ASREC 2019
Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture

Eighteenth Annual Conference

Omni Parker House - Boston, MA
March 1-2, 2019
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Registration

7:45 AM – 9:00 AM: Coffee/Tea Station - Press Room

9:00 AM – 10:45 AM: Parallel Sessions 1

1A: Cultural Beliefs
Room: Gardner Room
Chair: Per G. Fredriksson

Sunlight and Culture
- Per G. Fredriksson, University of Louisville
- Aatishya Mohanty, Nanyang Technological University

Gods and Cooperation
- Aidin Hajikhameneh, San Jose State University
- Laurence Iannaccone, Chapman University

Social Norms and Dishonesty across Societies
- Diego Aycinena, Universidad del Rosario
- Benjamin Beranek, Connecticut College
- Lucas Rentschler, Utah State University
- Jonathan Schulz, Harvard University
The Causal Effect of Cultural Identity on Cooperation
  • *Dietmar Fehr, University of Heidelberg*
  • *Jeff Butler, UC Merced*

Types of Contract: A Field Experiment on Collaborative and Adversarial Caste Integration
  • *Matt Lowe, Institute on Behavior and Inequality, Bonn*

Religion and Compromise: Experimental Evidence from Tunisia
  • *Sharan Grewal, Brookings Institution*
  • *Matthew Cebul, Yale University*

University Socialization in the Developing World: Experimental Evidence from Lebanon
  • *Christiana Parreira, Stanford University*
  • *Daniel Tavana, Princeton University*
  • *Charles Harb, American University of Beirut*
1C: Gender
Room: King Room
Chair: Duman Bahrami-Rad

Keeping it in the Family: Female Inheritance, In-marriage and the Status of Women
• Duman Bahrami-Rad, Harvard University

Female Empowerment and Male Backlash
• Eleonora Guarneri, IFO Institute Helmut Rainer, University of Munich

Cultural Norms and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
• Ana Tur-Prats, University of California, Merced
• Eleonora Guarneri, IFO Institute

Roots of Intolerance: Impact of Religious Mission on Modern Anti-Gay Sentiments in Sub-Saharan Africa
• Maxim Ananyev, UCLA
• Michael Poyker, Columbia Business School

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM: Coffee/Tea Station – Press Room
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM: Parallel Sessions 2

2A: Economic History
Room: Gardner
Chair: Jared Rubin

Is the “Great Man” Theory of History Dead?: How Luther's Personal Ties affected the Diffusion of the Early Reformation
- Jared Rubin, Chapman University
- Sascha Becker, Warwick University
- Steven Pfaff, University of Washington

Church Politics, Sectarianism, and Judicial Terror: The Scottish Witch-Hunt, 1563-1736
- Steven Pfaff, University of Washington
- Parashar Kulkarni, Yale NUS College

Can Autocracy Promote Literacy? Evidence from a Cultural Alignment Success Story
- Nuno Palma, University of Manchester
- Jaime Reis, ICS, University of Lisbon

Trust Unraveled: The Long Shadow of the Spanish Civil War
- Felipe Valencia Caicedo, University of British Columbia
- Anna Tur Prats, UC Merced
2B: Conflict & Religious Change
Room: Stowe Room
Chair: Dijana Zejcirovic

Does Political Participation Recover after a Civil War? Evidence from Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Dijana Zejcirovic, University of Vienna
- Caterina Alacevich, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Slavery Resistance and Brazil’s Long-run Economic Development
- Guilherme Lambais, Universidade de Brasília

Religious Change Preceded Economic Change in the 20th Century
- Damian Ruck, University of Bristol
- Alex Bentley, University of Tennessee
- Dan Lawson, University of Bristol

2C: Religion & Development
Room: King Room
Chair: Amjad Khan

Islam, Institutions and Child Investment: Identifying Cultural and Political Roots of Gender Differences.
- Amjad Khan, George Washington University

The Institutional Foundations of Religious Politics: Evidence from Indonesia
- Gabriel Koehler-Derrick, Harvard University
- Samuel Bazzi, Boston University
- Benjamin Marx, MIT

Secularization with Hindu Characteristics
- Ajay Verghese, University of California, Riverside
1:00 PM – 2:15 PM: Lunch Break

2:15 PM – 4:00 PM: Parallel Sessions 3

3A: Identity & Religion
Room: Gardner Room
Chair: Saumitra Jha

Fraternite and Fraternization: Resisters and Collaborators in Wartime France
  •  Saumitra Jha, Stanford University
  •  Julia Cagé, Sciences-Po
  •  Anna Dagorret, Toulouse School of Economics
  •  Pauline Grosjean, University of New South Wales

Religious Legitimacy and the Long Divergence
  •  Avner Seror, Chapman University
  •  Alberto Bisin, New York University
  •  Jared Rubin, Chapman University
  •  Thierry Verdier, Paris School of Economics

Folklore
  •  Stelios Michalopoulos, Brown University
  •  Melanie Meng Xue, Northwestern University

A Theory of Moral Authority: Moral Choices Under Moral Network Externality
  •  Oeivind Schoeyen, Hitotsubashi University
  •  Avner Greif, Stanford University
Those Who Stayed: Individualism, Self-Selection and Cultural Change during the Age of Mass Migration

- Anne Sofie Beck Knudsen, Lund University

Forced Migration and Human Capital: Evidence from Post-WWII Population Transfers

- Sascha O. Becker, University of Warwick
- Irena Grosfeld, Paris School of Economics
- Pauline Grosjean, University of New South Wales
- Nico Voigtlander, UCLA
- Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, Paris School of Economics

Changing In-group Boundaries: The Role of New Immigrant Waves in 20th Century US?

- Soumyajit Mazumder, Harvard University
- Marco Tabellini, Harvard Business School
- Vaskiliki Fouka, Stanford University
3C: Public Choice
Room: King Room
Chair: Anthony Gill

The Comparative Endurance and Efficiency of Religion: A Public Choice Approach
- Anthony Gill, University of Washington

Does Diversity Impact Subjective Wellbeing? Evidence from the Exodus of Homo Sapiens out of Africa
- Resul Cesur, University of Connecticut
- Sadullah Yildirim, Ibn Haldun University

The Dictator, the Imam and the Judge: Tracing the Impact of Religion and Military on the Courts
- Sultan Mehmood, Paris Research University

Shaping Elite Preferences and Behavior: A Natural Experiment on Culture
- Joan Ricart-Huguet, Yale University
- Betsy Levy Paluck, Princeton University

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Coffee Break
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM: Book Presentation
Room: The Press Room

The Wealth of Religions: The Political Economy of Believing and Belonging
- Robert Barro, Harvard University
- Rachel McCleary, Harvard University

Persecution and Toleration: The Long Road to Religion Freedom
- Noel Johnson, George Mason University
- Mark Koyama, George Mason University

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
ASREC Reception
Alcott Room
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM: Registration

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM: Coffee/Tea Station – Press Room

9:00 AM – 10:45 AM: Parallel Sessions 4

4A: Finance, Credit, & Welfare
Room: Gardner Room
Chair: Adam Osman

To Borrow or Not to Borrow: Religious Norms and the Elasticity of Demand for Credit
- Adam Osman, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Dean Karlan, Northwestern University
- Nour Shammout, J-Pal

Does Finance Make Us Less Social?
- Mitch Warachka, University of San Diego
- Henrik Cronquist, University of Miami
- Frank Yu, China Europe International Business School

Going to Church for Welfare: Social Services Delivered by the Church in the US 1996-2008
- Jeanet Sinding Bentzen, University of Copenhagen
- Lena Lindbjerg Sperling, Copenhagen Business School
4B: Economic History II
Room: Stowe Room
Chair: Ahmed Skali

Protestantism and Effort Expenditure on the Battlefield: Soldier-level Evidence from World War II
- Ahmed Skali, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
- Tony Beatton, University of Queensland
- Benno Torgler, Queensland University of Technology and CREMA

Economic Harbingers of Ottoman Political Modernization: Evolving Anatomy of Power in Istanbul, 1600-1839
- Timur Kuran, Duke University
- Asli Cansunar, Oxford University

Fertility and Child Mortality before the Demographic Transition: Evidence from Nineteenth-Century Egypt
- Mohamed Saleh, Toulouse School of Economics
- Claire Galez, Toulouse School of Economics

Entrepreneur and Communal Tax Liability: The Political Economy of the Early Modern Jewish-Polish Symbiosis
- Yannay Spitzer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
4C: Religious Texts and Beliefs
Room: King Room
Chair: Nicoleta Acatrinei

Hell Makes a Difference, Heaven Doesn’t. A Transaction Cost Analysis
- Nicoleta Acatrinei, Center for the Study of Religion, Faith Princeton University
  Faith & Work Initiative

The Robust Beauty of an Improper Model of Jesus’s Teachings: Text Mining the Sayings of Jesus
- Sean F. Everton, Naval Postgraduate School
- Daniel T. Cunningham, Naval Postgraduate School

Credit, Liquidity, and Ritual Spending: The Chiapas ‘Prestige Bubble’ of 1940-1970
- Werner B. Hertzog, Vanderbilt University

4D: Elites, Culture and Community
Room: The Press Room
Chair: Nathan Nunn

How Does Witchcraft Affect Pro-Social Behavior?
- Nathan Nunn, Harvard University
- Sara Lowes, Bocconi University

More Heat than Light: Census-scale Evidence for the Relationship between Ethnic Diversity and Economic Development as a Statistical Artifact
- Andaleeb Rahman, Tata-Cornell Institute

Scarcity and Inter-Village Cooperation
- Muhammad Haseeb, University of Warwick

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM: Coffee/Tea Station – Press Room
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM Parallel Sessions 5

5A: Charity, Religion, and Preferences
Room: Gardner Room
Chair: Jonathan Oxley

“Do Unto Others You Would Have Them Do Unto You” – Examining Charitable Giving and Religious Identity
  • Jonathan Oxley, Florida State University

Ancestral Roots of Locus of Control
  • Phillip H. Ross, Boston University

The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a [Social Safety] Net: The Causal Effect of Income on Religious Participation
  • Neil Silveus, University of Pittsburgh
  • Christiana Stoddard, Montana State University

Opiates of the Masses? Deaths of Despair and the Decline of American Religion
  • Daniel Hungerman, University of Notre Dame
  • Tyler Giles, University of Notre Dame
5B: Economic History II
Room: Stowe Room
Chair: Kerice Doten-Snitker

Contexts of State Violence: The History of Expulsions of Jews
- Kerice Doten-Snitker, University of Washington

Origins and Economic Consequences of Agricultural Inheritance Rules: Municipal Evidence from Baden-Wurttemberg
- Thilo R. Huning, University of York
- Sibylle Lehmann-Hasemeyer, Universitat Hohenheim
- Fabian Wahl, Universitat Hohenheim

The Legacy of Forced Assimilation Policies: Entry Barriers in the Labor Market and Anti-German Sentiments in South Tyrol
- Alessandro Belmonte, IMT Lucca & University of Warwick
- Armando Di Lillo, IMT Lucca

Connectedness and Cultural Change – Evidence from the Expansion of the Railroad Network in the United States
- Max Winkler, University of Zurich
5C: Identity & Religion
Room: King Room
Chair: Jean-Paul Carvalho

Underrepresentation
- Jean-Paul Carvalho, University of California, Irvine
- Bary Pradelski, ETH Zurich

For-profit States and Big Gods
- Stergios Skaperdas (UC Irvine)
- Samarth Vaidya (Deakin University)

Collective Story Editing: Increasing Women’s Agency and Freedom from Domestic Violence Through Form Theater
- Karla Hoff, The World Bank
- Jyotsna Jalan, Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta
- Sattwik Santra, Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Beliefs also Make Social-Norm Preferences Social
- Michael McBride, University of California, Irvine
- Garret Ridinger, University of Nevada, Reno
5D: Culture and Institutions
Room: The Press Room
Chair: Marek Endrich

Pacem in Terris: Are Papal Visits Good News for Human Rights?
- Marek Endrich, University of Hamburg
- Jerg Gutmann, University of Hamburg

Born to be an Entrepreneur? How Cultural Origin Affects Entrepreneurship
- Katharina Erhardt, ETH Zurich
- Simon Haenni, University of Zurich

Borders Change, Institutions Remain
- Andrew Jonelis, University of Kentucky

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM: Lunch Break
2:15 PM – 4:00 PM: Parallel Sessions 6

6A: Development Economics
Room: Gardner Room
Chair: Gian Luca Tedeschi

State History, Cultural Transmission and Institutional Trust in Africa
- Gian Luca Tedeschi, University of Nottingham

Supernatural Protection and Economic Behavior: Evidence from Beer Retailers in the Eastern DRC
- Nathan Nunn, Harvard University
- Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, UC Berkeley
- Max Winkler, University of Zurich

Collateral Damage: The Legacy of Laos Secret War
- Felipe Valencia Caicedo, University of British Columbia
- Juan Felipe Riano Rodriguez, University of British Columbia

The Persistent Effect of Social Exclusion on Social Norms: Evidence from a Former Leper Colony in Colombia
- Diego Ramos-Toro, Brown University
The Effect of Human Capital and Ethnic Diversity on Agricultural Productivity of 19th Century French Colonists in Algeria
  • Theresa Finley, Susquehanna University

The Long Reach of Cotton in the U.S. South: Tenant Farming, Mechanization and Low-Skill Manufacturing
  • Yeonha Jung, Boston University

Holy Wars? Temple Desecrations in Medieval India
  • Rohit Ticku, Chapman University
  • Sriya Iyer, University of Cambridge
  • Anand Shrivastava, Azim Premji University

The Power of Religion: Politics and Religion Across Time and Space
  • Gunes Gokmen, Lund University
  • Jeanet Bentzen, University of Copenhagen
Using Night-Lights to Estimate Religiosity in the Muslim World
• Avital Livny, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Religion and Motivated Cognition: When Ramadan Meets the College Entrance Exam
• Shaoda Wang, UC Berkeley
• Ao Wang, UC Berkeley
• Xiaoyang Ye, University of Michigan

A Tale of Two Plateaus: Comparative Development in the Middle East
• Metin M. Coşgel, University of Connecticut
• Sadullah Yildirim, Ibn Haldun University

• Asli Cansunar, University of Oxford

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Coffee/Tea Station – Press Room
4:30 – 6.00 PM
ASREC Keynote Address
Press Room

Joseph Henrich
Harvard University

“Big Gods, Potent Rituals and the Evolution of Complex Societies”

6:00 – 8:00 PM: ASREC Farewell Reception

Location: Alcott Room
ASREC would like to thank the following organizations for their sponsorship:

Thanks to all who contributed to these meetings, including session participants, ASREC officers and many others.

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