit to the survey represent only a minority of all income-poor families in the UK, around 25 per cent. If we look at households receiving other means-tested transfers, such as Pension Credit or Working Tax Credits, the proportion rises, but a greater number of these families have low incomes that are marginally above the standard poverty line.

These coverage figures are under-estimates, as receipt of welfare benefits is under-reported in sample surveys such as the FRS. However, they do show that a very large proportion of the income-poor in Britain receive no transfers from the state. The factors affecting the relationship between income transfers and poverty – such as housing costs, wages and eligibility for benefits – may vary from place to place, and so there is a risk that administrative data proxies may be biased estimates of the relative incidence of poverty in different parts of the country. This is borne out when we compare regional data on means-tested

benefits to regional survey estimates of income poverty (figure 1). The relationship between regional benefit rates and poverty rates is not one-to-one, and varies significantly between places. In London, for example, the “real” rate of poverty, once housing costs are taken into account, is consistently higher than the rate of means-tested benefit receipt would imply. We would expect such inconsistencies in the relationship between benefits and poverty to be even more marked for smaller spatial units, such as local authority districts.

We can draw several conclusions from these results. For public policy, they confirm that the political question of poverty is by no means reducible to the matter of state support, as a majority of the poor receive no benefits. Where benefits data are used to allocate funding, programmes should be clearer about the allocational principle at play, and more cautious about how well administrative data correspond to income poverty. Similarly, academic researchers should be alert to potential biases that can arise from using such data to describe variation in poverty within and between cities and regions; there is an important role for modelled and simulated small-area poverty estimates. Nonetheless, benefits data remain a vital source for understanding the spatial distribution of poverty in Britain, and CASE will be conducting further analysis to 2014 to see how this distribution is affected by the Coalition’s social policies and the prolonged economic downturn.

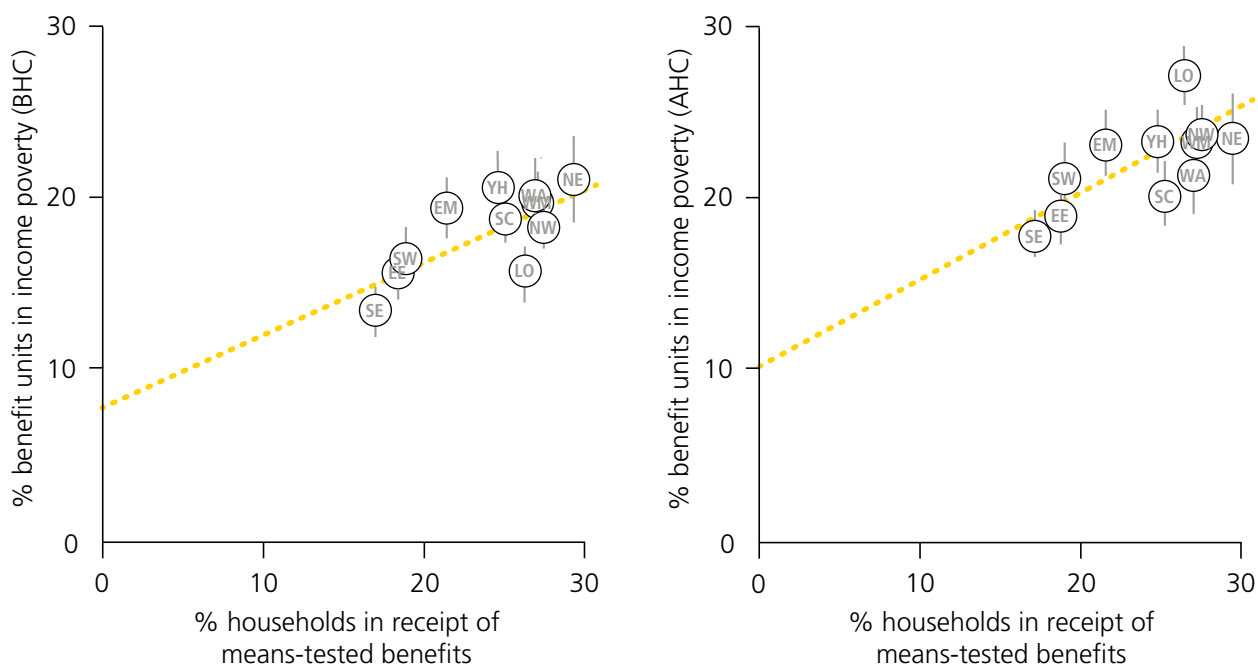
*The research summarised here is reported more fully in a forthcoming CASEpaper “Small Area Measures of Income Poverty” (SPCC Working Paper 001/CASEpaper 173).*

**Table 1: Validity and coverage of various benefit-receipt indicators as proxies for poverty.**

	Percentage of this group who are income-poor	Percentage of all income-poor families in this group
<b>Income-replacement benefits</b>		
Job Seeker's Allowance	67	12
Income Support	61	12
Incapacity Benefit / SDA	33	6
Employment Support Allowance	70	2
<i>All major out-of-work working-age benefits</i>	64	25
Pension Credit	20	5
<i>All major income-replacement benefits</i>	47	30
<i>Income-replacement benefits + Tax Credits</i>	36	44
<b>Other proxy measures</b>		
Living in Council Tax Band A dwelling	34	36
Living in flat or maisonette	35	28
Housing Benefit	54	29

Notes: From the Family Resources Survey and Households Below Average Income, 2009-10. Income poverty line is 60 per cent of UK national median income, after housing costs and equivalised by the OECD scale.

**Figure 1: The relationship between regional rates of receipt of means-tested benefits and regional income poverty rates before (left) and after (right) housing costs 2009/10.**



Region key: **EE**: East of England; **EM**: East Midlands; **LO**: London; **NE**: North East; **NW**: North West; **SC**: Scotland; **SE**: South East; **SW**: South West; **WA**: Wales; **WM**: West Midlands; **YH**: Yorkshire & Humber.

Notes: The "household benefit-receipt rate" is the count of claimants of the four major means-tested benefits, divided by the number of households in the region. The income poverty rates are single-year estimates from survey data, and the approximate 95 per cent confidence intervals are shown by the bars above and below the central estimate. The best-fit line is a linear regression weighted by the household count in each region.

Sources: Means-tested benefit counts from DWP, via NOMIS; Household estimates from DCLG (England), GROS (Scotland) and WAG (Wales); Income poverty rates are author's calculations from Households Below Average Income.

# PhD Spotlight: The capability approach and poverty measurement

Rod Hick

**The central claim of Amartya Sen's capability approach is that analysis should focus on what people can do or be, and not just on what they have, or how they feel. In terms of analysing poverty, this implies a shift from a focussing on the "means of living", such as income, to the "actual opportunities a person has", namely their functionings and capabilities. A persons "functionings" refer to the various things a person succeeds in "being or doing" such as being healthy, being happy, participating in society, and so forth, while their capabilities reflect the real opportunity to achieve these functionings – for example, the ability to participate in society, and so forth.**

The capability approach thus makes a break with standard income-centric approaches to measuring poverty, such as the 60 per cent of median income measure. However, within Social Policy there exists a strong tradition of understanding poverty, social exclusion and deprivation *directly* – for example, using of indicators of material deprivation examining whether people are able to participate in customary activities within a society, following the work of Peter Townsend.

My PhD research drew on Amartya Sen's capability approach as the basis for developing a framework for conceptualising and measuring poverty and deprivation in a rich nation, Social Policy context. In so doing, I conducted both conceptual and empirical analysis. The conceptual analysis located the capability approach with respect to the Townsendian tradition of understanding poverty; identified some problems with the latter; and sought to show how a capability-inspired framework for understanding poverty and deprivation could go some way to overcoming these problems. The empirical analysis, which examined the relationship between material poverty and multiple deprivation for different groups in the UK, across different dimensions, and over time, served to act both as a partial operationalisation of the conceptual framework which had been outlined, and generated additional insights which were in turn incorporated within the proposed conceptual framework.

In this brief summary, I focus on some findings from this thesis which have been published in papers in *Journal of Social Policy*, *Fiscal Studies*, and as a CASEpaper. In the former, I located the capability approach with respect to existing approaches to conceptualising poverty, social exclusion and deprivation. I argued that, at present, there is something of a tension between "narrow" concepts of poverty, based on the core concept

of resources, and "broad" concepts, emphasising multidimensionality. I argued that the capability approach enabled one to respect the former without losing sight of the latter because its central purpose lay in identifying "what" analysis should focus on, and it was less concerned with how this analytical terrain might be divided up – for example, into two concepts of poverty and deprivation.

However, the distinctiveness of the capability approach does not suggest that it bears no similarities with existing approaches to analysis, and I highlighted the use of indicators of material deprivation as representing one important point of correspondence between the capability approach and existing analysis. Such indicators refer to commodities and activities such as being able to afford two pairs of strong shoes, an annual holiday, and so forth. Importantly, the wording of these questions ask respondents whether they have the items in question and,

if they do not, whether this is because of a lack of resources or is by choice. This second part of the two part question – the "enforced lack" criterion – is important because it shares with Sen's distinction between capabilities and functionings the attempt to distinguish between choice and constraint.

However, there have been questions about whether this "enforced lack" criterion performs in practice as it is intended to do in theory. Specifically, it can be questioned whether allowing survey respondents themselves to distinguish between the deprivation items absent because of a lack of resources and others foregone by choice allows too great a role for *subjectivity*. This would, of course, clearly be an undesirable consequence. In an analysis presented in a paper in *Fiscal Studies*, I examined the performance of this "enforced lack" criterion by looking at the households identified as poor when





lacking material deprivation items (i) for any reason and (ii) those who claim that the absence of items occurred because of a lack of resources. I showed that while there appears to be problems with the performance of the enforced lack criterion for some particular groups (in particular, older people), on aggregate, it nonetheless seems to improve the measurement of material poverty.

Third, in analysis published in a CASEpaper, I investigated the relationship between low income and material deprivation measures of material poverty and a series of seven other measures of deprivation: ill-health, poor mental health, housing deprivation, lack of autonomy, low life satisfaction, financial stress, unemployment. I used the low income and material deprivation measures to construct “consistent” poverty profiles for each household. This provided a four-way classification – non-poor (on either measure), low income but not materially deprived; materially deprived but not income poor, or consistently poor (both low income and materially deprived). In every case,

respondents in “consistent” poverty faced the greatest risk of each of the other forms of deprivation. However, the intermediate categories were also found to be of interest; on each dimension, bar unemployment, respondents experiencing material deprivation but not income poverty experienced significantly greater rates of multiple deprivation than those who experienced income poverty but not material deprivation. It thus appeared that respondents’ deprivation status – much more than their low income status – was of use in identifying a group at risk of multiple forms of deprivation.

The findings contained in these three papers contributed to my overall conclusion that the capability approach can provide the basis for a framework for poverty analysis, which can overcome some problems of existing approaches and, importantly, which can support empirical analysis of poverty and deprivation in rich nations.

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# Life as a PhD student at CASE

Ben Richards interviewed by Amanda Fitzgerald

**Although he had not always intended to work towards a PhD, the idea first came to Ben a year or so after completing his undergraduate degree, when he by chance took some work researching the impact of jobs in the diamond industry in sub-Saharan Africa. It was by far the most fulfilling work Ben had found whilst starting out with his career, so he decided to apply for a research masters course, leading to a PhD. Ben's background was in Philosophy, but Social Policy appealed due to its connection to the wider world and practical applications.**

Ben first became aware of the research at CASE when writing his MSc application, and was first introduced to CASE through his MSc supervisor, Tania Burchardt. In October 2009, around the same time as starting his PhD, Ben was asked to join CASE by John Hills, although Ben didn't fully realise at the time what a great opportunity this would be.

Although he realised that a PhD involves spending a lot of time working alone, Ben hadn't anticipated quite how solitary the experience can be. One of the main benefits of CASE to research students is that it provides a place to interact and share ideas with people with similar research interests. The level of technical quantitative expertise in CASE is particularly useful, as there is always someone to ask when things go wrong! It provided a perfect environment to work on the statistical parts of a PhD, since

there were so many people that had done similar things, and knew how to get started with an unfamiliar dataset. The regular seminars at CASE have also been a perfect way to keep up-to-date with other people's research, and to get an idea of the variety of projects out there for when Ben finishes his PhD.

CASE has been a fantastic opportunity for Ben in terms of getting involved with other research projects, which can give valuable work experience and provide a more collaborative break from working on the PhD thesis. During his time in CASE, he has worked on several projects, including with John Hills looking into the effects of means-testing of bursaries in the new English university funding system, and with Kitty Stewart and Kerris Cooper on the "Money Matters" project, looking at evidence for and against a causal effect

of money (as opposed to benefits in kind, for example) on a variety of personal and social outcomes.

These extra research projects provide some valuable experience and skills for Ben's career after his PhD and, together with the technical and emotional support everyone in CASE provides, make it a very fulfilling place to have spent the last three or so years. The presence of people who have been there before in the stressful final phase of the PhD gives Ben encouragement to get the thesis finished over the coming months!

Ben very much hopes to stay connected with CASE after completing his PhD, and would like to work on similar projects with people at CASE. He is sure that the people he has met in his time at CASE will be invaluable to know in the future, both to help him with his career and to share interests with.



## Special Event to celebrate 25 years at LSE for Anne Power



**On Monday 9 July 2012, over 250 people gathered to celebrate the involvement of Anne Power in the Department of Social Policy at LSE over the last 25 years. Anne's significant contribution to the academic and research worlds, and her work in some of the most deprived communities in the UK and Europe, was recognised in a three-part event including an afternoon tea, symposium and reception.**

Anne first joined the Department in 1981 as an academic visitor and became a full member in 1987, establishing an MSc and Diploma in Housing. Since then, Anne has given hundreds of lectures, contributed to many courses, chaired numerous seminars, and tutored around two thousand students at undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD level at LSE. Her wide-ranging research has included work on housing, cities, regeneration, low-income communities, race relations, crime, climate change and energy saving. In 1985 she was awarded a PhD on the history of council housing in Britain 1885-1985 and the emergence of unpopular estates, which was later published as *Property Before People*.

Anne's significant contribution to the academic and research worlds, as well as her work with some of the most deprived communities in the UK and Europe, was recognised by an event including an afternoon tea, symposium and reception. We invited four of Anne's colleagues, leading experts in their fields, to discuss the changes in housing, cities, sustainability, regeneration and low-income communities during

her membership of the Social Policy Department to date, as well as the position in 2012 and expectations for the future. Howard Glennerster, Professor of Social Policy at LSE, acted as chair.

Lord Richard Rogers of Riverside, the international architect and former chair of the Urban Task Force, of which Anne was a member, gave a personal account of their collaborative work on cities, in addition to the charity they founded together, the National Communities Resource Centre at Trafford Hall.

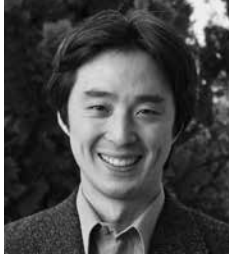
He was followed by Professor Tim Jackson, a fellow former member of the Sustainable Development Commission, who spoke on sustainable development and particularly the recent Rio+20 summit.

After Tim, David Robinson, founder of Community Links and chair of the Early Action Task Force, of which Anne is a member, discussed community action in relation to current economic circumstances, before Stella Creasy, MP for Walthamstow and one of Anne's former PhD students, talked about low-income communities and the importance of involving residents.



After questions, Anne spoke briefly to conclude the symposium, before guests enjoyed a reception. It was a very special occasion for all involved, with guests travelling from as far as Israel, France and Denmark to be there. However, fear not – Anne isn't retiring. As David Robinson said in his speech, she is simply entering her "middle age"!

## Current research and research staff



**Kenzo Asahi** is researching on the causal impacts of better transport accessibility in Chile as part of his PhD thesis in Social

Policy. His quantitative thesis explores the effect of improving urban public transport networks in Chile on the inhabitants' level of employment, education and levels of crime in those areas. He also continues contributing to the blog "El Post" (in Spanish) on inequality and social policy issues ([elpost.cl](http://elpost.cl)).

**Francesca Bastagli** worked on three main pieces of research. First, together with John Hills, she co-authored a paper examining the "big trade off" between public and private consumption by comparing the composition of household consumption between otherwise similar OECD countries with higher and lower levels of public consumption, using national accounts data. Second, together with Fabio Veras Soares (International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, IPC-IG, Brasilia) she analysed the main challenges and possible responses to the future of social protection development in Brazil. Finally, she completed a study of the implementation of conditionality in Brazil's national conditional cash transfer programme, the Bolsa Familia, using administrative records (2003-2012) and presented its results at the Latin American Studies Association's (LASA) Annual Congress in San Francisco in May 2012.

**Katie Bates** joined CASE in 2011 as a Research Assistant on the Joseph Rowntree Foundation project *Postcode Discrimination in Employment*, with Ruth Lupton, Rebecca Tunstall, Simon Watmough and Anne Green from Warwick University. Katie has since been working with LSE Housing and Communities on three projects, which have continued through 2012. She has been working with Laura Lane on a project commissioned by Rockwool, looking at the social implications of an energy efficiency retrofit on a large social housing estate in West London.

The report based on the research, *High Rise Hope*, was launched in October 2012. LSE Housing and Communities have secured funding to repeat the research in 2013, in order to investigate the impact of the retrofit after the building works finish. Laura and Katie are also working on a project with Octavia Housing exploring the experiences of Octavia tenants in expensive areas of London, with particular reference to public funding cuts and changes to the welfare system. This is due to be launched in 2013, following repeat interviews in winter 2012/13 with residents who are especially vulnerable to welfare reform. With Anne Power and Nicola Serle, Katie is working on a research project for Elizabeth Finn Care, exploring the impact of the Olympics on deprivation and regeneration in Newham. During 2013, Katie will be working on a new project for Newham Council looking into the impact of debt, credit and welfare reform on low-income families.

**Robert Cassen** is continuing his research on education, writing a book with Prof Anna Vignoles (Institute of Education) and Prof Sandra McNally (University of Surrey and LSE). The book will be completed in 2014 and published by Routledge.

**Kerris Cooper** Joined CASE in July 2012, after working on the award-winning research project on the 2011 riots, in the Social Policy Department at LSE, with Tim Newburn and others. She is currently working on a Joseph Rowntree Foundation project with Kitty Stewart, Ben Richards and Jane Waldfogel. The project, "How Much Does Money Matter?", is a systematic review that aims to evaluate quantitative evidence of the causal impact of income on wider outcomes, such as health, education, wellbeing and social inclusion. As well as covering a comprehensive range of outcomes for different age groups, the study also aims to answer a number of secondary questions about the effect of money, such as whether the source of income is important (whether from cash transfers or employment), whether income matters more at particular life stages and how the effect of income compares to that of wealth.



**Jack Cunliffe** recently passed his PhD Major Review having been studying part-time and moved to study full time. He continues his

work looking at the interaction between area and criminal behaviour. This is still essentially a quantitative study using existing governmental and survey data and is likely to, at least in part, focus on the concept of collective efficacy. He also works alongside the Social Policy in a Cold Climate team predominantly on the distributional effects and dataset identification side.



**Rikki Dean** joined CASE in 2012 to begin a PhD exploring the use of deliberative and participatory policy-

making techniques in UK social policy. As government shifts towards "governance" these processes are becoming increasingly popular, from deliberative consultation initiatives to participatory budgeting in local government. The desirability of greater participation in policy-making is rarely challenged, but this is not true of its definition. This project thus explores the influence of the theories and ideologies behind calls for greater participation. Does participation mean the same thing to both new public managers and deliberative democrats? And how can we evaluate these processes if their very definition is contested?



## Current research and research staff (*continued*)



**Alex Fenton** was a Research Fellow on the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme at CASE until October 2012.

His work

has included a review of methods for estimating poverty rates for small areas such as neighbourhoods and cities. This will support forthcoming analysis of the spatial differences in the effects of the Coalition's social policies. He has also written on the changing distribution of poverty in London and other major urban areas during the 2000s, looking in detail at the reasons for the apparent "suburbanisation" of poverty in British cities.

**Amanda Fitzgerald** joined CASE in June 2012 to work with Ruth Lupton and Alex Fenton on the spatial strand of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme. Her inputs are around the geographies of government spending, policy and its outputs and outcomes. To date this has involved work on deprived neighbourhoods under New Labour through an examination of trends in central government grants allocations to deprived local authorities. She is taking forward Alex Fenton's work on small-area based poverty indicators by applying the measure in a spatial analysis of city-based poverty. She is also working with Polly Vizard on the London element of the programme.

**Ludovica Gambaro** successfully completed and defended her PhD, which examined the pay of childcare workers in the UK from 1994 to 2008. Together with Kitty Stewart and Jane Waldfogel, she has also continued working on a research project funded by the Nuffield Foundation on early childhood services. Using English administrative data from different agencies, she completed an analysis of patterns of enrolment of pre-school children in early education services and investigated the association between children's disadvantage and quality of provision. The findings are to be reported in a CASE working paper at the beginning of 2013. Using survey data on families' expenditures, she has also started to explore variations across families in the costs of early childhood services net of public subsidies. The research project also included a comparative part, which relied on the contributions from six international scholars examining how effectively, and through what mechanisms, different countries ensure access to high quality early education and care for children of all backgrounds. CASE hosted an authors' conference in September and an edited volume containing the findings of this comparative exercise will be published in January 2014 by the Policy Press. Finally, Ludovica has been selected to take part in the College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research, a post-doctoral network financed by the German Ministry of Education and Research, the Jacobs Foundation and the Leibnitz Association.

**Howard Glennerster** continued to contribute to the last stages of the Nuffield Foundation funded study of wealth distribution. His archival study of the failed attempt to introduce a wealth tax in 1974 was published in the *Journal of Social Policy* in April 2012. He helped in the drafting of the final three chapters of the book to be published by Oxford University Press summarising the results of the larger study. He has also been advising on the public expenditure figures to be used in CASE's major review of the impact of the Coalition Government's retrenchment in social spending. In July he was appointed as Special Advisor to the House of Lords Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change. The Committee will report in March 2013.



**Ian Gough** presented results of his research into the interface of climate change and social policy to a wide range of

bodies during 2012. He was invited by the European Trades Union Institute (ETUI) to address a seminar series for top officials in the European Trades Union Council (ETUC) on the social aspects of climate change (at the LSE). Other events included the Royal Statistical Society conference on "Can climate change policies be fair?", the Social Policy Association annual conference, and an international conference in Sheffield on devising new models for overcoming the growth crisis. He opened an international academic conference in Rio de Janeiro with a paper on the future of global social policy which included reflections on the impact of climate change. He also wrote a theoretical paper on the joint role of prevention in social policy and climate change policy, presented to a seminar on "The wisdom of prevention" organised by the new economics foundation at the LSE. He continued as advisor to the IFS/PSI research programme "Designing Carbon Taxation to Protect Low-Income Households". In 2013 he will present a new paper on welfare states and environmental states at the European

Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Joint Sessions in Mainz, in a session on Revisiting the Ecological State in the Anthropocene. He will organise a panel on Climate Change and Welfare States: New research Agendas at the CES Conference of Europeanists to take place in Amsterdam. His main task will be to progress the writing of a book on climate change and sustainable welfare.



**Eileen Herden** joined LSE Housing and Communities in January 2012 after a period at LSE Cities.

She now works with Anne Power, Bert Provan, Nicola Serle, Katie Bates and Isobel Esberger on various strands of LSE Housing and Communities research. Her main focus in 2012 was the publication of the report *Bigger than Business – Housing associations and community investment in an age of austerity* for the Orbit Group. The report developed a sustainable framework for housing associations to maximize their contribution to communities in the current financial climate. The research involved in-depth interviews in three case study areas on themes such as community development, support networks, welfare reform, and the role of the landlord. The project also made use of the peer research method of data collection, for which six tenants were trained to conduct interviews in their local area. In 2012 Eileen began an evaluation of the DCLG funded Tenant Futures Programme at Trafford Hall, which will be finalized in 2013. Eileen also joins LSE Housing on new qualitative research on work incentives after the welfare reforms commissioned by housing associations in South West England.

**John Hills** completed work on the fuel poverty review, commissioned by the Department of Energy and Climate Change, and the final report, *Getting the Measure of Fuel Poverty*, was launched in March 2012. The government issued a consultation response, proposing adopting the report's recommendations in September, with a new strategy for combatting fuel poverty promised for 2013. Along with other colleagues in CASE (Frank Cowell, Howard Glennerster, Abigail McKnight, Eleni Karagiannaki and Francesca Bastagli) he completed a book, *Wealth in the UK: Distribution, accumulation and policy*, to be published by Oxford University Press in May 2013, resulting from a programme funded by the Nuffield Foundation and the ESRC (as part of his Professorial Fellowship). With Ben Richards he examined the structure of means-tested bursaries and fee reductions being offered by some universities as they raised their fees in October, using this as a case study of the often chaotic effects of overlapping and poorly-designed localised means tests. John also continued working with colleagues on the first phase of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, his focus being the effects of taxation, social security and pensions. Within this he has been working with Polina Obolonskaya, Ludovica Gambaro, and Jack Cunliffe on updating the results of the 2010 National Equality Panel report on the distribution of economic outcomes by people's characteristics and circumstances. He, Francesca Bastagli, Eleni Karagiannaki and Tiffany Tsang also continued their work on the project for the Nuffield Foundation on differences in consumption patterns between countries with higher and lower levels of social spending and taxation. A first paper from this will be published in early 2013.

**Stephen Jenkins** is a CASE research associate and Professor of Economic and Social Policy in the Department of Social Policy. The last year saw the completion of a project analysing the impact of the Great Recession on the distribution of household incomes, taking a cross-national comparative perspective (with the focus on OECD countries). This is joint work with Andrea Brandolini (Banca d'Italia), John Micklewright (Institute of Education), and Brian Nolan (UCD). The research has now been published by Oxford University Press in January 2013. Otherwise, Stephen has continued to research various aspects of income mobility and poverty dynamics. For example, he has examined the relationship between persistent and current poverty rates in the EU (with Philippe Van Kerm, CEPS), and earnings and employment dynamics (supported by a British Academy small grant; with Lorenzo Cappellari, Milan). He has continued research on the estimation of "country effects" using multi-level data such as EU-SILC or the European Social Surveys (joint with Mark Bryan, Essex). He is in the early stages of writing a chapter on within- and between-generation income mobility for the Handbook of Income Distribution, Volume 2 (joint with Markus Jäntti, Stockholm).

**Eleni Karagianniaki** continued working along with Frank Cowell and Abigail McKnight on GINI – a three year international research programme (funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme) which is examining the wider impact of rising inequalities. Her work for this project involves a detailed investigation of the role of demographic, economic and institutional differences in accounting for cross-country differences in the distribution of wealth and their changes over time. Part of this work has been published in CASE, GINI and LWS working paper series and final research should be published in early 2013. During the year, Eleni also started working on a project funded by the Nuffield Foundation looking at the impact of national taxation levels on household spending behaviour using micro-data from four national Household Budget Surveys.

## Current research and research staff (*continued*)

**Laura Lane** has been working with LSE Housing and Communities on three projects, which have continued through 2012. She has been working with Katie Bates and Anne Power on a project commissioned by Rockwool, looking at the social implications of an energy efficiency retrofit on a large social housing estate in West London. The report based on the research, *High Rise Hope*, was launched in October 2012. LSE Housing and Communities have secured funding to repeat the research in 2013, in order to investigate the impact of the retrofit after the building works finish. Laura and Katie are also working on a project with Octavia Housing exploring the experiences of Octavia tenants in expensive areas of London, with particular reference to public funding cuts and changes to the welfare system. This is due to be launched in 2013, following repeat interviews in winter 2012/3 with residents who are especially vulnerable to welfare reform. Laura has also continued to work on the Weak Market Cities project, looking predominantly at Sheffield and Belfast.

**Ruth Lupton** has been leading on CASE's new research programme looking at the distributional effects of the recession and the Coalition's policy and spending reforms: Social Policy in a Cold Climate (SPCC). With Alex Fenton and Amanda Fitzgerald, she has been analysing developments in neighbourhood renewal policy in each of the four countries of the UK from 1997 to 2012, with additional analysis of neighbourhood renewal spending, outputs and outcomes in England. The team has also begun work on the spatial distribution of poverty in British cities since 2001. Both of these stands of work provide a baseline for tracking the Coalition's impact. Ruth is also leading on the education policy aspects of the SPCC programme. At the same time, she has begun work with the new economics foundation (nef) on labour markets and inequality in Northern Ireland, and completed a literature review for Ofsted on relationships between aspects of school organisation, poverty and educational attainment, with Anne West, Philip Noden and Anne-Marie Brady. Her work with Rebecca Tunstall, Simon

Watmough, Katie Bates and Anne Green on postcode discrimination in employment was published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation in October 2012.



**Lindsey Macmillan** is a visiting fellow at CASE working on inter-generational mobility and educational

inequality as part of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme. She is also a lecturer in Economics in the Department for Quantitative Social Science at the Institute of Education, University of London. In 2012, Lindsey completed and successfully defended her PhD on the Intergenerational Transmission of Worklessness in the UK at the University of Bristol. She spent the summer of 2012 working as a Policy Analyst in the Implementation Unit at the Cabinet Office, analysing the Pupil Premium and the 2 year old childcare offer. This year, alongside her work on the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, Lindsey will be working on a new ESRC research grant on lifetime economic mobility, bringing together new research on mobility within and across generations in the UK.



**Abigail McKnight** has continued her work on a major international 3-year research programme (GINI) which

is examining the wider impact of rising inequality. This research project examines the social, cultural and political impacts associated with increasing inequalities in income, wealth and education. The project is funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme and involves researchers across 29 countries. Abigail is the UK research partner and joint coordinator of the social impacts work package. This year she has been working alongside Frank Cowell and Eleni Karagiannaki on two papers comparing

the distribution of wealth across five developed countries (UK, US, Italy, Finland and Sweden) and the extent to which demographic differences account for cross-country variation. She has also been working with Tiffany Tsang preparing a UK country report that describes the statistical picture of changes in inequalities in the UK over the last 30 years, and the relationship between any observed change and a range of economic, social, political and cultural outcomes.

**Kok Hoe Ng** is researching old-age income security in Singapore and Hong Kong as part of his PhD studies. The dissertation is concerned with the interaction of demographic ageing, kin availability and intergenerational exchange, and pension policy reforms. Following earlier work that compares the income situations of elderly persons in the two societies and projects possible living arrangements and pension outcomes in the coming decades, the final stage of his research reviews existing theory on the political factors driving pension policy development in these places and anticipates possible paths of development.

**Polina Obolenskaya** continued working on the Social Policy in Cold Climate programme led by Ruth Lupton, which looks at the impact of recession, spending and policy reforms on the distribution of state provision and the distribution of incomes and wealth. She is working on two particular themes of the programme: analysis of continuity and change in policy, spending and outputs in four policy areas (health and social care, early years, education, personal taxation and social security); and analysis of the overall distribution of economic outcomes.

**Kênia Parsons** continued her doctoral research on conditional cash transfers and rural poverty in Brazil. Her thesis focuses on the impact of geographical location on implementation and participation in poor rural municipalities. She analyses the Bolsa Família programme, the largest conditional cash transfer in the world and one of the main social policies of the Brazilian government. In 2012, Kênia was a visiting student at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales, Australia.

**Anne Power** heads LSE Housing and Communities, with an active team of five researchers, who are delivering six exciting and challenging new projects:

*Orbit Housing Group* It asked LSE Housing and Communities to develop a framework for investment to enhance the opportunities for low income communities where they are landlords. *Bigger than Business* was launched in November 2012 with Nick Hurd MP, the Minister for Civil Society in the Cabinet Office.

*Rockwool*, the insulation supplier, and Hammersmith and Fulham Council, asked us to survey tenants of a high-rise estate in Hammersmith about the social impact of energy saving retrofit investment. Fifty residents of the 23-storey tower blocks gave their views on their community, and the benefits and problems of living in high-rise, leading to *High Rise Hope*, which has received headline attention both in government (DECC) and in the media.

*Octavia Housing*, a traditional housing association in Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster, commissioned us to assess the value and viability of low-cost renting in high-cost areas. Social housing in high-cost areas reinforces the value to low income residents of living and participating in mixed communities.

The *European Regional Development Fund* (ERDF) of the EU commissioned detailed case studies of investment by ERDF in peripheral housing areas, to improve their energy efficiency and to integrate them into the urban fabric. This work will shape future links between energy conservation and social inclusion.

Our study of the *impact of the Olympics* on one of the poorest communities in the country, Newham, reveals a lot of local involvement and enthusiasm. There are serious questions on whether the follow-through will deliver on its promise. This work funded by Elizabeth Finn Care attracted international publicity from Japan and Australia, to Brazil and the US, as well as across Europe.

Anne with LSE Cities advised the *Dutch government and the city of Almere* on the environmental challenges of building for an expanding population in an area below sea level.

Anne continues to work on community self-help and energy saving in the built environment and is responsible, with Nicola Serle, Liz Richardson of Manchester University and the National Community Resource Centre, for a *HEIF 5-funded programme on Housing Plus*. This involves working with leading non-profit housing associations and the government on developing a limited-profit Private Rented Sector to tackle our housing shortages. Anne has also continued her work with the Brookings Institution and European colleagues on weak market cities, including a City Reformers Group meeting in Berlin in October, and is working on an international handbook.

Anne also published a paper for the *Journal of Transport Geography* in March, "Social inequality, disadvantaged neighbourhoods and transport deprivation: an assessment of the historical influence of housing policies", which was followed by a paper on the Big Society for the British Academy in early September. "The Big Society and concentrated neighbourhood problems" marked the end of the British Academy's *New Paradigms in Public Policy* series, edited by Peter Taylor Gooby. Anne's paper, along with the other papers from the series, will be published as part of a book in July 2013.



**Bert Provan** is working on a range of projects in the LSE Housing and Communities team, having joined in June

2011 after leaving his post as a senior civil servant and chief social researcher in a government department, where he managed research on deprivation, cohesion, digital inclusion, citizen attitudes, and Big Society policies. Bert has a PhD from LSE (1993) and since his arrival has completed and edited two of the recently published reports in the Weak Market Cities programme, which examine the economic and social redevelopment of three French Cities with particular attention to addressing problems in the most deprived neighbourhoods, as well as being co-author of a report on the social role of a major UK social landlord, Orbit Housing. He is now completing work, as part of a wider consortium, on an 18 month EU project looking at the role of "green" rehabilitation on addressing social inclusion and fuel poverty in deprived estates in ten European counties, where he contributed the French case study as well as being part of the core consortium writing team. He has recently been appointed to the position of Knowledge Broker within CASE, where he will have a particular focus on ensuring that the emerging findings of the Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme have an impact on key audiences who need to make use of the findings.

## Current research and research staff (*continued*)



### **Ben Richards**

continued work on his mixed-methods PhD thesis. His research examines the relationship between

national identity and social cohesion in Britain, with a particular emphasis on the importance of ethnic identities for this relationship. In the first half of 2012 he completed the semi-structured interviews for the qualitative component of the thesis, which asked people of African and African-Caribbean ethnicities from an area of London about their views on their identities, social cohesion, and a selection of related topics. In the latter half of 2012, Ben completed the second of the two empirical chapters of his thesis, which presents an analysis of the interview data. Work was then started on the final, theoretical chapter of the thesis, and preparation is underway for the final PhD submission in summer 2013. Ben also completed a project with John Hills on the impact of the means-testing of university bursaries in the new English university funding system, and worked with Kitty Stewart and Kerris Cooper on the Money Matters project.



### **Nicola Serle**

supports LSE Housing and Communities' research and administration. She is responsible for the group's

events and in 2012 organised a symposium to celebrate Anne Power's 25 years in the Social Policy department called *Property before People – 25 years on*, after the title of Anne's PhD and first book. This event brought together former and current students, colleagues and friends to debate topical housing issues and was a great success. Nicola continued her work with Anne Power and Katie Bates for Elizabeth Finn Care, exploring the impact of the Olympics on deprivation and regeneration in Newham, the main Olympic host borough, which included a well-attended launch event at the House of Commons in July. Nicola leads on a 2 year knowledge exchange HEIF5 funded programme called Housing Plus. This is looking at the wider role of social landlords beyond their narrow housing focus and what part they need to play in the neighbourhoods they operate in, responding to community issues that affect them as landlords. It brings together key actors in a series of Think Tanks and Breakfast Briefings to uncover how the complex interacting problems of *housing* relate to *welfare and housing reforms* in low-income communities. She also provided project co-ordination and backup for other LSE Housing and Communities projects which other researchers have written about.

**Wendy Sigle-Rushton** has been working on several projects that focus on the family and home environment as determinants of well-being. With co-authors from the University of Oslo, she has been involved in one project that uses Norwegian register data sibling fixed effects models to examine the link between parental union dissolution and school performance and another project that uses multi-process models of DHS data to examine the relationship between family size and educational development in Africa. Other on-going projects use data from both the US and the UK to explore the extent to which being a migrant or ethnic minority moderates the association between family structure and child health.

**Kitty Stewart** worked with Ludovica Gambaro, Jane Waldfogel, the Daycare Trust and a team of international collaborators on a project on the quality and affordability of early childhood education and care, funded by the Nuffield Foundation. The project includes work examining the association between children's background and the quality of early education provision in the UK, and a comparative book looking at whether and how disadvantaged children in seven other countries are able to access high quality provision. An authors' conference was held in September 2012 and the book will be published in early 2014. In addition, Kitty began work with Kerris Cooper on a review of the literature on the causal relationship between household income and wider social outcomes for adults and children. She also worked on a paper reviewing policy and outcomes affecting under-fives, as part of the CASE Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme.



**Tiffany Tsang** worked with Abigail McKnight on the Growing Inequalities' Impacts (GINI) project, which is funded

by the European Commission. The focus of her work has been on the UK country report, which looks at long-term trends of the impact of inequalities on social, political, cultural and economic aspects of life. The analysis deals with how the following have changed in the last 20 years (wherever possible): inequality in income, employment, wealth and education; material deprivation; family formation and breakdown; crime and punishment; political and civic participation; trust in parliament, government and other institutions, among many others. She also worked with Francesca Bastagli, John Hills and Eleni Karagiannaki on the Consumption Patterns and National Taxation Levels project, which aims to understand the private consumption patterns of countries with similar incomes, comparing countries that have higher taxes and social spending with countries like the UK, which have relatively lower social spending. She also began work with Tania Burchardt, Ellie Suh and Polly Vizard on a Eurofound project on multidimensional deprivation in Europe.



**Milo Vandemoortele** is a PhD student in CASE. Her research interests lie in examining the association between

parental resources and children's development in developing countries. She is also a graduate teaching assistant at the Department for Methodology, in quantitative subjects. Her research is funded by the ESRC. Prior to LSE, Milo worked as a researcher at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI, London) in the Growth, Poverty and Inequality Programme.

**Polly Vizard** continued her research on poverty and inequality, the capability approach and human rights. She worked with Ruth Lupton, John Hills, Kitty Stewart and others on the CASE Social Policy in a Cold Climate programme, working mainly on a "looking backwards" paper on Labour's record on health (1997-2010). She also worked with Tania Burchardt, Ellie Suh and Tiffany Tsang on a Eurofound project on multidimensional deprivation in Europe. Other ongoing research included a project for Helpage International on the multidimensional wellbeing and rights of older people in Kyrgyzstan, Peru and Mozambique.



**Jane Waldfogel** continued her research on poverty, inequality, and social mobility across the US, UK,

Canada, and Australia, with funding from the Russell Sage Foundation. She also continued work, with colleagues at Columbia University, on improving the measurement of poverty in the US (with funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation) and on the effects of the recession on children and families (with funding from the National Institute of Health). Jane also continued work on the "childcare puzzle" with colleagues at CASE; with funding from the Nuffield Foundation, they are studying inequality in childcare access, cost, and quality in the UK and other countries. Papers from the participating countries were presented at a conference at LSE in September 2012 and are now being finalised for publication in an edited volume.

## CASE Publications

(\*) denotes publications largely attributable to work outside the Centre. Non-CASE authors indicated by *italics*.

### Books and reports.

*Ballas, D., Lupton, R., Kavrouidakis, D., Hennig, B., Yiagopoulou, V., Dale, R. and Dorling, D.* (2012) *Mind the Gap: Education Inequality Across EU Regions*. Brussels: European Union. Available at: [www.nesse.fr/nesse/activities/reports](http://www.nesse.fr/nesse/activities/reports)

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Gong, S. and Li, B. (forthcoming) "The Case Study of Inequality in China", in *Growing Gaps, Narrowing Opportunities: Tackling Inequality to Give Our Children A Better Future*, to be published by Save the Children. (\*)

## CASE Papers

<b>CASE/159</b>	Tania Burchardt	Deliberative research as a tool to make value judgements
<b>CASE/160</b>	John Hills, Ben Richards	Localisation and the means test: A case study of support for English students from Autumn 2012
<b>CASE/161</b>	Aaron George Grech	Evaluating the possible impact of pension reforms on future living standards in Europe
<b>CASE/162</b>	Laura Lane, Liz Richardson	Using play to help families learn: Evaluation of Trafford Hall's Playing 2 Learn Programme 2008-11
<b>CASE/163</b>	Hyun Bang Shin, Bingqin Li	Migrants, Landlords and their Uneven Experiences of the Beijing Olympic Games
<b>CASE/164</b>	Eleni Karagiannaki	The effect of parental wealth on children's outcomes in early adulthood
<b>CASE/165</b>	Frank A Cowell, Eleni Karagiannaki, Abigail McKnight	Mapping and measuring the distribution of household wealth: A cross-country analysis
<b>CASE/166</b>	Francesca Bastagli, John Hills	Wealth accumulation in Great Britain 1995-2005: The role of house prices and the life cycle
<b>CASE/167</b>	Rod Hick	On "Consistent" Poverty

## Other CASE Publications

<b>CASEbrief 31</b>	John Hills	Getting the measure of fuel poverty: Executive summary
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## CASE Reports

<b>CASEreport 70</b>	Bert Provan, Celine Kuklowsky	Report to Plan Urbanisme Construction Architecture on progress in France's former industrial cities
<b>CASEreport 71</b>	Celine Kuklowsky, Bert Provan	Lille City Report
<b>CASEreport 72</b>	John Hills	Final report of the Hills Independent Fuel Poverty Review: Getting the Measure of Fuel Poverty
<b>CASEreport 73</b>	Abigail McKnight, Polly Vizard (Editors)	CASE Annual Report 2011
<b>CASEreport 74</b>	Tania Burchardt, Martin Evans, Holly Holder	Measuring Inequality: Autonomy The degree of empowerment in decisions about one's own life
<b>CASEreport 75</b>	Katie Bates, Laura Lane, Anne Power	High Rise Hope

## Seminars

### Social Exclusion Seminars

<b>25 January 2012</b>	Estimating the impact of marriage on child development Claire Crawford (IFS), joint with Ellen Greaves
<b>8 February 2012</b>	Does income inequality cause health and social problems? Karen Rowlingson (University of Birmingham)
<b>29 February 2012</b>	Do universal benefits have a future? Malcolm Torry (Citizen's Income Trust and LSE)
<b>7 March 2012</b>	Does additional spending help urban schools? An evaluation using boundary discontinuities Steve Gibbons (CEP, SERC and LSE)

## CASE seminars and events 2012

### Social Exclusion Seminars (*continued*)

<b>16 May 2012</b>	Who saves for retirement? Mark Bryan (University of Essex)
<b>30 May 2012</b>	Providing a Sure Start: How Government Discovered Early Childhood Naomi Eisenstadt (University of Oxford)
<b>17th October 2012</b>	Silver Bullet or Fools' Gold? Vocational education and the modern labour market Alison Wolf (King's College)
<b>14th November 2012</b>	Economic cycles, unemployment and health: A cross-national study Mauricio Avendano (LSE)
<b>21st November 2012</b>	The social effects of the Great Recession in Britain and the US Anthony Heath (University of Oxford)
<b>5th December 2012</b>	Social mobility and child development Leon Feinstein (CASE)

### Welfare Policy and Analysis Seminars

<b>18 January 2012</b>	Migrant and student employment and labour market opportunities for less skilled people: Insights from one local labour market. Anne Green (University of Warwick)
<b>1 February 2012</b>	Don't even think about it! The role of automatic processes in explaining behaviour and their implications for research and policy. Paul Dolan (LSE)
<b>15 February 2012</b>	The importance of independent income: Understanding the role of non-means-tested earnings replacement benefits. Holly Sutherland (ISER, University of Essex), joint with Fran Bennett
<b>14 March 2012</b>	The changing architecture of the UK welfare state John Hills (CASE, LSE), joint with Dan Edmiston
<b>2 May 2012</b>	Decentralising the means-test: The design of student bursaries from October 2012. John Hills (CASE, LSE), joint with Ben Richards
<b>24th October 2012</b>	Using randomized controlled trials in social policy: a case study of mixed methods research with troubled families Liz Richardson (University of Manchester)
<b>7th November 2012</b>	Worklessness dynamics in deprived areas: Evidence from Manchester Helen Barnes and David McLennan (University of Oxford)
<b>28th November 2012</b>	The distributional effects of fiscal consolidation in the EU Holly Sutherland (University of Essex)

### Special events

<b>11 January 2012</b>	CASE/new economics foundation special event About Time: Examining the case for a shorter working week. Public Lecture at the LSE
<b>20 June 2012</b>	CASE special event The Changing Distribution of Wealth. Half-day seminar
<b>2 July 2012</b>	"Lasting Legacy or Missed Opportunity: The launch of an in-depth study into the social impact of Olympic regeneration". House of Commons launch
<b>9 July 2012</b>	CASE and Social Policy Department special event Property Before People – 25 Years on: A Celebration of Anne Power at LSE
<b>28 September 2012</b>	Equal Access: Providing Quality Early Childhood Education and Care to Disadvantaged Families. All-day conference
<b>19 October 2012</b>	LSE Housing and Communities special event High Rose Hope. Rockwool report launch and debate
<b>1 November 2012</b>	CASE/ new economics foundation special event The Wisdom of Prevention – Research workshop
<b>28 November 2012</b>	Bigger than Business. Orbit report launch and debate