

# INEQUALITY AND DECISION MAKING



A TOBIN PROJECT CONFERENCE • AUGUST 4-5, 2016

## A Conference on Inequality and Decision Making – Agenda

Le Méridien Cambridge-MIT  
20 Sidney St., Cambridge, MA 02139

### Thursday, August 4, 2016

- 7:45 – 8:45am Breakfast and Registration (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)
- 9:00 – 9:20am Welcome and Introduction (in the Robert Taylor Room, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)<sup>1</sup>
- 9:20 – 9:50am The Importance of Understanding Inequality’s Consequences: A Policymaker’s Perspective  
Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA)
- 9:50 – 11:20am Session One: New Approaches to Canonical Theories of Inequality and Behavior  
Led by Marianne Bertrand
- Buying In: Positional Competition, Schools, and Housing Consumption, 1999-2011*  
(\*Goldstein & Hastings)
- Income Inequality, Competitive Consumption, and Consumer Debt: Exploring the “Keeping up with the Joneses” Hypothesis at the Local Level Using Micro Data* (\*Massoc & Turney)
- The Life Course Influence of Economic Inequality on Individual Health and Health Behavior*  
(\*Truesdale)
- 11:20 – 11:30am Morning Break
- 11:40am – 1:10pm Session Two: Strategic Research Questions and the Study of Inequality  
Led by Mitchell B. Weiss
- Nancy Adler *Lisa and John Pritzker Professor of Psychology at the University of California, San Francisco*
- Marianne Bertrand *Chris P. Dialynas Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business*
- Colin Camerer *Robert Kirby Professor of Behavioral Finance and Economics at the California Institute of Technology*

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all events take place in the Robert Taylor Room.

\* denotes presenting author.

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Raymond Fisman *Slater Family Professor in Behavioral Economics at Boston University*

David Moss *Paul Whiton Cherington Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School and Founder of the Tobin Project*

Michael Norton *Harold M. Brierley Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School*

1:10 – 2:10pm

Lunch

2:20 – 3:50pm

Session Three: Perceptions of Inequality  
Led by Michael Norton

*Diversity and Redistributive Preferences: Evidence from a Quasi-Experiment in Colombia* (\*Londoño-Vélez)

*Rational Inequality: Social Class, Networks, and Local Influences on Economic Knowledge* (Red Bird & \*King)

*Antecedents and Consequences of Perceptions of Economic Inequality* (\*Sheehy-Skeffington, Kteily, & Hauser)

3:50 – 4:00pm

Afternoon Break

4:10 – 5:40pm

Session Four: Inequality, Social Class, and Social Behavior  
Led by Wendy Berry Mendes

*Does Inequality Heighten Class-Based Social Cognition?* (\*Connor, Chen, & Keltner)

*Beliefs about Socioeconomic Status Malleability and Financial Decision Making* (\*Destin & Browman)

*Punitive Inequity Aversion: Do Americans Want to Eat the Rich?* (\*Mercier, Wiwad, Aknin, Lee, Vohs, & Shariff)

5:40 – 6:30pm

Evening Break

6:30 – 7:30pm

Cocktail Hour (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

7:30 – 9:00pm

Dinner (in The Loft, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

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## Friday, August 5, 2016

7:45 – 8:45am Breakfast (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

9:00 – 10:30am Session Five: Inequality and Beliefs about Deservingness  
Led by Susan T. Fiske

*How Economic Inequality and Income Shape Self-Beliefs and Worldviews* (\*Côté, House, & Willer)

*Reactions to Abstract and Concrete Inequality: Equality is Desirable in the Abstract but Meritocracy is Feasible in the Concrete* (\*Hafenbrädl & Dana)

*An Embarrassment of Riches: The Expression of Wealth Guilt in Social Interactions* (\*Piff)  
*Inequality, Precarity, and Perceptions of Deservingness* (\*Trump & Williamson)

10:40am – 12:10pm Session Six: Inequality and Redistributive Preferences  
Led by Ilyana Kuziemko

*The Color of Welfare: The Relationship between Racialized Mental Representations of Welfare Recipients and Attitudes toward Welfare* (\*Brown-Iannuzzi & Payne)

*Can Income Inequality and Social Mobility Affect Support for Redistribution?* (\*Day)

*The Perception of Inequalities and Its Effect on Preference for Redistribution: An International Perspective* (Eckel, Goldstein, Grossman, & \*Page)

12:10 – 1:30pm Lunch and Concluding Remarks