



Reciprocate to Accumulate! – September 08

- 1-. Social Capital Helps Smokers Quit!
- 2-. Crime and the Effect of Social Capital
- 3-. Social Capital and the Easterlin Paradox
- 4-. In the Shadow of the Media
- 5-. Should Business Invest in Social Capital?
- 6-. Events – (Assist Social Capital Training Day)
- 7-. Interesting Links

1-. Social Capital Helps Smokers Quit

New research indicates that high social capital at work is associated with an increased likelihood of smoking cessation. A Finish research project examined smoking cessation among a total of 4,853 municipal employees smokers. Being a non-smoker at follow-up was 1.3 times more likely for those employees who reported high social capital at work than for their counterparts with low social capital at work.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/120860.php>

2-. Crime and the Effect of Social Capital

This article from the Netherlands provides evidence that the presence of social capital provides community-oriented solutions to the problem of crime. These solutions are more important than increasing expenditure on police or incarceration. Estimates suggest that communities/cities with higher levels of social capital have lower crime rates.

<http://ftp.iza.org/dp3603.pdf>

3-. Social Capital and the Easterlin Paradox

In the last thirty years the average American experienced a decline in both reported happiness and social capital. The paper argues that the survival of a negative happiness trend in the US after controlling for relative income may be due to the omission of an important relationship, namely that between social capital and happiness. The implication for government policy is that once basic needs are met, policy should focus not on economic growth or GDP, but rather on increasing life satisfaction or GNH.

<http://www.econ-pol.unisi.it/bilancini/BBP%20-%20Aug2008.pdf>

4-. In the Shadow of the Media

A report published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation says that television programmes can undermine support for government anti-poverty programmes and make fun of communities that lack social capital. The JRF report said that while some shows presents themselves as programmes about relationships, "it could be viewed as a rather brutal form of entertainment that is based on derision of the lower-working-class population".

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2008/sep/10/thinktanks.socialexclusion>

5-. Should Organisations Invest in Social Capital?

Can you build a business culture where just as investment in a tangible asset investing in social capital produces a significant return today? The author of this article believes so and that the most successful organisations already do this, which results in trust being a common trait.

<http://lbpostsports.com/newsdesk.php?story=68>

6-. Events

[Training Day, Assist Social Capital, The Melting Pot, Edinburgh, 29th October 2008](#)

Assist Social Capital will be holding a one day 'Introduction to Social Capital' training workshop which will critically examine some of the tools which focus on social capital.

http://www.senscot.net/view_event.php?viewid=7509

[The Social Capital Global Network 2008 Meeting, IRDES](#), 10 rue Vauvenargues, 75018 Paris, France, on October 10th-11th, 2008. Please contact Khadidja Ben Larbi at benlarbi@irdes.fr for meeting attendance requests. The 2008 workshop is co-organized by the Global Center, IRDES and OECD/CERI. http://www.gchepr.org/documents/programme_colloque.pdf

7. Interesting Links

[The ONS Social Capital Project](#)

Therefore the key aims of the project are to develop and promote a more consistent approach to the measurement of social capital and to produce analytical articles on social capital.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/socialcapital/default.asp>

[Acumen Fund Knowledge Centre](#)

Aware that 98% of the world's poor will be unaffected by their extensive work, Acumen Fund believe sharing what they learn with others will extend their impact. The Knowledge Centre is an ever-growing library of stories, tools and lessons and insights from their work to change how people and institutions fight poverty.

<http://www.acumenfund.org/knowledge-center.html>

For further information visit our website at www.social-capital.net

Assist Social Capital
Registered Office: 54 Manor Place, Edinburgh, EH3 7EH
Registered in Scotland
Company Registration No. 270426
Scottish Charity No. SC 035728

If you would like to unsubscribe from this e-bulletin send an email to unsubscribe@social-capital.net