INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Comparative Study on Happiness

DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY, KYOTO
24–25 FEBRUARY 2014

Sponsors:
Center for the Study of the Creative Economy at Doshisha University
Life Risk Research Center at Doshisha University
Panel Data Research Center at Keio University
# Table of Contents

1. Purpose of the Workshop .................................................................................. 1
2. Purpose of the comparative study on happiness ............................................... 1
3. Presentation Schedule ...................................................................................... 2
4. Venue: Doshisha University Imadegawa Campus ............................................. 4
5. Information for Presenters ................................................................................. 5
6. Information for editors ....................................................................................... 5
7. Important dates for authors ............................................................................... 6
8. Accomodation for overseas participants ............................................................ 7
9. Restaurant Information ...................................................................................... 8
10. Contact Information .......................................................................................... 8
11. Abstracts and Biographies ................................................................................ 9
    Session1 Monday, Feb 24 ................................................................................... 11
    Session 2 Monday, Feb 24 ................................................................................ 15
    Session 3 Monday, Feb 24 ................................................................................. 20
    Special Session Monday, Feb 24 ....................................................................... 25
    Session 4 Tuesday, Feb 25 ................................................................................. 26
    Session 5 Tuesday, Feb 25 ................................................................................. 31
    Session 6 Tuesday, Feb 25 ................................................................................. 34
12. References on Comparative Study on Happiness ........................................... 37
1. Purpose of the Workshop

This Workshop is a preliminary meeting for the “International Conference—Comparative Study on Happiness” to be held in October 2014 in Paris. During the workshop participants will exchange and discuss progress reports of the research project entitled “Creating a Welfare Society—Happiness and a Stronger Economy”, as well as papers with wider focus (not particularly drawing on the surveys internationally conducted). The Editorial Committee will meet during the workshop to discuss the publication of the project and the organization of the Paris conference. This workshop is sponsored by Life Risk Research Center at Doshisha University (Director, Toshiaki Tachibanaki), Center for the Study of the Creative Economy at Doshisha University (Director, Nobuko Kawashima), and Panel Data Research Center at Keio University (Director, Yoshio Higuchi).

2. Purpose of the comparative study on happiness

The fiscal crisis of many governments amongst advanced nations over the last two to three decades has led to the decline of the welfare state and simultaneously an increase in income gaps between different groups, as well as in anxiety and unhappiness generally shared amongst people. It has become an urgent issue in Japan, too, for researchers in the social sciences to investigate the causes of the problems and propose policies so that the national economy would regain its competitiveness where people would live feeling more secure and happier. Whilst there are numerous academic approaches to this issue, we aim to address it with the use of surveys to identify the correlations between exogenous factors that affect lives of people such as the system of social security, education, employment, family and friends, the existence of social capital and the degree of happiness and well-being as perceived by them. The primary methodology, thus, is similar to the one described by Easterlin (2002) and Hills and Argyle (2002), but we welcome other approaches from diverse disciplines such as sociology.

With this overall goal, the study has four specific areas of concern for cross-national research:

1) Influence of social security on happiness.
2) Effects of work-life balance and employment system on happiness.
3) Effects of education system and economic inequality on happiness.
4) Influence of culture and creativity on happiness.

Expected Outcome

A major outcome of this international project is to have a conference, open to the public, to compare the results and discuss their implications in Paris on October 16-17, 2014. L’EHESS has agreed to be the host to this conference who would undertake logistical tasks for preparation. The working language will be English. We expect to publish a book collating the papers given at the conference and possibly adding some more. An Editorial Committee has been established to oversee the conference programming and publication.

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1 This international workshop is partly sponsored by the “Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Analysis of Gender Equality and the Role of the Family in Internationally Comparable Data” project, which is carried out by Keio University under the Topic-Setting Program to Advance Cutting-Edge Humanities and Social Sciences Research of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
### 3. Presentation Schedule

**Monday, February 24**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 1 Chair: Aki Tsuchiya (The University of Sheffield)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:35</td>
<td>Adaptation and the Easterlin Paradox</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Andrew Clark, Paris School of Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:35-11:10</td>
<td>Happiness in the Arts-International Evidence on Artist's Job Satisfaction</td>
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<td>Lasse Steiner, University of Zurich</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10-11:45</td>
<td>City Size and Happiness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yoshio Itaba, Doshisha University</td>
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<td>11:45-13:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 2 Chair: Lasse Steiner (University of Zurich)</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:30-14:05</td>
<td>Social mobility, social beliefs, and attitudes to redistribution A comparison between the United States, France, and Japan</td>
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<td>Sebastien Lechevalier, (L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS))</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:05-14:40</td>
<td>Happiness, social cohesion and income inequalities in Britain and Japan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dimitris Ballas, The University of Sheffield</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:40-15:15</td>
<td>A comparative study on happiness and inequality: five countries' case</td>
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<td>Toshiaki Tachibanaki, Doshisha University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sayaka Sakoda, Doshisha University</td>
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<td>15:15-16:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 3 Chair: Victor Ginsburgh (European Center for Advanced Research on Economic and Statistics (ECARES))</th>
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<tr>
<td>16:00-16:35</td>
<td>Can Work-Life Balance Policies Foster Happiness within the Family? A Comparison of New versus Old Family Arrangements</td>
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<td>Álvaro Martínez-Pérez, The University of Sheffield</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:35-17:10</td>
<td>The Effect of Changing Employment Status on Happiness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tadashi Yagi, Doshisha University</td>
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<td>Kunio Urakawa, Kyushu University</td>
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**Special Session Chair: Akiko Kamesaka (Aoyama Gakuin University)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Overview of ESRI's &quot;Survey on Quality of Life&quot; and &quot;Arakawa Local Government Poll&quot; on Gross Arakawa Happiness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17:10-17:30</td>
<td>Shiho Kawano, Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan</td>
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**Tuesday, February 25**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 4 Chair: Toshiaki Tachibanaki (Doshisha University)</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:35</td>
<td>An overview of intertemporal measures of individual well-being: Can they explain life satisfaction better? Conchita D'Ambrosio, University of Luxembourg</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:35-11:10</td>
<td>Happiness, Wellbeing and the Role of Government: the case of the UK Ian Bache, The University of Sheffield</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10-11:45</td>
<td>Exploring experience and preference change, with special reference to emobility Werner Pascha, University of Duisburg-Essen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45-13:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 5 Chair: Sebastien Lechevalier (L’École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS))</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:30-14:05</td>
<td>Happiness, life satisfaction and migration Marcel Erlinghagen, University of Duisburg-Essen</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:05-14:40</td>
<td>Activities in Neighborhood Associations in Japan: Discovering the Drivers of Procedural Utility Tim Tiefenbach, German Institute for Japanese Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:40-15:15</td>
<td>Cultural Policy for Social Inclusion -Can the Arts and Culture Make People Happy? Nobuko Kawashima, Doshisha University</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:15-16:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 6 Chair: Nobuko Kawashima (Doshisha University)</th>
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<tr>
<td>16:00-16:35</td>
<td>Do Workaholics Live a Happy Life?:Comparison of Japan, US and France Akira Kawaguchi, Doshisha University Takato Kasai, Doshisha University</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:35-17:10</td>
<td>The Optimal Employment System for Promoting Friendly Competition Tadashi Yagi, Doshisha University Katsuhiko Yonezaki, Doshisha University</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30-18:00</td>
<td>Meeting of Editorial Committee (editors only)</td>
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4. Venue: Doshisha University Imadegawa Campus  
Ryoshinkan Building, Faculty of Economics, 3F

【When entering through the West Gate of Imadegawa Campus】
Walk straight ahead from the West Gate.
Turn left at the small quadrangle. You will have the Doshisha Chapel on your right.
Proceed to the arch-shaped entrance of the Ryoshinkan Building.
The entrance to Faculty of Economics is to your right.

Overseas participants will be accompanied by staffs from Doshisha University from their hotel to the venue on February 24.
5. Information for Presenters

For sessions 1 to 6, each presenter will have 20 minutes for presentation, followed by discussion for 15 minutes. In Special Session a 10 minute presentation will be followed by 10 minute discussion.

There is no need to submit manuscripts for the Kyoto Workshop.

6. Information for editors

Editorial committee members
1) Sebastien Lechevalier (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), France.)
2) Aki Tsuchiya (Department of Economics, The University of Sheffield, UK)
3) Bruno Frey (The University of Zurich, Switzerland)
4) Lasse Steiner (The University of Zurich, Switzerland)
5) Werner Pascha (Mercator School of Management and Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany)
6) Victor Ginsburgh (European Center for Advanced Research on Economic and Statistics (ECARES), Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)
7) Toshiaki Tachibanaki (Doshisha University, Japan)
8) Nobuko Kawashima (Doshisha University, Japan)
9) Tadashi Yagi (Doshisha University, Japan)

Meeting of Editorial Committee
All editorial committee members are asked to attend the meeting which will be held on Tuesday, February 25 from 17:30-18:00.

Submission of the “Editor’s Comment”
Some members of the Editorial Committee have been assigned to prepare comments on presentations. This is a different task from chairing sessions. Nominated editors will be responsible for preparing comments on individual papers given in the sessions they are assigned to. Comments will be sent to the presenters after the workshop.

For each presentation, please prepare a comment sheet of no more than A4 half page which includes the following:
1) Main arguments of the paper
2) Any additional comments by the editor

Please submit the comments to re-risk@mail.doshisha.ac.jp after the workshop. Papers given in the following sessions have been assigned to those names.

Session 1 Aki Tsuchiya
Session 2 Lasse Steiner
Session 3 Victor Ginsburgh
Session 4 Werner Pascha
Session 5 Sebastien Lechevalier
Session 6 Tadashi Yagi
7. Important dates for authors

The following schedule will be discussed by the editorial committee during the workshop and it may be re-scheduled accordingly.

February 10, 2014: Submission of presentation data (power point file). The power point will be uploaded on our website before February 24. Manuscripts will not be required at the Kyoto workshop. Please note that access to the slides will not be restricted with passwords, but the data will be deleted by mid-March unless requests are made for the data to remain.

September 16, 2014: Submission of full manuscripts (6,000-8,000 words. Please count each figure or table as 200 words. This will be the length of a book chapter).

October 16-17, 2014: Paris Conference, Editorial Committee Meeting and selection on the authors for the publication.

February 2015: Authors will be asked to submit their manuscripts by February 2015.

February-March 2015: Three month period for reviewing papers.
8. Accommodation for overseas participants
Karasuma Kyoto Hotel
Hotel website  http://karasuma.kyotohotel.co.jp/english/

Access by shuttle taxi (our recommendation)
Shuttle taxis (mini bus that will take about 8 passengers around to their respective destinations) will be booked for travel between the Kansai International Airport and Karasuma Kyoto Hotel. (approx. 2 hours to 2 hours 30min) The fare is 3,500 yen one way. Reservation information will be sent via e-mail from the secretariat.

Access by express train
For those who prefer taking trains which could be more efficient, take the JR Haruka express train from Kansai International Airport to Kyoto Station (approx. 75 min). The fare is 3,300 yen one way.
From Kyoto Station, take the subway Karasuma line to Shijo Station (approx. 3 min) and leave the station by South Exit 6. If coming by Hankyu Railway, get off at Hankyu Karasuma Station (West Exit 23).

Travel expenses between the airport and hotel will be reimbursed to participants during the workshop.
9. Restaurant Information

**Monday, February 24, from 18:30** Gala Dinner at *Ganko Takasegawa Nijoen*
Restaurant website    http://www.gankofood.co.jp/yashiki/nijyoen/
Telephone number : 075-223-3456
Address: Nakagyo-ku, Kiyamachi dori, Nijo-kudaru, Higashiikesucho 484-6
* Taxis will be booked for participants who will travel directly from the university to the restaurant.

**Tuesday, February 25, from 18:30 Buffet Dinner at** Hamac de Paradis (across the road from the conference venue)    http://www.hamac-de-paradis-kanbaikan.jp/

10. Contact Information

**Secretariat of the international workshop**
(located inside the Life Risk Research Center and Center for the Study of the Creative Economy)
Telephone: +81-75-251-3728 (international), 075-251-3728 (domestic)
Fax: +81-75-251-3727 (international), 075-251-3727 (domestic)
E-mail: rc-risk@mail.doshisha.ac.jp
Address: Imadegawa Karasuma Higashi iru Kamigyo, Kyoto, 602-8580
11. Abstracts and Biographies
Title of Presentation

Adaptation and the Easterlin Paradox

Abstract

Two behavioural explanations of the Easterlin Paradox are commonly advanced. The first appeals to social comparisons, whereby individual i compares her income \((Y_{it})\) to a comparison income level earned by some other individual or group \(j\) \((Y^*_{jt})\). The second explanation is that of adaptation to higher levels of income. This is of the same nature, but here the individual’s current income is compared to her own income in the past (i.e. \(Y_{it}\) is compared to \(Y_{it-\tau}\), for some positive value or values of \(\tau\)). The first of these explanations has attracted far more empirical attention than has the second. This is probably for data-availability reasons, as the latter requires panel information.

There is also a suspicion that large changes in \(Y_{it}\) are probably accompanied by a movement in some other variable that is also correlated with subjective well-being.

This paper will review the empirical evidence that individuals do indeed compare current to past income, and will then ask whether adaptation is in fact a viable explanation of the Easterlin Paradox. By doing so, it will underline areas where our knowledge is lacking despite the remarkable growth in work on well-being over the past two decades.

Biography

Andrew Clark holds a PhD from the London School of Economics. He is currently a CNRS Research Professor at the Paris School of Economics (PSE), and previously held posts at Dartmouth, Essex, CEPRÉMAP, DELTA, the OECD and the University of Orléans.

His work has largely focused on the interface between psychology, sociology and economics; in particular, using job and life satisfaction scores, and other psychological indices, as proxy measures of utility. One particular research question has been that of relative utility or comparisons (to others like you, to others in the same household, and to yourself in the past), finding evidence of such comparisons with respect to both income and unemployment. This work has spilled over into theoretical and empirical work on following behaviour and learning from others' actions. Recent work has involved collaboration with psychologists to map out habituation to life events (such as job loss, marriage, and divorce) using long-run panel data.

In addition to his Paris position, he holds research associate positions at the London School of Economics, IZA (Bonn) and Kingston University. He is on the Editorial Board of ten journals, and has acted as referee for over 150 different journals across the Social Sciences.
Lasse Steiner, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

Happiness in the Arts - International Evidence on Artists’ Job Satisfaction

Co-authored by Bruno Frey, Trine Bille

Abstract

Artists work more, earn less and have a higher risk of becoming unemployed than other employees. According to a literature in psychology and psychiatry they also suffer more often from mental disorder and commit suicide more often, thus it can be expected that they are less happy than non-artists. Nevertheless, the artistic labor market attracts many young people. The number of students exceeds the available jobs by far. The classical explanations for this paradox are that artistic labor markets are superstar markets or that artists overestimate the likelihood of future success. Our contribution is to show that artists gain an additional psychic income compared to other employees. With international cross section data from 47 countries we show that artists derive a higher job satisfaction by having a creative job. Using the panel structure of 3 national data sets we can show that the higher satisfaction is not driven by time invariant individual characteristics, such as personality. We find evidence that the increased job satisfaction of artists is related to procedural characteristics, especially having autonomy in choosing working hours and place.

Biography

Lasse Steiner is a visiting scholar at the University of California at Berkeley. He was an undergraduate student at the University of Konstanz and the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and recently received his PhD at the Department of Economics at the University of Zurich. His research focuses on happiness economics, cultural economics and political economy. In his work he, for example, analysis the job satisfaction of artists, the effect of cultural events on life satisfaction, the political economy of the UNESCO world heritage list or museum pricing.
Yoshio Itaba, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

City Size and Happiness

Abstract

Most of the research on happiness has focused on national and international level. These works have revealed robust national differences in happiness. But, Only a couple of papers like Florida, Mellander and Rentfrow(2013) have focused on metropolitan level or regional level. There are benefits and costs of big cities. Given these trade-off, the question is whether an increase in city size affects the happiness of residents.

Firstly, this paper shows the differences of happiness among three countries, Japan, England and Germany in terms of city size. Survey data which are collected by Internet Survey in 2013 are used. Secondly, the relationship between happiness and city size are estimated not only in each country but also in pooled data. The problems arise because of the relationship between income and city size. The paper will talk about the measures to avoid the problems.

Biography

Chair
Aki Tsuchiya, Ph.D.

Biography

Professor Aki Tsuchiya is a Professor of Health Economics at the University of Sheffield. She holds a joint appointment between the Department of Economics and the School of Health and Related Research. She is the Director of the Centre for Health and Wellbeing in Public Policy, a network of researchers at the University. Currently, she holds a two-year Advanced Research Fellowship funded by the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University. Professor Tsuchiya has a masters in Ethical Philosophy, and in Economics, and a PhD in Economics from Kyoto University. Her three main areas of research interest are: (1) valuation of preferences for health and well-being, (2) quantification of inequality aversion and its incorporation into social welfare functions, and (3) normative economics of health and well-being; all ranging from the philosophical and theoretical to the practical and empirical. She has over 50 peer reviewed papers published from journals including: Applied Economics, Applied Health Economics and Health Policy, European Journal of Health Economics, Health Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Health Economics, Medical Decision Making, Pharmacoeconomics, Quality of life Research, Social Science and Medicine, Theory and Decision, and Value in Health.
Sebastien Lechevalier, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

Social mobility, social beliefs, and attitudes to redistribution
A comparison between the United States, France, and Japan

Abstract

There are significant differences across countries in terms of redistribution by the government and they may correspond to underlying dissimilarities in preference for redistribution across the population of these countries. In particular, previous literature has compared the US and Europe from this viewpoint and proposed several explanations of these differences, from aggregation of individual determinants (e.g. one’s income) to more holistic ones such as shared values at the national level (Alesina & Giuliano, 2009; Alesina & La Ferrara, 2004; Alesina et al., 2004).

The purpose of this paper is to contribute to this literature by focusing on a key determinant, the characteristics of social mobility within a national context, and by trying to extend the comparison between Europe and the US by including the case of a developed Asian country, Japan. More precisely, by relying on the 2009 issue of the International Social Survey Program, our aim is to explain different preferences for redistribution across the US, France and Japan by focusing on the impact of (subjective and objective) individual mobility and social beliefs in the possibility of social mobility.

While there are clear differences between France and the US regarding both the level of unhappiness due to the level of inequalities and preference for redistribution, Japan stands in the middle. Moreover, different social beliefs related to the relative importance of luck and effort in social outcome have been emphasized by the literature to explain the different patterns in Europe and in the US. However, the rationale behind Japanese patterns is unclear and a purpose of this paper is to provide some explanations that make possible a generalization of previous literature on the topic.

References

Fong, C. (2006), Prospective mobility, fairness and the demand for redistribution. mimeo.
Guillaud, E. (2013), Preferences for redistribution: an empirical analysis over 33 countries, Journal of Economic Inequality, Vol. 11(1), 57-78
Linos K. & M. West (2003), Self-interest, Social Beliefs, and attitudes to redistribution. Re-addressing the issue of Cross-national variation, European Sociological Review 19 (4): 393-409.
Neher F. (2012), “Preferences for redistribution around the world”, Discussion Papers from Free University Berlin, School of Business & Economics No 2012/2

Biography

Happiness, social cohesion and income inequalities in Britain and Japan

Co-authored by Danny Dorling (University of Oxford), Tomoki Nakaya (Ritsumeikan University), Helena Tunstall (University of Edinburgh), Kazumasa Hanaoka (Tohoku University) and Tomoya Hanibuchi (Chukyo University)

Abstract

“Politics was once seen as a way of improving people’s social and emotional well-being by changing their economic circumstances. But over the last few decades the bigger picture has been lost. People are now more likely to see psychosocial well-being as dependent on what can be done at the individual level, using cognitive behavioural therapy – one person at a time – or on providing support in early childhood, or on the reassertion of religious or family values. However, it is now clear that income distribution provides policy makers with a way of improving the psychosocial wellbeing of whole populations. Politicians have an opportunity to do genuine good.”

(Wilkinson and Pickett, 2009: 233; our emphasis)

The above quotation is from the popular book entitled “The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better”. This text describes the relationship between income distribution and well-being in affluent countries suggesting it is mediated through psychosocial pathways shaping the impacts of economic structure upon social relationships. In this model lower income inequality is seen to result in societies with more cohesion, greater trust and cooperation and lower social stress. Wilkinson and Pickett (2009) present evidence suggesting that social and economic policies affecting the income distribution of a society can make a huge difference to the psychosocial well-being of the whole populations of this society. For instance, according to the evidence used in this book if income inequality were halved in the UK then the murder rates in the country and obesity rates would also halve, mental illness could be reduced by two thirds, imprisonment could reduce by 80%, teen births could reduce by 80% and levels of trust could increase by 85% (The Equality Trust, 2011).

According to the “Spirit Level” research Japan is more equitable and hence harmonious than other industrialised affluent countries, whereas Britain one of the most unequal and hence dis harmonious. In this paper we present on-going research, building on the “Spirit Level” work, aimed at exploring issues of income inequality, social cohesion, happiness and well-being in Britain and Japan. In particular, the key aim of our research project is to address the subjects that have been central to recent controversies regarding health, happiness and social wellbeing in Japan and Britain.

This paper presents on-going research exploring social cohesion and happiness in Japan and Britain, building on recently completed work comparing income inequalities in the two countries. A key aim of this project is to build on recent work entitled ‘The Spirit Level’ by Professors Pickett and Wilkinson suggesting that Japan is one of the most
harmonious of affluent countries in the world, whereas Britain one of the most unequal and hence disharmonious. The paper revisits the ‘Spirit Level’ evidence according to which Japan is a more equitable and thus socially cohesive society than is any other industrialised country, but especially in contrast with a country such as Britain. It presents a review of relevant literature and a discussion of the key arguments in relation to the links between income inequality, social cohesion and happiness. It also presents a comparison of income inequality measures in Britain and Japan over the past 20 years, followed by comparisons of subjective happiness and well-being measures and their determinants in the two countries. Finally, the paper spells out a research agenda regarding the next steps and on ways of adding a geographical dimension to the study of subjective happiness and well-being in Britain and Japan.

References:

Biography
Dimitris Ballas is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography at the University of Sheffield and Deputy Director of the University of Sheffield research Centre for Health and Well-being in Public Policy (CWiPP). He is an economist by training (1996, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece) and also has a Master of Arts (with distinction) in Geographical Information Systems (1997, University of Leeds, UK) and a PhD in Geography (2001, University of Leeds, UK). He has significant experience and expertise in the use of Geonformatics and GIS in the Social Sciences and especially in the development and application of spatial microsimulation models. His current research interests include economic geography, social and spatial inequalities, social justice, exploring geographies of happiness and well-being and socio-economic applications of GIS. He has co-authored and co-edited five books and he has published widely on applications of GIS and spatial modelling on a wide range of subjects including local labour market policies, social policy, spatial planning, health, rural policy analysis and human cartography. His most recent work includes a book entitled ‘Social Atlas of Europe’ (co-authored with Danny Dorling and Benjamin Hennig) that will be published May 2014 (Policy Press, Bristol).
Toshiaki Tachibanaki, Ph.D., Sayaka Sakoda

Title of Presentation

A comparative study on happiness and inequality: five countries' case
Co-authored by Sayaka Sakoda (Doshisha University)

Abstract

The purpose of international comparison research is to analyze and clarify the factors that affect the degree of happiness, unhappiness and inequality. The empirical analysis will focus on how the degree of happiness, unhappiness, and inequality is affected by the factors such as the culture and nationality of each country.

Biography


Biography of the co-author

Sayaka Sakoda is a graduate of the Faculty of Economics, Doshisha University. She is a Research Fellow at the Life Risk Research Center, Doshisha University and a Ph.D Research Fellow at La Fondation France Japon de l’ École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS). She has co-authored the book, “Inequal Society in Married Couples” (2013) (in Japanese) with Toshiaki Tachibanaki.
Álvaro Martínez-Pérez, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

Can Work-Life Balance Policies Foster Happiness within the Family? A Comparison of New versus Old Family Arrangements

Abstract

This paper investigates the impact of childcare policies in the life satisfaction of families with dependant children. The focus of the inquiry lies in the comparison of families living in ‘old’ family arrangements (couples with dependant children) versus those living in new family arrangements (lone mothers and fathers with dependant children). Hence, this paper aims to offer novel evidence on the relationship between family structure and life satisfaction in a context of increasing fluidity of the family structure as a result of the changing process of coupledom and the importance of marital instability and divorce risks. Altogether, these two phenomena have spurred a growing number of individuals to opt for new family arrangements. Yet, despite the appearance of new, more unstable, living arrangements there is consistent evidence found in cross-country comparative research that the family remains as the key institution for the provision of care and wellbeing and where the life chance of individuals over their life course are shaped. Within this context of transformations of the family policies to support the care and wellbeing needs of its members play a key role for a better understanding of the extent of social inequalities. Particularly, the paper argues that the existence and type of childcare policies available to help families reconcile work and family responsibilities maybe especially relevant for the new family forms where time pressures, and social risks (e.g. poverty and exclusion) are more demanding. Instead of looking at the influence of these policies on the individual and social risks of families living in ‘old’ and ‘new’ family arrangements, the paper concentrates in life satisfaction. Life satisfaction as an overall measure of wellbeing provides a comprehensive subjective evaluation of family happiness where the different social and individual risks families face are collated. Finally, the paper pays special attention to unravelling the motives for the gender inequalities in life satisfaction within and between the various family arrangements analysed. The empirical analysis is based on the British Household Panel Survey. The use of econometric panel methods allows controlling for the impact of unmeasured individual characteristics on life satisfaction and, therefore, isolates better the causal relationship between childcare policies and life satisfaction for families with dependant children in ‘new’ and ‘old family arrangements.

Biography

Álvaro Martinez-Pérez joined ICOSS as Research Associate in July 2012. He has a PhD in Applied Social and Economic Research (ISER, University of Essex) and is a Doctor-Member of the Juan March Institute (CEACS). He also holds a Masters in Social Sciences (Juan March Institute), a MSc in Political Science and International Relations (UAM), and a BA in Political Science and Public Administration (UCM).
Prior to joining ICOSS he was Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Sociology and Organisational Analysis (Universitat de Barcelona) and Research Fellow at the Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies (IRVAPP, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento, Italy). During his postgraduate studies he was a visiting student at Nuffield College (University of Oxford) and the European University Institute.

His research interests include family sociology, economics of the family, social stratification, electoral behaviour and management. He has specialised in econometric and quantitative methods for the analysis of large scale and complex datasets. He has published on these topics several articles, monographs and book chapters.
Tadashi Yagi, Ph.D., Kunio Urakawa, PhD.

Title of Presentation

The Effect of Changing Employment Status on Happiness

Co-authored by Kunio Urakawa

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to examine the components which determine the happiness. To examine the components, we apply the Oxford Index of happiness developed by Hills and Argyle. Factor components analysis extracts the two major components which determine the degree of happiness. From the questionnaire, we interpret these as the positive thinking happiness and negative thinking happiness including anxiety.

After identifying the components of happiness, we examine the factors which affect the degree of happiness. Especially, we focus on the effects of job status, i.e., regular or non-regular worker, on the happiness. The effects of job status are not straightforward because the purpose of working differs among individuals and job satisfaction differs according to the environment of the workplace.

We explore to distinguish the voluntary selection of non-regular position from the valuation of the job conditions and work environment, and estimate the portion of worker who work as a non-regular worker, and discuss about the problems caused from the involuntary selection of non-regular status.

Biography

Tadashi Yagi is Professor of the Faculty of Economics at Doshisha University. He holds PhD in Economics, awarded by Nagoya University in 1996. His research areas are wide-ranging, including public economics, human resources management, income distribution, welfare economics and cultural economics. He has written many papers in refereed academic journals and chapters in edited volumes. Recent works include ‘The Income Security System in Japanese Traditional Performing Arts: A strategy for utilizing the nation’s traditional arts resources’, (co-authored with C. Takashima and Y. Usui) Journal of Modern Auditing and Accounting (2013), ‘Economic Growth and the Riskiness of Investment in Firm-Specific Skills’ (co-authored with Taichi Maki and Koichi Yotsuya), European Economic Review (2005).

Biography

Kunio Urakawa is an Associate Professor in Faculty of Economics at Kyushu University. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Kyoto University. His research interests are economics of redistribution and poverty. He has published Study on Poverty, University of Tokyo Press (in Japanese) with Professor Toshiaki Tachibanaki. His academic articles in English include:


Chair
Victor Ginsburgh, Ph.D.

Victor Ginsburgh is honorary Professor of Economics at Université Libre de Bruxelles, and former co-director of the European Center for Advanced Research in Economics and Statistics. He was visitor at Yale University, University of Chicago, University of Virginia, University of Louvain, as well as in Marseilles, Paris, Strasbourg and Alexandria. He wrote and edited a dozen of books (among which *The Structure of Applied General Equilibrium*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1997, with M. Keyzer) and is the author or coauthor of some 190 papers on topics in applied and theoretical economics, including industrial organization and general equilibrium analysis. His more recent interests go to the economics of languages, as well as to art history and art philosophy, two fields in which he tries to put to use his knowledge of economics. He has published over 50 papers on these topics, some of which appeared in the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Political Economy*, *Games and Economic Behavior*, the *Journal of Economic Perspectives* and the *European Economic Review*. He is coeditor (with D. Throsby) of the two volumes of the *Handbook of the Economics of Art and Culture* (Elsevier-North Holland, 2006 and 2013). He also coauthored (with S. Weber) of *How Many Languages Do We need; The Economics of Linguistic Diversity*, Princeton University Press, 2011 and is now working (with S. Weber) on a *Handbook of Economics and Language* to be published by Palgrave.

Webpage: http://www.ecares.org/index.php?option=com_comprofiler&task=userProfile&user=112&Itemid=263
Monday, Feb 24

Special Session

Overview of ESRI's "Survey on Quality of Life" and "Arakawa Local Government Poll" on Gross Arakawa Happiness

Presenter: Shiho Kawano

Chaired by Akiko Kamesaka

(Professor, School of Business Administration, Aoyama Gakuin University)

Biography of presenter

Shiho KAWANO, M.A.: research officer (April, 2013-), the Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office, and researcher(2011-), the Research Institute for Local government by Arakawa City; Ph.D. student (2005-), Graduate School of Education (Sociology of Education), Waseda University; M. A. (2000-2005) Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Waseda University; B.Com(1995-2000)School of Commerce, Waseda University; Research interests include Social Stratification, Youth Competency and Parentocracy. ; Recent publications include Kuwahara,S., Ueda M.,& Kawano,S.(2013) .Result of Survey on Quality of Life. ESRI Research Note,23.

Biography of chair

Akiko KAMESAKA holds a PhD in Economics from Keio University. She is currently a visiting research fellow, Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), Cabinet Office, Government of Japan. She is also a group leader of the project “Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Analysis of Gender Equality and the Role of the Family in Internationally Comparable Data”, which is carried out by Keio University.
Conchita D'Ambrosio, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

An overview of intertemporal measures of individual well-being: Can they explain life satisfaction better?

Abstract

Traditional economic modeling has neglected the basic fact that individual well-being depends on one's own life course. This assumption has been challenged by an increasing number of contributions in the income-distribution literature on the measurement of individual well-being. These have proposed various indices which allow different aspects of past experiences to be brought into the analysis of the phenomenon under consideration.

This article is a review of these measures with the aim of offering some guidance to the recent developments of the parallel literature on happiness. These two literatures have a common object of analysis - individual well-being - but differ with respect to the approach, with the former appealing to objective indicators, such as income, functionings and wealth, and the latter mainly relying on self-reported measures. The article starts by reviewing indices of social exclusion and intertemporal material deprivation, which are key concepts for European social policy. We then move to the measurement of poverty over time, and conclude with the very new literature on the measurement of economic insecurity.

Biography

Conchita D’Ambrosio is Professor of Economics at Université du Luxembourg. She is an economist, with a Ph.D. from New York University (2000). Her research interests have revolved around the study of individual and social well-being and the proposal of various measures that are able to capture its different aspects. Two main points were stressed: Individual well-being depends on comparisons with a reference situation; Individual well-being depends both on one’s own life course and on the histories of others. Towards this aim, she has proposed a number of different indices, which have been axiomatically characterized. She has applied these to the study of different societies and analyzed their empirical links with subjective well-being, via their correlations with self-reported levels of satisfaction with income and life overall.

She has published in Economica, Economics Letters, International Economic Review, Social Choice and Welfare, the Review of Income and Wealth among other academic journals. She has been member of the editorial board of the Review of Income and Wealth since 2001 and managing editor of the same journal since 2007. She has recently joined the editorial board of the Journal of Economic Inequality.
Title of Presentation

Happiness, Wellbeing and the Role of Government: the case of the UK
Co-authored by Louise Reardon (The University of Sheffield) and Paul Anand (Open University)

Abstract

There has been significant interest and often a hostile response from scholars, commentators and political activists to news that the UK government, among others, is seeking to elevate happiness or wellbeing\(^1\) as an explicit policy goal. It is difficult to adjudicate between the various arguments surrounding the appropriate role for government in this area as they often take very different starting points, either metatheoretical or disciplinary. In seeking to steer a course through these arguments we take the distinction between ‘wicked’ and ‘tame’ problems as a reference point, arguing that wellbeing should be categorised as the former.

Our reflection on empirical developments in the UK suggest that while there are valid concerns expressed over the relationship between government and the promotion of wellbeing measurement and related policies, it is important not to overstate the nature, extent and pace of change taking place, and arguments that suggest the government is in the business of promoting happiness to the exclusion of other socially desired goals are misleading. What is happening is that subjective wellbeing measures are taking their place alongside a raft of other indicators that might shape public policies – but only tentatively or ‘experimentally’.

Moreover, we suggest that while there will always be a rational-instrumental dimension to policy-making, this agenda is inevitably political. As such, there is need for caution. As Scott (2012, 4) argued: ‘quality of life and wellbeing have been mobilised in different ways, by different groups, to support different agendas over time. This makes it important to explore what and whose values are represented, which accounts dominate, what is their impact and on whom’. Notions of wellbeing and how it might be measured are inevitably informed by values and thus the idea that there is a neutral or ‘scientific’ solution to be found should be roundly rejected. As such, understanding wellbeing as a wicked problem cautions us – above all - against expecting to find a panacea.

Biography

Ian Bache is Professor of Politics at the University of Sheffield. He has published widely on governance and public policy, including: Bache, I., Bartle, I., Flinders, M.

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\(^1\) We use the terms ‘wellbeing’, ‘happiness’ and ‘quality of life’ specifically where they have specific connotations but as a general term adopt ‘wellbeing’ for this discussion because it is the most commonplace of the three terms in UK policy debates.

Werner Pascha, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

Exploring experience and preference change, with special reference to emobility

Abstract

There are a number of decision biases inducing individual (consumption) choice that later leads to regret. Among them, different types of failure to predict future experience accurately are particularly prominent. This has considerable problematic consequences not only on an individual level, but also on a societal level. For example, people may not choose environmentally sustainable consumption patterns, although they realize the long-term negative effects. In the evolutionary economic literature, one way to overcome this is considered to be learning mechanisms – which has less problematic side-effects than paternalistic nudging or even more coercive public policy tools. Through learning, consumer behaviour may hopefully allow for the emergence of more sustainable consumption patterns, while a number of theoretical issues remain. Within the broad field of learning, gaining experience may be a critical category, together with social peer effects and the dissemination of experience-gained knowledge. For innovative goods (and services) like emobility, such experience may be crucial to develop new attitudes and preferences, as for example the literature on user experience in human-computer interaction has convincingly demonstrated. Experimental studies have shown that individuals exhibit different attitudes to emobility before and after driving electric vehicles.

In the presentation, the relationship of experience and preference change shall be explored from various strands of literature, exemplifying it in one field, emobility. It will also be asked to what extent different learning cultures play a role in this process, which may – or may not – be related to different national cultures of learning.

Biography

Werner Pascha is Full Professor of East Asian Economic Studies/Japan and Korea at the University of Duisburg-Essen (UDE), Germany; assigned to the Mercator School of Management and to the (university-level) Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST). He is a member of the Graduate Training School on “Risk and East Asia”, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), and of the IN-EAST School of Advanced Studies on Innovation in East Asia, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF).

He has studied economics at the University of Freiburg, Germany, at the London School of Economics and Political Science and at Nagoya University, Japan.

Recent visiting positions include Doshisha University, Kyoto (JSPS Invitation Fellowship) in 2011 and Busan National University in the Republic of Korea in 2013.
Among honorary activities, he is a member of the Steering Group and of the Executive Board of EastAsiaNet (European Research School Network of Contemporary East Asian Studies) and co-editor in chief of the Asia Europe Journal, published by Springer.

His research interest includes the political economy of institutional change in East Asia, particularly Japan and Korea, and international economic relations of the East Asian region and between Europe and the region.
Marcel Erlinghagen, Ph.D.

Title of Presentation

Happiness, life satisfaction and migration
Co-authored by Friedrich Scheller (University of Duisburg-Essen)

Abstract

Sociological as well as economic research stresses the impact of so called ‘push and pull factors’ on individual migration decisions. These push and pull factors are often understood as a combination of individual socio-economic and socio-demographic determinants and institutional contexts in home and (possible) destination countries. However, up to now within this framework there is only little research on the correlation between life satisfaction and individual migration processes. The presentation will provide an analytic approach that aims on investigating the development of individual life satisfaction prior migration under a life course perspective by using longitudinal data from the German Socio Economic Panel (SOEP).

Biography

Prof. Dr. Marcel Erlinghagen (*1971) is Professor for Sociology at the University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany). In addition he is Research Professor at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW) in Berlin. Erlinghagen is a labour market and economic sociologist and his research is especially characterised by its interdisciplinary theoretical orientation. He has a broad methodological knowledge in the field of quantitative empirical sociological and economic research. Beside his research on labour market mobility, job security and volunteering he particularly investigates in determinants and development of migration.

Selected Publications
Activities in Neighborhood Associations in Japan: Discovering the Drivers of Procedural Utility

Abstract

Political participation and participation in the community is often associated with higher levels of reported subjective happiness, but in the case of Japan a negative correlation between activities in neighborhood associations among female members was found by Tiefenbach and Kohlbacher (2013). The current study uses data gained from an online monitor survey (n=1600) conducted in September 2013 throughout Japan to get a better understanding of the relationship between happiness and participation in the community and procedural utility. A special emphasis is put on the sources of procedural utility (competence, autonomy and relatedness) as well as on voluntariness & loneliness as moderators and mediators of the effects of participation on happiness. Preliminary results suggest that participation in the community leads to higher or lower levels of happiness depending whether it is conducted voluntarily or not. In either case, participation leads to lower levels of loneliness, which in return has a positive effect on happiness. Finally, the sources of procedural utility can be linked to higher levels of happiness, but significant gender differences can be observed.

Biography

After studying “Philosophy and Economics” Tim Tiefenbach received a PhD in Economics from the University of Bayreuth. Since October 2011 he is working as a senior research fellow at the German Institute for Japanese Studies. He is currently working on several research projects. In one project he is analyzing the effects the 3-11 disaster had on peoples well-being, their attitude towards environment and their prosocial behavior. His research not only includes comparative studies between Germany and Japan, but he analyzes to what extent the direct negative effects on subjective well-being of the disaster have been mitigated by prosocial behavior in terms of donations and volunteer activities. In another project he is analyzing the well-being effects of participation in neighborhood associations in Japan. His work is especially focusing on how gender, the voluntariness of the activity, the level of political involvement as well as drivers of procedural utility (autonomy, competence and interpersonal relationships) affect the relationship between participation and subjective well-being. Apart from happiness economics his research interests relate to new behavioral economics, economic methodology and institutional economics.
Title of Presentation

Cultural Policy for Social Inclusion—Can the Arts and Culture Make People Happy?

Abstract

It has been an unstated assumption of cultural policy, generally aiming for helping excellence in the arts, preservation of heritage and dissemination of culture widely to the public, contributes to happiness of the people. Such an understanding, however, is questionable: both theory and evidence to support this seems to be weak. Cultural policy that particularly addresses the issue of social inclusion apparently has a stronger case for connecting the enrichment of culture and increase in happiness felt at community or individual level. This paper will cast doubt on this simplistic assumption by discussing the pernicious role played by Culture in creating and institutionalising differences and inequality between different groups of people in society. The paper will argue the importance for cultural organizations such as museums to become culturally inclusive.

Biography

Nobuko Kawashima is Professor at the Faculty of Economics, Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan, teaching cultural economics and cultural policy. Prior to the appointment at Doshisha, she was a Research Fellow at the Centre for Cultural Policy Studies, the University of Warwick in England, from 1995 to 1999, where she received her PhD in Cultural Policy in 1999. She holds MSc in Social Policy and Administration and LLM, both from the London School of Economics. She has written widely on cultural policy and management, including issues of copyright, drawing on theories from cultural economics, public administration, law and sociology. She has published many articles and books both in English and in Japanese. Recent papers in the English language include ‘Copyright as an Incentive System for Creativity? The Case of Contemporary Visual Arts’ in K. Thomas and J. Chan (eds) Handbook of Research on Creativity, Edward Elgar, 2013 and ‘Corporate Support for the Arts in Japan—Beyond Emulation of Western Models’ International Journal of Cultural Policy, 2012. She is currently Vice President of the Japan Association for Cultural Economics. Internationally, she has served the Scientific Committee of the International Conference on Cultural Policy Research since 2000.
Title of Presentation

Do Workaholics Live a Happy Life? : Comparison of Japan, US and France
(co-authored by Takato Kasai)

Abstract
This paper investigates what kinds of people are likely to work long hours, how they live and whether they are happy. We found that the proportion of workers who work more than 50 hours a week is much larger in Japan than in the U.S. and France. Young male married workers who have leeway in their job, whose job requirement is not clear, and whose wage rate is low are more likely to work longer in Japan.

Whereas those who work long hours have a high level of stresses, they are neither unhappy nor less healthy, because their stresses are compensated by earnings. What really matters is unpaid overtime work, which reduces the level of health and happiness. About 41 percent of male workers and 25 percent of female workers have unpaid overtime work in Japan.

Biography
Akira Kawaguchi is Professor at the Faculty of Policy Studies, Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan. His research field is Economic Policy, including Economic Condition. He received his PhD in Economics from the Australian National University. Prior to the appointment at Doshisha University, he has been a Professor at the Faculty of Economics, Otemon Gakuin University, Japan. He has published articles and books in Japanese which include:

Biography of the co-author
The advancement of experimental economics in recent years suggests us to incorporate the altruistic behavior in the conventional economic model which is based on the assumption of rationality. In particular, the researches which deal with a situation where the individual rationality and the rationality of the economic system diverges have been increasing.

The conflict between the regular workers and the non-regular workers can be examined in this context because there exist the game structure between the non-regular workers and regular workers. In reality, due to the differences in bargaining power, unfair distribution between these two parties arises. However, regular workers have some incentives to construct the scheme to increase the productivity of non-regular workers by increasing the share of non-regular workers. In addition, the presence of the altruistic instinct that humans have originally affects the incentive of regular worker to increase the distribution share of non-regular worker. In this paper, we examine the effect of altruistic behavior on union formation and wage bargaining between the regular workers and the non-regular workers.

Tadashi Yagi is Professor of the Faculty of Economics at Doshisha University. He holds PhD in Economics, awarded by Nagoya University in 1996. His research areas are wide-ranging, including public economics, human resources management, income distribution, welfare economics and cultural economics. He has written many papers in refereed academic journals and chapters in edited volumes. Recent works include ‘The Income Security System in Japanese Traditional Performing Arts: A strategy for utilizing the nation’s traditional arts resources’, (co-authored with C. Takashima and Y. Usui) Journal of Modern Auditing and Accounting (2013), ‘Economic Growth and the Riskiness of Investment in Firm-Specific Skills’ (co-authored with Taichi Maki and Koichi Yotsuya), European Economic Review (2005).

Katsuhiko Yonezaki is a Research Fellow of Life Risk Research Center, Doshisha University and also a Researcher at the Institute of Economic Research, Kyoto University. His main research areas is game theory.

His publications:
‘Incentive structure of Participation in community activity’ (with Y. Shiozu, K. Shiozu).

12. References on Comparative Study on Happiness

The list has been compiled by Doshisha University for suggestive purposes only.


Perceived Quality of Life’, *Social Indicators Research*, 89: 193-258.


