



# LLAKES CENTRE CONFERENCE 2018

## Young Adults, Inequality and the Generational Divide: Learning and Life Chances in an Era of Uncertainty

15 – 16 November 2018

Day 1 – Mary Ward House Conference Centre

5-7 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SN

9.30am – 5.00pm

Day 2 – Senate House Conference Venue

Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU

9.30am – 5.00pm

## PROGRAMME

Young people in many western countries face declining opportunities across various life domains, including in work, housing and welfare. For several decades now, the ageing of populations, globalisation, and the shift in power from labour to capital, have been increasing inequalities in incomes and wealth, including between generations. Young people have been in the front line of changes in work and welfare, and have generally suffered more than other age groups from the 2008 financial crisis and ensuing austerity. In the UK now, with the added economic uncertainties of Brexit, some would argue that the prospects for millennial youth are worse than for any generation since those born at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This conference explores the changing opportunities structures for young adults in the context of growing inequality and economic uncertainty.

The conference will examine changes in opportunities for young people in different life domains:

- Young People: Perceptions, Attitudes, Civic Values and Political Engagement
- Young People: Education, Skills Inequalities and the Changing Nature of Work
- Youth Transitions and Generational Inequalities



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## Day 1 – Keynotes

Thursday 15 November 2018 - Mary Ward House Conference Centre

### Changing Opportunities for Young Adults in the UK – Increasing Inequality or Intergenerational Decline? - *Andy Green*

The situation of the millennial generation has been increasingly headlined since the onset of the 2007/8 financial crisis. However, views differ substantially on how we should interpret and react to evidence of declining youth opportunities. Based on mixed method research conducted by an interdisciplinary team in LLAKES since 2013 - including analysis of secondary data, the conduct of wave 6 of the Citizenship Education Longitudinal Study and interviews with 100 young people - this lecture explores the evidence across the key life domains of education, work, housing and welfare and asks how we should interpret it. Are observed changes about rising inequality within and between age groups – i.e. an extension of social polarisation to age groups? Or are we experiencing yet more profound structural changes, driven by globalisation, demographic change and neo-liberal policy, which portend life course generational decline for millennials and even for generations following.

This survey of trends finds varying patterns in the different life domains, but lifetime generational declines for the millennials seem increasingly likely, at the least in housing and social welfare. The ageing of the electorate – of which Brexit is one result – provides a gloomy prognosis for policy change to redress generational gaps. However, there is a more optimistic scenario, paradoxically resulting from ‘youth crisis age creep.’ Within the coming decade the current generation in their 20s and early 30s begin to reach early middle age. If they are still mostly unable to buy houses and struggling to meet their rental and student loans payments; if many have still not found jobs commensurate with their qualifications and are ‘just managing’ in precarious work with declining conditions and pay; and if those coming behind are doing no better; then a powerful electoral alliance may emerge amongst younger voters to challenge intergenerational inequality.



**Andy Green** is Professor of Comparative Social Science at the UCL Institute of Education, and Director, since 2008, of the ERSC-funded Research Centre on Learning and Life Chances (LLAKES). He was formerly co-founder and co-director of the DFEE-funded Wider Benefits of Learning Centre and has directed a number of major comparative research projects addressing both economic and social impacts of education and training. He has published widely on a range of social and education issues with major works translated into Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Spanish, including: *Education and State Formation: Europe, East Asia and the USA*, Palgrave, 2013; *Regimes of Social Cohesion: Societies and the Crisis of Globalisation*, Palgrave 2011;

*Education and Development in a Global Era: Strategies for ‘Successful’ Globalisation*, DFID, 2007. Most recently he has been working on policies for reducing inter-generational inequality as outlined in his recent open access Palgrave book: *The Crisis for Young People: Generational Inequalities in Education, Work, Housing and Welfare*.

## Private schooling in 21st century Britain - *Francis Green*

Britain's private schools serve a small but influential section of its population and a tiny slice of the world's elite families. In this talk I will discuss the transformation of private schools in the last half century, and ask what it is that private schools do for young people in the 21st century, drawing on recent evidence about their academic, labour market and other outcomes. I will also present some recent evidence about the income concentration of private school attendance, propose arguments about why the fees have become so high, and conclude with a review of arguments about why the private school system is in need of reform.

**Francis Green** is Professor of Work and Education Economics at the LLAKES Centre in the UCL Institute of Education. After graduating in Physics at Oxford University, he studied Economics at the London School of Economics, before writing his PhD thesis at Birkbeck College. He specialises in the economics of skills, education, training and job quality. He is the author of ten books, and more than 150 papers, including several on the economic and social effects of private schooling in the past and present. He also works as an occasional advisor to the OECD, the European Union and to the UK government.



## Day 2 Keynotes

Friday 16 November 2018 - Senate House Conference Venue

## Improving opportunities and life chances for young people – the challenge for policy makers - *Sir Vince Cable*



The Rt Hon Sir **Vince Cable** MP has been Leader of the Liberal Democrats since July 2017. He is the MP for Twickenham and was Secretary of State for Business, Innovation & Skills in 2010-15, during which time he developed the country's Industrial Strategy.

## How more equal societies reduce stress, restore sanity and improve everybody's wellbeing - *Kate Pickett*

The talk will focus on how less equal societies fare worse than more equal ones, across everything from education to life expectancy. It will explain how inequality affects us individually, how it alters how we think, feel and behave. It will set out the overwhelming evidence that material inequalities have powerful psychological effects: when the gap between rich and poor increases, as does the tendency to define and value ourselves and others in terms of superiority and inferiority.

**Kate Pickett** is Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York, and the University's Champion for Research on Justice and equality; she is a Fellow of the RSA and of the UK Faculty of Public Health. She is co-author, with Richard Wilkinson, of the bestselling books, *The Spirit Level* (2009) and *The Inner Level* (2018). Kate is also a co-founder and trustee of The Equality Trust.



## Day 1 - Thursday 15 November

Mary Ward House Conference Centre, 5-7 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SN

<b>09:30-09:50</b> Morris Room	<b>Registration and refreshments</b>		
<b>09:50-10:00</b> Brewer & Smith	<b>Day 1 Welcome</b> Jan Germen Janmaat, Reader in Comparative Social Science and Deputy Director of LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education		
<b>10:00-11:00</b> Brewer & Smith	<b>Keynote: Changing Opportunities for Young Adults in the UK – Increasing Inequality or Intergenerational Decline?</b> Andy Green, Professor of Comparative Social Science and LLAKES Centre Director, UCL Institute of Education		
<b>11.00-11.05</b>	<b>Short break</b>		
	<b>Strand 1: Young People: Perceptions, Attitudes, Civic Values and Political Engagement</b> Chair: Jan Germen Janmaat  Brewer & Smith Room	<b>Strand 2: Young People: Education, Skills Inequalities and the Changing Nature of Work</b> Chair: Francis Green  Breakout Room 1 - Arnold Room	<b>Strand 3: Youth Transitions and Generational Inequalities</b> Chair: Ingrid Schoon  Breakout Room 2 – Herschel Room
<b>11.05-11.35</b>	<i>Development of Values and Civic Engagement</i>  <b>The Development of Civic Values and the Effect of Education</b> Jan Germen Janmaat, Reader in Comparative Social Science, UCL Institute of Education	<i>Job Quality for Young People</i>  <b>Examining the Trends and Profile of Insecurity at Work</b> Alan Felstead, Research Professor, Cardiff School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University	<i>Youth and Intergenerational Mobility</i>  <b>Coming of Age in a Changing World: Constellations of Risk and the Dynamics of Agency</b> Ingrid Schoon, Chair of Social Policy, UCL Institute of Education
<b>11.35-12.05</b>	<b>Volunteering: A route to Citizenship and Employability?</b> Rachel Wilde, Lecturer in Education, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Great reversal or continued expansion?: The evolution of job skills in Britain over the last two decades</b> Golo Henseke, Research Associate, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Youth and Working Life Transitions in Changing Social Landscapes</b> Karen Evans, Emeritus Professor of Education, UCL Institute of Education
<b>12.05-12.35</b>	<b>'Inequalities of Participation': intergenerational and intragenerational differences in participation across the EU</b> James Sloam, Reader in Politics & International Relations, Royal Holloway	<b>The Changing Effect of Participative Decision-making on Employee Well-being</b> Ying Zhou, Senior Lecturer in Human Resource Management, University of Surrey	<b>The intergenerational transmission of socio-economic status: a comparison of the British 1958 and 1970 cohorts</b> Alice Sullivan, Professor of Sociology, UCL Institute of Education
<b>12:35-13:20</b> Morris Room	<b>Lunch break</b>		

<b>13.20–14.20</b> <a href="#">Brewer &amp; Smith</a>	<b>Keynote: Private schooling in 21st century Britain</b> Francis Green, Professor of Work and Education Economics, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education		
<b>14.20-15.10</b> <a href="#">Brewer &amp; Smith</a>	<b>Panel: School Reform</b> Melissa Benn, Writer and campaigner John Jerrim, Professor of Education and Social Statistics, UCL Institute of Education Warwick Mansell, Education journalist <b>Chair:</b> Francis Green, Professor of Work and Education Economics, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education		
<b>15.10-15.25</b> <a href="#">Morris Room</a>	<b>Refreshment break</b>		
	<b>Strand 1: Young People: Perceptions, Attitudes, Civic Values and Political Engagement</b> Chair: Jan Germen Janmaat <a href="#">Breakout Room 1 – Arnold Room</a>	<b>Strand 2: Young People: Education, Skills Inequalities and the Changing Nature of Work</b> Chair: Francis Green <a href="#">Smith &amp; Brewer Room</a>	<b>Strand 3: Youth Transitions and Generational Inequalities</b> Chair: Ingrid Schoon <a href="#">Breakout Room 2 – Herschel Room</a>
<b>15.25-15.55</b>	<i>Influence on Political Engagement</i> <b>Social media and youth political engagement: What are we measuring and how much does it matter?</b> Avril Keating, Senior Lecturer in Comparative Social Science, UCL Institute of Education	<i>Innovation and Productivity</i> <b>Winners and losers in the knowledge economy</b> Rebecca Riley, Director of Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence, NIESR	<i>Young People and the Great Recession</i> <b>Imagining the Future in the Neoliberal Era: Young People’s Optimism and Their Faith in Hard Work</b> Michela Franceschelli, Lecturer in Sociology, UCL Institute of Education
<b>15.55-16.25</b>	<b>Are schools making things worse?: The social reproduction of inequalities in political engagement</b> Bryony Hoskins, Professor of Comparative Social Science, University of Roehampton	<b>Crossing the Divide: Extending life chances for young adults with chronic health conditions through learning and innovation</b> Alison Fuller, Professor of Vocational Education and Work, UCL Institute of Education, Susan Halford, Professor of Sociology, University of Southampton and Kate Lyle, Research Fellow, Health Sciences, University of Southampton	<b>The Great Recession and Economic Conditions of Young Adults</b> Maria Sironi, Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology, UCL Institute of Education
<b>16.25-17.00</b>	<b>Beyond voting: Youth political participation and civic engagement in eight European countries</b> Vassilis Pavlopoulos, Associate Professor of Cross-Cultural Psychology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	<b>Making Better Use of Workers’ Ideas: New Evidence on a Neglected Aspect of the Productivity Debate</b> Alan Felstead, Research Professor, Cardiff School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University	<b>For Some, Luck Matters More. The impact of the Great Recession on Early Careers of Graduates from Different Socio-Economic Backgrounds</b> Greta Morando, ESRC Post-Doctoral Fellow, Economics Department, Royal Holloway

## Day 2 – Friday 16 November

Senate House Conference Venue, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU

09:30-09:50 Crush Hall	Arrival and refreshments		
09.50-10.00 Beveridge Hall	Day 2 Welcome Andy Green, Professor of Comparative Social Science and LLAKES Centre Director, UCL Institute of Education		
10.00-11.00 Beveridge Hall	Keynote: Improving opportunities and life chances for young people – the challenge for policy makers Sir Vince Cable MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrat party and the MP for Twickenham		
11.00-11.05	Short break		
	<b>Strand 1: Young People: Perceptions, Attitudes, Civic Values and Political Engagement</b> Chair: Jan Germejan Beveridge Hall	<b>Strand 2: Young People: Education, Skills Inequalities and the Changing Nature of Work</b> Chair: Francis Green Breakout Room 1 - Woburn Room (G22)	<b>Strand 3: Youth Transitions and Generational Inequalities</b> Chair: Ingrid Schoon Breakout Room 2 - Montague Room (G26)
11.05-11.35	<i>Brexit: voting behaviour and attitudes</i> <b>Were the Young Really “Screwed by Older Generations”?</b> Evidence from The British Election Study David Kingman, Senior Researcher, Intergenerational Foundation	<i>Young People’s Labour Markets</i> <b>Pulling Apart? A decade of change in Europe’s Graduate Labour Markets</b> Francis Green, Professor of Work and Education Economics and Golo Henseke, Research Associate, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education	<i>Intergenerational Inequalities</i> <b>Youth, education and deschooling from above</b> Stuart Tannock, Senior Lecturer in Sociology of Education, UCL Institute of Education
11.35-12.05	<b>Exploring voter profiles and the age gap in the Brexit vote using the Understanding Society data</b> Gabriella Melis, Research Associate, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Securing the future?: Young people, diversity and work entry routes</b> Pauline Leonard, Professor of Sociology, University of Southampton	<b>Home Improvements: Tackling the Intergenerational Housing Crisis</b> Lindsay Judge, Senior Research and Policy Analyst, Resolution Foundation
12.05-12.35	<b>The Generation Divide: How Young and Old View Brexit</b> Sir John Curtice, Professor of Politics, University of Strathclyde and Senior Research Fellow, NatCen	<i>Education Interest Groups in Europe</i> <b>Governance, Special Interests, and Education Policy in Europe</b> Susanne Wiborg, Reader in Education, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Young people's employability, skills and the impact of the socio-economic inequalities in their life course. The case of Greece</b> Nikos Papadakis, Professor of Political Science, University of Crete

<b>12.35-13.20</b> Crush Hall	<b>Lunch break</b>		
<b>13.20-13.50</b>	<b>Strand 1: Young People: Perceptions, Attitudes, Civic Values and Political Engagement</b> Chair: Jan Germen Janmaat <a href="#">Breakout Room 2 - Montague Room (G26)</a>	<b>Strand 2: Young People: Education, Skills Inequalities and the Changing Nature of Work</b> Chair: Francis Green <a href="#">Breakout Room 1 - Woburn Room (G22)</a>	<b>Strand 3: Youth Transitions and Generational Inequalities</b> Chair: Ingrid Schoon <a href="#">Beveridge Hall</a>
	<i>Radicalisation: different policies in different states</i>	<i>Schools, Skills and Inequalities</i>	<i>Youth Transitions and Lifelong Learning</i>
	<b>The Various Logics and Mechanisms of Youths Radicalization in France: Teenage Rebellion, Group Dynamics and Institutional responses</b> Fabien Carrié, Doctor of Political Science, Paris Nanterre University	<b>Skills and educational attainments around the world: the role of the post-compulsory phase</b> Nic Pensiero, Research Officer, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Young people's labour market transitions: the role of early experiences</b> Richard Dorsett, Professor of Economic Evaluation, University of Westminster
	<b>13.50-14.20</b> <b>Taming Imams and Swedice Muslims</b> <b>Swedish policies for integration of refugees</b> Erik Amnå, Professor in Political Science, Örebro University	<b>Equity in Education: Evidence from the Programme for International Student Assessment</b> Tarek Mostafa, Policy Analyst in the Directorate for Education and Skills, OECD	<b>Teenage height and weight, and the socio-economic circumstances of young adults</b> Martin Weale, Professor of Economics, King's College London
<b>14.20-14.50</b> <b>Fundamental British values and 'dangerous conversations'</b> Carol Vincent, Professor of Sociology of Education, UCL Institute of Education	<b>Is Education Enough? Education, Skills and Socio-economic Inequalities</b> Anna Vignoles, Professor of Education, University of Cambridge	<b>Higher education, initial vocational training and continuing education and training: where should the balance lie?"</b> Geoff Mason, Visiting Professor, LLAKES Centre, UCL Institute of Education	
<b>14.50-15.05</b> Crush Hall	<b>Refreshment break</b>		
<b>15.05-16.05</b> Beveridge Hall	<b>Keynote: How more equal societies reduce stress, restore sanity and improve everybody's wellbeing</b> Kate Pickett, Professor of Epidemiology, Department of Health Sciences, University of York		
<b>16.05-16.55</b> Beveridge Hall	<b>Panel: Repairing the generational contract</b> Georgia Gould, Cllr for Kentish Town Ward & Leader of Camden Council Laura Gardiner, Research Director, Resolution Foundation <b>Chair:</b> Andy Green, Professor of Comparative Social Science and LLAKES Centre Director, UCL Institute of Education		
<b>16.55-17.00</b> Beveridge Hall	<b>Conference Close</b> Andy Green, Professor of Comparative Social Science and LLAKES Centre Director, UCL Institute of Education		