

ASREC conference 2015, Boston, 20-21 March



Friday March 20th, 2015

8:00am – 5:00pm: Registration

8:00am – 8:30am: Light Breakfast (location TBC)

8:30am – 10:00am: Parallel Sessions 1

1A: Religion, Nature and Disasters

Chair & Discussant: Noel D. Johnson (George Mason University)

- Acts of God: Religiosity and Natural Disasters across 900 Subnational World Districts
 - *Jeanet Bentzen, University of Copenhagen*
- Church Membership and Social Insurance: Evidence from the American South
 - *Philipp Ager, University of Southern Denmark*
 - *Casper Worm Hansen, University of Copenhagen*
 - *Lars Lønstrup, University of Southern Denmark*
- Rainfall Risk and Religious Membership in the Late 19th-Century U.S.
 - *Philipp Ager, University of Southern Denmark*
 - *Antonio Ciccone, University of Mannheim*

1B: Religion, Culture and Institutions

Chair & Discussant: Jean-Paul Carvalho (University of California, Irvine)

- Public Goods, Prosociality, and Institutional Decentralization: An Agent-Based Model of Religion and Political Activism
 - *Christopher Hale, Chapman University*
- Choosing between Traditional and Modern Institutions: The Case of the Amish
 - *James Choy, University of Warwick*
- Conditions for Effective Institutional Reform
 - *Benito Arruñada, Universitat Pompeu Fabra*

1C: Culture and Religion in China

Chair & Discussant: Uwe Sunde (LMU)

- Endogenous Clans: The Path of Development in Historical China
 - *Ying Bai, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology*
 - *James Kung, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology*
 - *Chicheng Ma, Shandong University*
- The Almighty God and the Not-So-Almighty Government: An Economic Examination of Religious Cults in China
 - *Zhilong Ge, Mercatus Center at George Mason University*

1D: Castes and Health in India

Chair & Discussant: Francisco Pino (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

- Long-Term Effects of Access to Health Care: Medical Missions in Colonial India
 - *Rossella Calvi, Boston College*
 - *Federico Mantovanelli, Analysis Group*
- Is Caste Destiny? Occupational Diversification Among Dalits in Rural India
 - *Ira Gang, Rutgers University*
 - *Kunal Sen, IDPM, University of Manchester*
 - *Myeong-Su Yun, Tulane University*

1E: Jurisprudence and Lawyers

Chair & Discussant: Sascha O. Becker (Warwick)

- The Lawyers' Comparative Advantage in Parliamentary Elections
 - *Raphael Franck, Bar Ilan University*
- Do Policies Affect Preferences? Evidence from Random Variation in Abortion Jurisprudence
 - *Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich*
 - ***Vardges Levonyan, ETH Zurich***
 - *Susan Yeh, George Mason University School of Law*

10:15am – 12:00pm: Parallel Sessions 2

2A: High Holidays: Ramadan and Selichot

Chair & Discussant: Matt Lowe (MIT)

- Do Parents Selectively Time Birth Relative to Ramadan? Impact of Maternal Fasting on Height: Evidence from Matlab, Bangladesh
 - *Nazmul Ahsan, University of Southern California*
- Does Religion Affect Economic Growth and Happiness? Evidence from Ramadan
 - *Filipe Campante, Harvard University*
 - *David H. Yanagizawa-Drott, Harvard University*
- Does Religiosity Affect Support for Political Compromise?
 - *Danny Cohen-Zada, Ben-Gurion University*

- *Yotam Margalit, Columbia University*
- *Oren Rigbi, Ben-Gurion University*

2B: Religion, Health and Life Satisfaction

Chair & Discussant: Ira Gang (Rutgers University)

- Suffer for the Faith? Parental Religiosity and Children's Health
 - *Olga Popova, Institute for East and Southeast European Studies*
- Religiosity and the Canadian Life Satisfaction Puzzle
 - *Maryam Dilmaghani, Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary's University*
- Right-Skilling: Rabbis and the Rabbinic Role for a New Century
 - *Barak Richman, Duke University*

2C: Beliefs, Norms and Economic Behavior

Chair & Discussant: Raphael Franck (Bar-Ilan University)

- The Political Economy of Beliefs: Why Fiscal and Social Conservatives/Liberals Come Hand-In-Hand
 - ***Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich***
 - *Jo T. Lind, University of Oslo*
- From Peer Pressure to Biased Norms: Formation and Collapse
 - *Moti Michaeli, Hebrew University*
 - *Daniel Spiro, University of Oslo*
- From Religion to Economic Behaviour
 - *Niels Kærgård, University of Copenhagen*

2D: Culture and Norms in Germany

Chair & Discussant: Philipp Ager (University of Southern Denmark)

- Are there Cultural Effects in Female Labor Supply? Empirical Evidence from Germany
 - *Anja Köbrich-Leon, University of Kassel*
- Music in the Air: Estimating the Social Return to Cultural Amenities
 - *Oliver Falck, Ifo Institute*
 - *Michael Fritsch, University of Jena*
 - *Stephan Heblich, University of Bristol*
 - *Anne Otto, IAB*
- Thou Shall Not Smoke: Religion and Smoking in a Natural Experiment of History
 - *Luca Nunziata, University of Padua*
 - *Veronica Toffolutti, University of East Anglia*

12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch break

1:30pm – 3:00pm: Parallel Sessions 3

3A: The Political Economy of Islamic Diversity and Change

Chair & Discussant: Robbie Mochrie (Heriot-Watt University)

- Can Economic Incentives Tame Jihad? The Case of Sudan and Chad
 - *Jean-Paul Azam, Toulouse School of Economics*
- The Sharia and the Transition towards more Democracy and a Market Economy – Restrictions and Opportunities
 - *Rahel Schomaker, Cologne Business School and German Research Institute for Public Administration*
- Islamism and Socialism: A Comparison
 - *Mario Ferrero, University of Eastern Piedmont*

3B: Religion, Trust, Cooperation and Conflict

Chair & Discussant: Enrico Spolaore (Tufts University)

- A Bridge over the (Ethnic) Chasm: Culture and Mistrust over and Cooperation in Rwanda
 - *Sharun Mukand, University of Warwick and Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton and CAGE*
 - *Arthur Blouin, University of Toronto and CAGE*
- Resource Shocks and Conflict in Europe, 1400-2000
 - *Murat Iyigun, University of Colorado*
 - *Nathan Nunn, Harvard University*
 - *Nancy Qian, Yale University*
- Religion, Division of Labour and Conflict
 - *Sascha O. Becker, University of Warwick*
 - *Luigi Pascali, University of Warwick*

3C: Culture, Religion and Trade

Chair & Discussant: Marvin Suesse (HU Berlin)

- Can Markets Overcome Repugnance? Islamic Trade Response to Anti-Muslim Cartoons
 - **Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich**
 - *Yehonatan Givati, Hebrew University*
- Time-Varying Effect of Cultural Differences on Trade
 - *Gunes Gokmen, New Economic School and the Center for the Study of Diversity and Social Interactions*
- Theocracy and Resilience Against Economic Sanctions
 - *Alireza Naghavi, University of Bologna*
 - *Giuseppe Pignataro, University of Bologna*

3D: Church and Power

Chair & Discussant: TBC

- The Politics of Sex Abuse in Hierarchies: A Comparative Study of the Catholic Church and the United States Military
 - *Carolyn M. Warner, Arizona State University*
- Book Burning
 - *Cheryl Litman, George Mason University*
- The Paradox of Religiosity: Theocracy Over Time
 - *Metin M. Cosgel, University of Connecticut*

3:15pm – 4:45pm: Parallel Sessions 4

4A: The Interaction of Public and Private Institutions

Chair & Discussant: James Choy (Warwick)

- Heaven on Earth? Religion and Redistribution in the US
 - *Matt Lowe, MIT*
- Where does School Choice Funding Go? The Incidence of Funding on Secular and Sectarian Private-School Finances
 - *Daniel Hungerman, University of Notre Dame*
 - *Kevin Rinz, University of Notre Dame*
- Quantifying the Supply Response of Private Schools to Public Policies
 - *Michael Dinerstein, Stanford University*

4B: Diversity and Economic Outcomes in Historical Germany

Chair & Discussant: Ralf Meisenzahl (Federal Reserve)

- Religious Diversity and Innovation: Historical Evidence from Patenting Activity
 - *Francesco Cinnirella, IFO Institute Munich*
 - *Jochen Streb, University of Mannheim*
- Linguistic Fractionalization and Local Expenditure on Primary Education
 - *Francesco Cinnirella, IFO Institute Munich*
 - *Ruth Schueler, IFO Institute Munich*
- Market Integration, Financial Development and Ethnic Segregation
 - *Nikolaus Wolf, HU Berlin*
 - *Marvin Suesse, HU Berlin*

4C: Women, Culture and Religion

Chair & Discussant: Anastasia Litina (University of Luxembourg)

- When Religion Interacts with Economics and Culture to Harm Women: An African Example
 - *Carrie A. Miles, Chapman University and Empower International Ministries*
- Equal Land Rights, Religion, and Outcomes for Women: Evidence From Ethiopia
 - *Kelsey Barton-Henry, University of Connecticut*
- What Makes Russian Women (Un)Happy? A Closer Look at the Family
 - *Ekaterina Selezneva, Institute for East and Southeast European Studies*

4D: Competition and Religiosity

Chair & Discussant: Sriya Iyer (University of Cambridge)

- The More Religiosity, the Less Creativity Across US Counties
 - *Adam Okulicz-Kozaryn, Rutgers University-Camden*
- Decentralized, Dynamic, and Devout: The Use of Knowledge in Piety
 - *Brian Hollar, Marymount University*
- Estimating the Relationships Among Education, Cognitive Ability, and Religion: Evidence from NLSY
 - *Han-Yen Kao, Rutgers University*
- Religious Markets, Art Words, and New Religious Movements: The Mystery of Kazimir Malevich
 - *Massimo Introvigne, Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR)*

4E: Religion and Economic Performance

Chair & Discussant: Anand Shrivastava (University of Cambridge)

- The Benefits of Economic Growth: Re-Assessing the View from Christian Theology and Morality
 - *Edd Noell, Westmont College*
 - *Stephen L.S. Smith, Gordon College*
- The Causality among Religious Beliefs, Institutions, and Economic Performance: An Islamic View
 - *Tariq Saddique, Gordon College Rawalpindi, Pakistan*

5:00pm – 6:00pm: Session 5: Keynote lecture by Jonathan Gruber (MIT),
chaired by Dan Hungerman (Notre Dame)

6:00pm - 7:30pm: ASREC Reception (location TBC)

Saturday March 21st, 2015

8:00am – 2:00pm: Registration

8:00am – 8:30am: Light Breakfast (location TBC)

8:30am – 10:00am: Parallel Sessions 6

6A: Human Capital, States, and Culture

Chair & Discussant: James Kung (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)

- The Literary Inquisition: The Persecution of Intellectuals and Human Capital Accumulation in Imperial China
 - *Mark Koyama, George Mason University*
 - *Melanie Meng Xue, George Mason University*
- Taxes, National Identity, and Nation Building: Evidence from France
 - *Noel D. Johnson, George Mason University*
- Aspiration and Education: The Persistence of Human Capital in China, 1368-2014
 - *Melanie Xue, George Mason University*

6B: Ideology, Religion and Politics

Chair & Discussant: Sera Linardi (University of Pittsburgh)

- Priming Ideology? Electoral Cycles without Electoral Incentives Among Elite U.S. Judges
 - *Carlos Berdejo, Loyola Law School*
 - **Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich**
- Faith in Contention: Religious Competition and the Political Representation of Ethnicity
 - *Matthew Isaacs, Brandeis University*
- Religious Riots and Electoral Politics in India
 - *Anand Shrivastava, University of Cambridge*
 - *Sriya Iyer, University of Cambridge*

6C: Which Role for Religion?

Chair & Discussant: Oliver Falck (Ifo Institute)

- What Good does Religion Do if it Just Reinforces Culture?
 - *Carrie A. Miles, Chapman University and Empower International Ministries*
- Classifying Religions
 - *Resit Ergener, Bogazici University*
- The Great Recession and Wealth: An Examination of Wealth Dynamics By Religious Affiliation
 - *Sedefka Beck, Valparaiso University*
 - *Donka Mirtcheva, The College of New Jersey*
 - *Kacey Stuck, Valparaiso University*

6D: Religious Participation

Chair & Discussant: Christopher Bader (Chapman University)

- Reexamining the Effects of State Religion on Religious Service Attendance
 - *Matthew Swift, University of Chicago Law School*
 - *Charles M. North, Baylor University*
- A Firm Entry Approach to Religious Pluralism and Religious Participation
 - *Michael Walrath, University of St. Thomas*
- Separating the Sheep from the Goats: Clustering Religious People in Europe
 - *Fabio Campanini, Istituto Universitario Sophia*

6E: Culture, Religion, and Development (I)

Chair & Discussant: Jeanet Bentzen (University of Copenhagen)

- Dissecting the Act of God: An Exploration of the Effect of Religion on Economic Activity
 - *Anastasia Litina, University of Luxembourg*
 - *Jean-Francois Carpantier, University of Luxembourg*
- Armenian and Greek Legacy in Modern Turkish Development
 - *Eren Arbatli*
 - *Gunes Gokmen, New Economic School and the Center for the Study of Diversity and Social Interactions*
- Market for Missionaries
 - *Feler Bose, Alma College*

10:15am – 12:00pm: Parallel Sessions 7

7A: Islamic Institutions and Ideas

Chair & Discussant: Jared Rubin (Chapman University)

- Religion and the Rise and Fall of Islamic Science
 - *Eric Chaney, Harvard University*
- Less than Grand Ayatollahs: The Unmaking of the Institution of the Marja' Taqlid in Shia Islam
 - *David Patel, Brandeis University*
- Can Ideas be 'Killed?' Evidence from Counterterror Targeting of Jihadi Ideologues
 - *Richard Neilson, MIT*

7B: Religion and Education:

Chair & Discussant: Luca Nunziata (University of Padova)

- Religious Norms and Long Term Development: Insurance and Human Capital
 - *Uwe Sunde, LMU Munich*
- Compulsory Schooling Laws and Formation of Beliefs: Education, Religion and Superstition
 - *Naci Mocan, Louisiana State University*
 - *Luiza Pogorelova, Louisiana State University*
- Have Attempts by the Theocratic Regime to Cultivate Religiosity via the Education System been Successful? The Case of Iran After the Islamic Revolution
 - *Babak Rezaedaryakenari, Arizona State University*

7C: Research Projects at TheARDA.com

Chair & Discussant: Rachel McCleary (Harvard)

- Images of God in the Caucasus Region
 - *Christopher Bader, Chapman University*
 - *Andrea Molle, Chapman University*
- A Quick Review of 5.2 Million Books: Charting Cultural and Religious Trends with Google's Ngram Viewer
 - *Roger Finke, Penn State*
 - *Jennifer McClure, Penn State*
- New and Forthcoming Resources at TheARDA.com
 - *Jennifer McClure, Penn State*

7D: Culture, Religion and Development (II)

Chair & Discussant: Casper Worm Hansen (University of Copenhagen)

- Missionary Influence on Marriage Practices and Fertility: Evidence from the Livingstonia Mission in Malawi
 - *Yuya Kudo, Institute of Developing Economies*
- Cultural Lag, Path Dependency, and the Quality of Government
 - *Seth W. Norton, Wheaton College*
- Religion, Land and Politics: Shrines and Literacy in Punjab
 - *Adeel Malik, University of Oxford*
 - *Rinchan Ali Mirza, University of Oxford*

7E: Giving

Chair & Discussant: Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich

- Clerics and Sermons: An Experiment on the Impact of Religious Authority on Inter-Ethnic Giving in Afghanistan
 - *Luke Condra, University of Pittsburgh*
 - *Mohammad Isaqzadeh, American University in Afghanistan*
 - *Sera Linardi, University of Pittsburgh*
- Polarized Demands for Public Goods and the Generalized Voluntary Contributions Mechanism
 - *R. Mark Isaac, Florida State University*
 - *Douglas A. Norton, Florida State University*
 - *Svetlana Pevnitskaya, Florida State University*
- Gifts of Time and Money: The Impact of Church Leadership Roles
 - *Robert J. Stonebraker, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Winthrop University*

12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch break

1:30pm – 3:00pm: Parallel Sessions 8

8A: The Catholic Church, Saints and Power

Chair & Discussant: Dan Hungerman (Notre Dame)

- Habemus Papam? Polarization and Conflict in the Papal States
 - *Francisco Pino, Université Libre de Bruxelles*
 - *Jordi Vidal-Robert, University of Warwick*
- Saints Marching In, 1590-2009
 - *Rachel McCleary, Harvard University*
 - *Robert Barro, Harvard University*
- The Emperor's New Mind: On Constantine's I Decision to Legalize Christianity
 - *Constantine Boursakis, Athens University of Economics and Business*

8B: Religion and Finance

Chair & Discussant: Vardges Levonyan (ETH Zurich)

- The Financial Power of the Powerless: Socio-Economic Status and Interest Rates Under Partial Rule of Law
 - *Timur Kuran, Duke University*
 - *Jared Rubin, Chapman University*
- Price of Religion: Experiments in Interest-Based and Profit-Loss Sharing Investments in Islamic Communities
 - *Sera Linardi, University of Pittsburgh*
 - *Rebecca Morton, New York University*
 - *Kai Ou, New York University*
 - *Gumilang Sahadewo, University of Pittsburgh*
- Financing New Religions

- *J. Gordon Melton, Baylor University*

8C: Deep Roots of Development

Chair & Discussant: Mark Koyama (George Mason University)

- Fertility and Modernity
 - *Enrico Spoloare, Tufts University*
 - *Romain Wacziarg, UCLA Anderson School of Management*
- Origins of Persistent Differences in Human Capital Accumulation
 - *Jeremiah Dittmar, London School of Economics and Political Science*
 - *Ralf Meisenzahl, Federal Reserve Board*

8D: Religion and Prosocial Behavior

Chair & Discussant: Francesco Cinnirella (Ifo Institute)

- On Religious Prosociality, Fairness, and Beauty
 - *Ramzi Suleiman, University of Haifa*
- Love Thy Neighbor – Religion and Prosocial Behavior
 - *Guido Heineck, University of Bamberg*
- Religion and Socially Responsible Investment Decisions – A Microeconometric Analysis for Germany
 - *Gunnar Gutsche, University of Kassel*
 - *Anja Köbrich-Leon, University of Kassel*

8E: Islam and Identity

Chair & Discussant: Mario Ferrero (Università del Piemonte Orientale)

- Identity and Terrorism
 - *Mukesh Eswaran, Vancouver School of Economics*
 - *Hugh Neary, Vancouver School of Economics*
- Social Media and the ISIL Narrative
 - *Sean Everton, Naval Postgraduate School*
- Identity-Based Organizations
 - *Jean-Paul Carvalho, University of California, Irvine*

3:15pm – 5:15pm: Two Special Sessions

Special Session 1: Religious Freedom and Economic Flourishing

Session chair and moderator: Timothy Shah (Georgetown)

- Is Religious Liberty Good for Business? A Conceptual and Empirical Analysis
 - *Brian J. Grim, Religious Freedom & Business Foundation*
- Religious Liberty and the Violence Trap
 - *Karrie Koesel, University of Oregon*
 - *Anthony Gill, University of Washington*
- State Restrictions on Proselytization: Comparing Motivations and Implications
 - *Ani Sarkissian, Michigan State University*
- Religious Freedom and Small Enterprise in India
 - *Rebecca Samuel Shah, Georgetown University*
- Aid that Works: Missionaries, Economic Development and the “Reversal of Fortunes”
 - *Robert D. Woodberry, National University of Singapore*

Special Session 2 (Book session)

Session chair and moderator: Jared Rubin (Chapman University)

Murat Iyigun presents his forthcoming book "War, Peace, and Prosperity in the Name of God: The Ottoman Role in Europe's Socioeconomic Evolution":

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/W/bo5918083.html>

- War, Peace, and Prosperity in the Name of God: The Ottoman Role in Europe's Socioeconomic Evolution
 - *Murat Iyigun, University of Colorado*

5:30pm – 7:00pm: ASREC Farewell Reception (location TBC)