

Syllabus as of March 8, 2003.

HLE 512/Gov 2340/Soc 296b -- Spring 2003 Proseminar on Inequality and Social Policy Families, Neighborhoods, and the Welfare State Monday from 2 to 4 in Taubman 401

Instructor: Christopher Jencks
Office: Taubman 414
Phone: 617-495-0546
e-mail: jencks@wjh.harvard.edu
Office hours: Wednesdays 1:30-3:30

Assistant: Rebecca Horne
Office: Taubman 483
Phone: 496-0944
e-mail: rebecca_horne@harvard.edu

HLE-512 is the second half of a two semester course designed primarily for second year doctoral students enrolled in the one of the Inequality and Social Policy programs. **Enrollment is limited to students who have completed the fall semester (HLE-511/Soc 296a).**

Weekly assignments. All participants must send a weekly memo about the readings to the rest of the class. Memos should be no more than 500 words. A third of the final grade will be based on these memos. **Memos are due by 12PM on the Saturday before class.**

Research paper. Everyone must write a research paper. David Ellwood and I will divide responsibility for these papers. **If you change the topic you proposed in the fall, you must also submit a new prospectus to both of us.** If you plan to hand in the same paper for another course, you need to send an e-mail to this effect both to us and to the instructor in the other course. Two-thirds of the final grade will be based on the paper. **Students in either the Social Policy doctoral programs or the NSF program must hand in a first draft by August 1 and a revised draft by September 1 in order to remain in good standing.**

Readings marked "Elect" will be distributed electronically.

Readings marked "Web" can be downloaded.

Readings marked "KSG" are available in the Kennedy School Library (one copy only).

Readings marked "Buy" are available at Amazon. These readings are as follows:

- Jeffrey Birnbaum and Alan Murray, *Showdown at Gucci Gulch*, Knopf, 1988, \$14.40
- Christopher Jencks, *The Homeless*, 1994, Harvard, \$15.50
- *Christopher Jencks, *Rethinking Social Policy*, 1992, Harper Torchbooks, \$14
- *Michael Ignatieff, *The Needs of Strangers*, 1984, \$12
- *Elliot Liebow, *Tally's Corner*, 1967 (out of print).
- *Susan E. Mayer, *What Money Can't Buy*, Harvard, 1997, \$19.95
- *Katherine Newman, *No Shame in My Game*, Vintage, \$15
- David Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection*, Yale 1986, \$16
- *William Julius Wilson, *The Truly Disadvantaged*, 1987, Chicago, \$15

***One copy of assigned chapters will be at the KSG library.**

NOTE: Because Monday, Feb 17 is a holiday, we will meet on Wed, Feb 19, 2-4 PM.

Feb 3: (FIRST CLASS) What are we trying to maximize?

Buy Michael Ignatieff, *The Needs of Strangers*, Picador (2001), pp 1-54 and 81-142.

Web Ed Diener and Robert Biswas-Diener, "Will Money Increase Subjective Well-Being?" *Social Indicators Research* (2002) 57:119-69. (Hollis) <http://80-ipsapp007.lwwonline.com.ezp2.harvard.edu/content/getfile/5170/47/2/fulltext.pdf>

Feb 10: Is There a Culture of Poverty in the US?

KSG Oscar Lewis, "The Culture of Poverty," in Daniel Patrick Moynihan, editor, *On Understanding Poverty*, Basic Books, 1968, pp187-200.

KSG Lee Rainwater, "Class, Culture, Poverty, and Welfare," (Jan 1989), pp9-25.

Buy Elliot Liebow, *Tally's Corner*, Little Brown, 1967, 256pp. **(2nd hand at Amazon)**

Buy Katherine Newman, *No Shame in My Game: The Working Poor in the Inner City*, Knopf, 1999, pp23-36, 86-121, 186-229.

Also recommended:

Web Steven Levitt and Sudhir Venkatesh, "An Economic Analysis of a Drug-Selling Gang's Finances," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 2000, 115: 755-89. <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w6592.pdf>

Web Ann Swidler, "Culture in Action: Symbols and Strategies," *American Sociological Review* (April 1986) 51:273-286 (JSTOR)

Feb 19: (Monday, Feb 17 is holiday) Social Isolation and The Underclass Debate

Buy William Julius Wilson, *The Truly Disadvantaged*, Chicago, 1987, pp3-62.

Buy Christopher Jencks, *Rethinking Social Policy*, Harper Perennial, 1992, pp120-203.

Feb 24: Effects of Residential Segregation

Web David Cutler and Edward Glaeser, "Are Ghettos Good or Bad?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 1997, 112: 827-72. *Skip section 2.3 and theory appendix.* (NBER #5163) <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w5163.pdf>

Web Christopher Jencks and Susan Mayer, "The Social Consequences of Growing Up in a Poor Neighborhood," in Laurence Lynn and Michael McGahey, eds. *Inner-City Poverty in the United States*, National Academy Press, 1990, pp111-186. *(Skim empirical results, which are somewhat dated.)*
<http://www.nap.edu/books/0309042798/html/111.html>

Web Lawrence Katz, Jeffrey Kling, and Jeffrey Liebman, "Moving to Opportunity in Boston: Early Results of a Randomized Mobility Experiment," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, May 2001 (NBER #7973). <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w7973.pdf>

Web "Moving to Opportunity," Joint Center for Poverty Research, *Poverty Research News*, January 2001, pp1-15. http://jcpr.org/newsletters/vol5_no1/vol5_1.pdf

March 3: Causes of Residential Segregation

- Web** David Cutler, Edward Glaeser, and Jacob Vigdor, "The Rise and Decline of the American Ghetto," *Journal of Political Economy*, June 1999, pp455-506. (NBER #5881, or Hollis) <http://80-links.jstor.org.ezp1.harvard.edu/sici?sici=0022-3808%28199906%29107%3A3%3C455%3ATRADOT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K>
- KSG** Margery Austin Turner, Raymond Struyk, and John Yinger, "Housing Discrimination Study: Synthesis," Washington: Urban Institute, 1991, pp *i-vii*, and Appendix Tables A-1 to A-4.
- KSG** Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*, Harvard, 1993, pp83-114.

March 10: Consumption inequality vs labor market inequality

- KSG** James Tobin, "On Limiting the Domain of Inequality," *Journal of Law and Economics* (Oct 1970), 13:263-77.
- Web** Gary Burtless, "Effects of Growing Wage Disparities and Changing Family Composition on the U.S. Income Distribution." *European Economic Review* (May 1999) 43: 853-65. Also through Hollis or <http://www.brook.edu/dybdocroot/es/dynamics/papers/disparities/default.htm>
- Web** Anders Bjorklund and Richard Freeman, "Generating Equality and Eliminating Poverty, The Swedish Way," in Richard Freeman, Robert Topel, and Birgitta Swedenborg, eds. *The Welfare State in Transition: Reforming the Swedish Model*, University of Chicago (1997), pp. 33-78. <http://nber.org/papers/w4945.pdf>
- KSG** David Card and Richard Freeman, eds. *Small Differences That Matter: Labor Markets and Income Maintenance in Canada and the US*, University of Chicago, 1993, pp1-19.
- KSG** "America: A Unique Outlook?" *The American Enterprise*, March/April 1990, pp113-20.

March 17: Who Should Have Children?

- KSG** Paula England, "Marriage, the Costs of Children, and Gender Inequality," in Linda Waite, ed. *The Ties That Bind*, Aldine deGruyter (2000), pp. 320-42.
- Web** Christopher Jencks and Kathryn Edin, "Do Poor Women Have a Right to Bear Children?" *The American Prospect* (Winter 1995), 20:43-52.
<http://www.prospect.org/print/V6/20/jencks-c.html>
- Web** Jonathan Gruber, Phillip Levine, and Douglas Staiger, "Abortion Legalization and Child Living Circumstances: Who Is the Marginal Child?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (February 1999) 114:263-91. <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w6034.pdf>
- Web** John Donohue and Steven Levitt, "The Impact of Legalized Abortion on Crime," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (May 2001), 116(2):379-420. (NBER #8004)
<http://papers.nber.org/papers/w8004.pdf>
- Web** Daniel Klepinger, Shelly Lundberg, and Robert Plotnik, "How Does Adolescent Fertility Affect the Human Capital and Wages of Young Women?" *Journal of Human Resources* (Summer 1999), 34: 421-48. (JSTOR)
- KSG** Kevin Lang and Jay Zagorsky, "Does Growing Up with a Parent Absent Really Hurt?" *Journal of Human Resources* (2001), 36:253-273.
- Elect** Donna Rothstein, Charles Pierret, and Alison Aughinbaugh, "The Impact of Family Structure Transitions on Youth Achievement: Evidence from the Children of the NLSY." Bureau of Labor Statistics, July 2002.

Also recommended:

- KSG** Timothy Biblarz and Adrian Raftery, "Family Structure, Educational Attainment and Socioeconomic Success: Rethinking the 'Pathology of Matriarchy,'" *American Journal of Sociology* (Sept 1999) 105: 321-65.

March 22-30: SPRING BREAK**March 31: Equalizing Opportunity**

- Web** Christopher Jencks, "Whom Must We Treat Equally for Educational Opportunity to Be Equal?" *Ethics*, April 1988, 98: 518-533. (JSTOR)
- Elect** Anders Bjorklund and Markus Jäntti. "Intergenerational mobility of socio-economic status in a comparative perspective." *Nordic Journal of Political Economy*, (2000) 26(1), 2000, 3-33.
- KSG** Gary Solon, "Cross-Country Differences in Intergenerational Earnings." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* (Summer 2002) 16: 59-67.
- KSG** Richard Herrnstein, "IQ," *The Atlantic* (September 1971) pp43-64.
- KSG** Robert Plomin and Denise Daniels, "Why Are Children in the Same Family So Different from One Another?" *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* (1987) 10(1):1-16.
- Elect** Anders Bjorklund and Laura Chadwick, "Intergenerational Income Mobility in Permanent and Separated Families," Swedish Institute for Social Research, Aug. 2002, 5pp.

April 7: Poverty and the Safety Net in the US

- KSG** *Economic Report of the President*, 1964, pp14-17 and 55-83.
- KSG** *Fighting Poverty in America: A Study of American Public Attitudes*, Center for the Study of Public Attitudes, Dec. 1994, Exec Summary (3pp) and pp37-47.
- KSG** Lee Rainwater, "Poverty in American Eyes" (Feb 1992), pp1-20 and 30.
- Buy** Christopher Jencks, *The Homeless*, Harvard, 1994.
- KSG** Peter Rossi, *Feeding the Poor: Assessing Federal Food Aid*, AEI Press, 1998, pp 3-65.
- Elect** Douglas Besharov, "We're Feeding the Poor as If They Were Starving," *Washington Post*, December 6, 2002, pB1.

Also recommended:

- Web** Constance Citro and Robert Michael, eds. *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*. National Academy Press, 1995, pp17-39.

April 14: The Politics of Redistribution (Torben Iversen, Government Department)

- KSG** Gösta Esping-Andersen, *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, chs. 1-3.
- KSG** Paul Pierson, "Three worlds of welfare state research." *Comparative Political Studies* (2000) 33: (6-7), 791-821.
- KSG** Birchfield V and Crepaz MML. "The impact of constitutional structures and collective and competitive veto points on income inequality in industrialized democracies." *European Journal of Political Research*. (1998) 34 (2):175-200
- Web** Ann Orloff, "Gender and Social Rights of Citizenship: The Comparative Analysis of Gender Relations and Welfare States," *American Sociological Review* (June 1993), 58: 303-28. (JSTOR)
- Web** Torben Iversen and Anne Wren, "Equality, Employment, and Budgetary Restraint: The Trilemma of the Service Economy," *World Politics*, July 1998, Vol. 50, pp507-546. <http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~iversen/PDFfiles/50.4iversen.html#fig01>
- Elect** Torben Iversen and David Soskice, "Electoral systems and the politics of coalitions: Why some democracies redistribute more than others."

April 21: Congressional Politics and Outcomes

- Buy** David Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection*, Yale, 1986, ppTBA
- Buy** Jeffrey Birnbaum and Alan Murray, *Showdown at Gucci Gulch*, Knopf, 1988, ppTBA.
- Web** Kay Schlozman, Sidney Verba, and Henry Brady, "Civic Participation and the Equality Problem," in Theda Skocpol and Morris Fiorina, eds. *Civic Engagement in America*, Brookings, 1999, pp427-59. <http://brookings.nap.edu/books/0815728093/html/427.html>
- KSG** John Ferejohn, "Logrolling in an Institutional Context: A Case Study of Food Stamp Legislation," pp 223-53 in Gerald Wright et al, eds. *Congress and Policy Change*, Agathon Press, 1986.
- Handout** Everett Ladd and Karlyn Bowman, *Attitudes toward Economic Inequality*, AEI Press, 1998, Tables 3-7 and 4-8.

April 28: Can We Reduce the Effect of Socioeconomic Background? (Susan Mayer, Harris School, University of Chicago)

- Buy** Susan E. Mayer, *What Money Can't Buy*, Harvard, 1997, pp1-4 and 39-142.
- Web** Susan Dynarski, "Hope for Whom? Financial Aid for the Middle Class and Its Impact on College Attendance." <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w7756.pdf>
- Elect** Peter Rossi, "The Iron Law of Evaluation and Other Metallic Rules," in Joann Miller and Michael Lewis (eds.), *Research in Social Problems and Public Policy*, Vol 4. (1987), JAI Press, pp 3-20.
- Web** Mark Lipsey and David Wilson, "The Efficacy of Psychological, Educational, and Behavioral Treatment: Confirmation from Meta-Analysis," *American Psychologist*, (Dec. 1993) 48: 1181-1209. <http://80-www.psycinfo.com.ezp1.harvard.edu/library/display.cfm?document=amp/1993/december/amp48121181.html>

May 5: The Future of the Welfare State

- Web** Jonathan Gruber and David Wise, "An International Perspective on Policies for an Aging Society," (NBER #8103) <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w8103.pdf>
- KSG** Theda Skocpol, *The Missing Middle: Working Families and the Future of American Social Policy*, Norton, 2000, pp22-58.
- KSG** Paul Pierson, "Coping with Permanent Austerity: Welfare State Restructuring in Affluent Democracies," in Paul Pierson, ed. *The New Politics of the Welfare State*, Oxford University Press, 2001, pp410-56.

May 16: PAPERS DUE. Requests for extensions must be submitted via e-mail.

Handout Jane Mansbridge, "A few simple rules of style for graduate students."