



ECMap

Early Child Development
Mapping Project Alberta

Annotated Bibliography and Summary on Social Cohesion Literature

Compiled by Stephanie Bengert

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Summary

SOCIAL COHESION

A Background Paper

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For ECMap (Early Child Development Mapping Project)

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Note: This paper is a review of the relevant literature and discussion of the policy implications. It is not a statement of ECMap policy or orientation. This background information and discussion is intended only to facilitate debate and improvement of existing policy as it affects early childhood development in Canada.

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to explore the dimensions of social cohesion, both in Canada and in other parts of the world, in the context of the most pertinent and influential literature available. Because social cohesion and social capital are so closely related and because my annotated bibliography would be incomplete without some of the major works on social capital, I will begin with definitions of both and some information about how they are related. Then I will briefly outline the history and background of these concepts in both theory and practice. Following that I will discuss the challenges inherent in measuring social cohesion and social capital, and the progress that has been made. In Section 5 I will delve into the elements and components of social cohesion, while in Section 6 I will focus on the place of aboriginals in our society.

2. Definitions

a) *Social cohesion*

Social cohesion is necessarily inherent among all groups of living things. However social cohesion as a term and increasingly-discussed concept emerged according to Toye (2007) in the early 1990's (primarily in Europe and Canada), paralleling rising interest (primarily in the U.S.) in a related term, social capital. Considerable research has attempted to measure and define social cohesion, but there is no widespread agreement as to what it actually is. Therefore I will present three definitions. The first is specific to Canada but could be modified for use anywhere in the world:

From the Government of Canada's Policy Research Sub-Committee on Social Cohesion (1997):

"...social cohesion is "the ongoing process of developing a community of shared values, shared challenges and equal opportunity within Canada, based on a sense of trust, hope and reciprocity among all Canadians." (Jenson, 1998). This is a good general definition in that it includes the concepts that have proven most useful, and been adopted most widely, by almost every researcher in social cohesion since: trust, equality, and reciprocity. The idea that this research must be an *ongoing process* is also worth re-iterating, since social cohesion is a complex field that both requires and deserves continuing investigation.

Kearns and Forrest (2000) continued the process of defining social cohesion by identifying five components:

- common values and a civic culture
- social order and social control
- social solidarity and reduction in wealth disparities
- social cohesion as social networks and social capital
- social cohesion as place attachment and identity

Note that, according to the above definition, social capital is but a component of social cohesion, although many other researchers treat social capital as a field worthy of major study in and of itself. Defining social cohesion as a framing concept has enabled researchers and analysts to more easily formulate studies, policies and projects which fit their situations. The above components work in a dynamic equilibrium and therefore cannot always be thought of as discrete dimensions. However Kearns and Forrest's definition has since proven highly useful and adaptable, for instance inspiring Beauvais and Jenson ([2002](#)) to begin their own attempt at definition with an examination of these five components.

In the years shortly before and after the turn of the millennium, much of the most important work on definitions was done, and much of it by Canadians working for our Government. Policy analysts working for the Social Cohesion Research Nexus ([Saint-Martin, 2002](#)) led a team whose purpose was to further delineate the nature of social cohesion. They too found that it could be conceptualized in terms of certain dimensions or components. All of these—particularly bonding and bridging—are concepts much used by researchers in social capital as well:

- *Participation*: Widespread participation in community and social life is fundamental to social cohesion. Full participation requires access to economic, political, and cultural opportunities and involves active engagement with other members of the community and society. Being involved must be a free choice. Society and its members benefit when more citizens are involved in setting and working toward collective and community projects.
- *Bonds*: Trust, connections, networks, and bonds with others (elements of social capital) may be necessary for participation and engagement. However, they are also created and strengthened through participatory activities of various kinds.
- *Bridges and institutions*: Institutions and policies such as official languages policy, multiculturalism and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* mediate differences and encourage understanding and mutual respect. Infrastructure such as transportation and communications provide necessary public support for involvement.
- *Income distribution, equity, inclusion, and access*: These are key to a Canadian understanding of social cohesion. ... [C]entral to “the Canadian way” is a thriving new economy that provides benefits for all Canadians and leaves out none.¹

Researchers have been working to understand the specific dimensions of social cohesion and how they interact with one another. There has been intensive experimentation and study of social cohesion's relationship to health, inequality, poverty, privilege, immigration, race, early childhood development, education, families and communities. In Section 5 I will examine these elements in greater depth.

b) *Social capital*

Social capital is a term closely related to social cohesion and is sometimes used interchangeably. It was not much used until approximately 1999 (See [Figure 1](#)). Francis Fukuyama credits James Coleman with first bringing the term social capital into wider

¹ Policy Research Initiative, Social Cohesion Network, Government of Canada, 2001-2002, Quoted in [Toye](#), 2007

use in 1988 with Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital² (Fukuyama, [1999](#)), but as with social cohesion, there are many definitions. However certain academics have emerged as opinion leaders. Chief among these are Robert Putnam and John G. Bruhn. Here are their definitions in brief:

Robert Putnam ([2000](#)):

“The core idea of social capital theory is that social networks have value. Just as a screwdriver (physical capital) or a college education (human capital) can increase productivity (both individual and collective), so too social contacts affect the productivity of individuals and groups.

Whereas physical capital refers to physical objects and human capital refers to properties of individuals, social capital refers to connections among individuals—social networks and the norms of *reciprocity and trustworthiness* (my italics) that arise from them. In that sense social capital is closely related to what some have called “civic virtue.” (Putnam, [2000](#), p. 18 – 19).

John G. Bruhn ([2005](#)):

Social capital includes “... networked resources, the *reciprocities* that result from them, and the achievement of mutual goals through shared resources ...” (Bruhn, [2005](#), p. 21).

The following diagram from the online resource [Social Capital Research](#) shows the interrelationships between some of the perceived components of social capital:

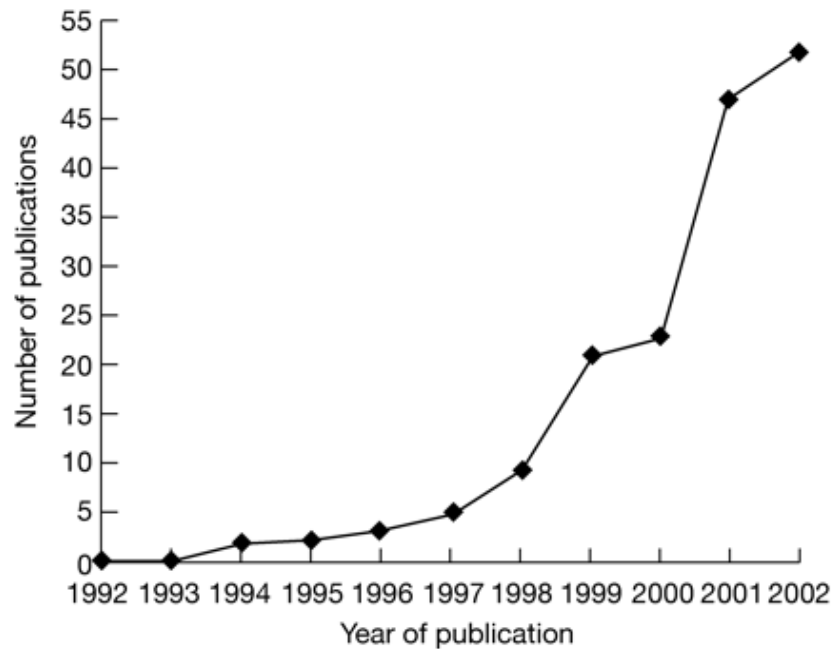
² Coleman, James. (1988). "Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital". *American Journal of Sociology* Supplement 94: S95-S120. Wellman, Barry and Scot Wortley. (1990).

Source: <http://www.socialcapitalresearch.com/dimensions.html>

What all these definitions have in common is that social capital depends upon *reciprocity*, which in turn depends upon *mutual trust* within networks of individuals and groups, in order to function effectively.

The idea of social capital has become hugely influential in academia and beyond, especially since the publication of Robert Putnam's [Bowling Alone](#) in 2000. The occurrence of the 9/11 tragedy a year later no doubt contributed to rising anxiety in

America about the state of their social cohesion. Kawachi ([2004](#)) show the approximately exponential growth of the use of the term social capital over the past two decades:



[Figure 1](#) 'Social capital' indexed papers in MEDLINE, 1992–2002

With issues surrounding race, unemployment and austerity measures causing riots in the UK and other parts of Europe in recent months, interest in social cohesion is unlikely to diminish any time in the near future.

c) Social Cohesion and Social Capital: What's the Difference?

Social cohesion and social capital are being widely discussed in the academic literature and increasingly in the popular literature as well, but clear distinctions are not always made between the two. To help the reader, here is a table delineating the differences and practical uses:

	Social capital	Social cohesion
Basic Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social networks have value • Find ways to strengthen social fabric of society • Community pride and community bonds depend upon adequate social capital • Social capital is not distributed uniformly among societies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social cohesion is an ongoing process of developing a community of shared values, challenges, and opportunities based on shared trust • Egalitarianism is an asset • Contextual factors can be mediators of health and disease • Risk and protective factors in communities are not solely explained by individual-level or lifestyle factors
Primary Means of Measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social network analysis • Income as a proxy for quality of life measures • Life expectancy rates • Death rates • Health inequalities • Behavioral risk factors • Social cohesion and egalitarianism and health • Quantitative evidence of social trends from surveys, polls, records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilevel analysis of individuals, groups, and neighborhoods • Ecological studies • Observation • Interviews • Collective Efficacy Index • Longitudinal studies of groups, neighborhoods, and communities
Practical Uses of Concept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing health risks through social policy • Reducing income differences • Increase moral collectivity • Societies with a high degree of trust will be able to create business organizations that can successfully compete in global economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High degree of social control to bring about targeted change • Design of intervention programs to target aggregate-level health

Source: John G. Bruhn, [The Group Effect](#), Chapter 3, p. 64, Adapted from **Table 3.1**

Summary of key characteristics of social support, social capital, and social cohesion.

3. History/Background of Social Cohesion

See Aldridge - Beauvais - Bruhn - Claridge - Coleman - Fukuyama - Jenson - Lin - Putnam - Saint-Martin - Standing Senate Committee - Toye

We intuitively understand that social cohesion is something that has existed since humans first began to organize themselves into groups. Yet the concept only began to be discussed with increasing frequency, mostly in Europe and Canada, in the mid 1990's. While sociology, community and urban studies had covered much of the same ground before, the rapid rise in popularity of the term suggests growing interest in social cohesion. Finally, here was a term that perfectly captured this concern about how groups of people were (or were not) getting along with each other, and how they fit into the "macro" picture.

Here is a brief look at some of the milestones in the evolution of community and social cohesion as concepts in both Europe and North America.³

1887 – Ferdinand F. Tönnies – Theory of Gemeinschaft (family and community) and Gessellschaft (society and individualism). Gemeinschaft is seen as idyllic, Gessellschaft as threatening and associated with city environments.

1893 – Emile Durkheim – built upon and in some cases contrasted with Tönnies' work. He developed a theory based on mechanical solidarity (social bonds) versus organic solidarity (individual differences) and unlike Tönnies felt that urban life too could give rise to Gemeinschaft-like solidarity.

1915 – Robert Park – the founding father of urban studies and also wrote some of the important early works in human ecology. Saw possibilities in cities, but was also concerned about the potentially solipsistic, self-interested, bureaucratic nature of cities and the people who live in them. Interested in examining the patterns of social life in cities, and saw that they could be in or out of balance much like individual biological organisms.

2000 – Robert Putnam – [Bowling Alone](#) is published in the U.S. This work, which provided reams of apparent evidence on the steady decline of social cohesion in the U.S. since the 1960's, led to an explosion of interest in social capital (which could be seen as the American version of social cohesion) by academics and laypeople alike. (See annotated bibliography).

2001 – Ted Cantle – wrote what is colloquially known as [The Cantle Report](#) in response to the riots and other signs of civil unrest in some of the UK's northern mill towns in the summer of 2001. The report was taken seriously by the New Labour government, which then began wide promotion of social cohesion.

³ Some parts adapted from Bruhn, [The Sociology of Community Connections](#), p. 31.

Three Waves of Thought on Social Cohesion

The First Wave

It was in the early to mid 1990's when some social scientists began to take notice of certain trends and their downstream effects: globalization, the proliferation of new forms of communication technology, increased mobility of many populations, and the deterioration of traditional family structures. Coleman was credited with the first notable use of the term "social capital"⁴, and in 1998 Jenson wrote [Mapping Social Cohesion](#) in which she attempted to capture what she described as a paradigm shift, and map the concept of social cohesion into five components (Jenson, [1998](#)). In it she described social cohesion as being concerned with "collective well being" and, like some others, saw neo-liberalism as a force which could destabilize and worsen inequalities by shifting the emphasis towards greater efficiency and profit irrespective of the effects this might have on society.

And although many seminal works in the emerging fields of social cohesion and social capital were written by those from the U.S. or UK during this phase, it is worth noting that Jenson was not the only Canadian writing influential works on this topic. For instance the authors of Canada's Standing Senate Committee wrote about globalization in the [Final report on social cohesion](#) in [1999](#). Since Canada has a large immigration population and a constant need for labour in our natural-resources-based and other sectors, as well as a reputation as a country which welcomes newcomers and handles their integration fairly successfully, it should not be surprising that our government (or at least the government of the time) should have concerned itself with social cohesion. Jenson's attempt to map social cohesion into components that could be operationalized was the first of its kind, and part of the first wave in the history of social cohesion: the early attempts to delineate and define it in a historical context, looking mostly at the macro level. American authors of around this time were also looking at the "big picture" though they mostly wrote in terms of social capital. Putnam collected countless statistics about American society, and drew some conclusions about the patterns he saw that set off ripples of interest (and some criticism—see Boggs, [2001](#)).

There were a number of other authors who wrote important works as part of the "big picture" attempt to define and delineate. Aldridge and Halpern wrote [Social Capital: A discussion Paper](#) for the UK government ([2002](#)). Beauvais and Jenson followed up on Jenson's earlier work with [Social Cohesion: Updating the State of the Research](#) (2002) and concluded that social cohesion was still just a quasi concept, unclearly defined but useful in framing the debate.

The Second Wave

⁴ Coleman, James. (1988). "Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital". *American Journal of Sociology* Supplement 94: S95-S120. Wellman, Barry and Scot Wortley. (1990).

Beauvais and Jenson ([2002](#)) also identified an emerging trend towards viewing social cohesion as a multilevel phenomenon, interacting with other contextual elements. Many called for new measurements and definitions that took this complexity into account. Researchers like Claridge ([2004](#)) called for more rigorous conceptualizations while seasoned sociologists like Bruhn ([2005](#), [2009](#)) began to fit social cohesion into the landscape of academic work done previously on communities of various spatial scales. This was the age of research that focused on the interactions between social cohesion or social capital, and specific issues like race (Duhaime, [2004](#), Walker, [2005](#), Joyce Green, [2006](#), Cantle, [2006](#), Abada, [2007](#)), education and children (Andy Green, [2006](#), Pickett, [2007](#), Hetherington, [2007](#)), and neighborhoods (Khan, [2006](#), Hipp, [2006](#), Toye, [2007](#)).

The Third Wave

The third major wave of study on social cohesion delved more deeply into understanding the interactions between social cohesion and specific issues such as social capital, community cohesion, health, and inequality. It was Bruhn and others like Toye ([2007](#)), again for the Canadian government, who took note of growing unease in the form of riots and race-related tension in parts of Europe and North America, and saw the need to understand these problems in terms of weakening social cohesion. If there is lack of cohesion at the local or neighborhood level, then surely it must be understood in the broader context of stresses on health and wellness, the family (Beaujot, [2008](#), Weller, [2009](#)) and neighborhoods (Berry, [2008](#)), race relations (Cantle, [2008](#), Retiz, [2009](#)), and ideas about safety (Cooper, [2008](#)). Tied in with this third wave of thought on social cohesion is a growing emphasis on the roles of choice, action, and structural or organizational context to help explain why some groups and individuals do better than others, even where there may be an abundance of material assets as in the U.S. (Wilkinson, [2009](#), Pronyk, [2008](#), Atkinson, [2010](#), Albanese, [2010](#), Adler, [2010](#)). And finally, some of the more innovative research efforts involve mixed-method approaches, from one-on-one interviews to focus groups to sophisticated, multilevel modeling of large bodies of data collected on wide arrays of social cohesion indicators.

4. Measurement;

See Atkinson, Beauvais, Chan, Dickes, Fujisawa, ippr, Kearns, Nieminen, Pronyk, Rajulton, Sarracino, Schaefer, Steptoe, Wilkinson

Many papers on social cohesion or social capital begin with a literature survey and/or a definition which draws upon previous attempts to define and measure, in order to provide a conceptual framework for the reader. The difficulties of defining and measuring such a quasi concept as social cohesion leads to challenges in measuring it as well. There have been fewer studies done on measurement than on definition and specific aspects of social cohesion. Still, measurement is considered to be an important topic worthy of examination in its own right, since even a very large amount of data on social cohesion will yield meaningless results unless the subsequent analysis is based on a well-conceived model and method.

Measurement Challenges

An array of instruments have been used to measure social cohesion, leading to the current situation where researchers must decide between a wide range of possible approaches. While it may be tempting to base a study's model upon the immediate research context, Bruhn and others are critical of this approach and suggest instead that research on social cohesion be based on reasoning that takes logical interrelationships and clear definition into account. Well-conceptualized experiments help make researchers avoid certain errors, like the confusion between dependant and independent variables. Is the level of social cohesion in a particular group a *cause* or an *effect* of conditions at the meso or macro level?

Another question is one of spatial scale. Social capital and cohesion can only be measured in groups of people who interact with one another. Some fascinating data may be drawn from people who interact with each other every day and therefore have many opportunities to build up trust, and reciprocity. But then the question becomes whether these smaller samples of data are applicable to groups of other sizes or cultural compositions. And data drawn from larger groups may be more generalizable, but then there is greater danger of confounding variables. A number of the authors whose works are included in this bibliography (Chan, [2006](#), Fujisawa, [2009](#), Duhaime, [2004](#)) point out that adjustments should be made, or sometimes even entire re-conceptualizations.

Claridge quotes Cavaye ([2004](#)) as he identifies the still-unresolved issues in measuring social capital:

- A clear understanding of the context and purpose of the measurement of social capital
- Understanding the limitations of evaluation and measurement, and ensuring that the interpretation of measures is held within these limitations

- The practical mechanics of gaining community feedback such as community representation and coverage, feedback to communities, use in local decision making, and resourcing measurement
- Benchmarking vs. measures of incremental change
- Dealing with qualitative information, diversity, variation and complexity
- The nature and rigor of indicators
- The interpretation and use of measurement information
- How evaluation itself can contribute to fostering social capital.

It has become apparent that when it comes to measuring social cohesion, causes and effects interact with each other at multiple levels over time, and therefore cannot always be measured directly. The solution according to many has been to measure by proxy, drawing appropriate social-cohesion related indicators from large-scale studies such as the Canadian National Survey of Giving, Volunteering, and Participating (Rajulton, [2007](#)), the World Values Survey (Sarracino, [2010](#)), and the European Value Study (Dickes, [2009](#)). For instance, the study by Dickes et al. ([2009](#)) builds on earlier definitions and work by Chan, Bernard and others, and takes individually measured data from the EVS study done in one country (Luxembourg) and then uses multidimensional scaling to determine the validity of the dimensions chosen by Bernard to measure social cohesion.

Indicators and Dimensions

Much work has been done to determine the domains and dimensions of social cohesion and social capital, as determined by natural groupings that arise out of sensible indicators. Forrest and Kearns ([2001](#)) chose domains that are still widely adapted and used by others: empowerment, participation, associational activity and common purpose, supporting networks and reciprocity, collective values and norms, trust, safety, and belonging. (Forrest and Kearns, [2001](#), p. 2140.)

Robert Putnam ([2000](#)) undertook the first very large-scale measurements of social capital in the U.S. basing his measurements upon composite indicators of public engagement, volunteering, informal socializing, and levels of trust. Some questioned the ways in which Putnam aggregated these different dimensions and failed to adapt his conceptualizations of social capital to the changing times (Boggs, [2001](#), Lin, [2001](#)), even going so far (in Lin's case, p. 237) as to argue that social capital in America is alive and well and has merely shifted some of its domain to the online world.

Nieminen ([2008](#)) surveyed the literature on measuring social capital and noticed certain common dimensions—social support, social participation, networks, trust and reciprocity—which confirm the domains of social cohesion as formulated by Forrest and Kearns ([2001](#)).

Dickes ([2009](#), p. 3) noted that Bernard based his conceptualization of social cohesion on three spheres, economic, political, and socio-cultural, and within those spheres he found pairs of opposites: economic (insertion/exclusion, equality/inequality), political (legitimacy/illegitimacy, participation/passivity), and socio-cultural (acceptance/rejection, affiliation/isolation).

However, the difficulty with this scheme (and many others like it) is the high degree of overlap between the spheres. Chan (2006) attempted to provide a more rigorous and functional conceptualization of social cohesion by placing the components within a multi-dimensional framework:

TABLE III
Measuring social cohesion: a two-by-two framework

	Subjective component (People's state of mind)	Objective component (Behavioural manifestations)
Horizontal dimension (Cohesion within civil society)	General trust with fellow citizens	Social participation and vibrancy of civil society
	Willingness to cooperate and help fellow citizens, including those from "other" social groups	Voluntarism and donations
	Sense of belonging or identity	Presence or absence of major inter-group alliances or cleavages
	Trust in public figures	Political participation (e.g. voting, political parties, etc.)
Vertical dimension (State-citizen cohesion)	Confidence in political and other major social institutions	

Source: Chan, 2006, p. 294

By using this method Chan was able to confirm Bernard's conceptualization.

Conclusion

Sometimes it is appropriate to choose a definition that fits a specific context, and in these cases the results might paint a clear, comprehensive picture of that group of people--but then the results may not be generalizable. On the other hand, a very general measure

relies on indicators that are so universal in nature that they may not be particularly relevant to the group or culture being measured.

Perhaps the answer is to choose a definition that is as narrow and specific as possible in a given situation as suggested by Chan when he says “We believe that a good definition of social cohesion, just like any other concepts in the social sciences, should be judged in terms of two criteria: (1) minimal in scope and (2) close to ordinary usage” (Chan, [2006](#), p. 280) and then add or modify indicators specific to the culture being studied, as per Fujisawa ([2009](#)).

Then attention needs to be paid to change over time, opting for longitudinal study over static modeling whenever possible. One of the benefits of the study of social cohesion is that it allows us to model and monitor changes in human society at the macro level, but this benefit is lost if large amounts of data are aggregated as if society were a static phenomenon (Bruhn, [2009](#), p. 154). Also the conclusions of a study may be of limited validity if the data being measured changes from wave to wave. Fortunately there is already work being done at the international level by organizations such as UNESCO to standardize definitions and measurements so that results of large-scale studies of social cohesion may be meaningfully compared and cross-correlated.

As Bruhn ([2009](#), p. 155) says “We need studies of refinement and replicability of existing instruments to measure social cohesion. Social cohesion is too complex to assume that someone will develop a generic approach to measuring it that will result in meaningful cross-level inferences and generalizations.” Groups of all sizes evolve and seek equilibrium. In seeking equilibrium, groups would tend to become more cohesive... unless disturbed by migration, competition over scarce resources, or any of the other forces that work against social cohesion. Therefore much more work needs to be done both on the mechanisms of social cohesion and on how to enhance it, by both social scientists and those “on the front lines” like community, social and faith workers. And finally, those concerned with policy are sometimes able to offer valuable insights bridging between the domains of human beings and hard science, by looking at data that is both quantitative and qualitative, observational and perceptual.

5. Elements of Social Cohesion

Concerns about bonding and bridging, trust, institutions, participation, inclusion and access often manifest in discussions and research on and about globalization, race and immigration, health, safety, equality, disruptions in the traditional concepts of family, social networks, and attachment to geographic place and identity. I will look at these areas in turn.

a) Globalization, Immigration and Race

See Abada, Ball, Cantle, Chan, Reitz, Rodriguez-García, Duhaime

Concerns about race and immigration have been major factors in the work on social cohesion since the beginning. The macro trend of economic globalization coupled with smaller trends towards environmental degradation in some parts of the world have led to the increase of migration flows as people go where conditions are better and employment can be found. Canada, being a young nation with a relatively abundant supply of natural resources, has a higher than average population of recent immigrants and a longstanding tradition of multiculturalism, formally implemented in 1971 and entrenched in our constitution in 1982.

However there are many parts of the world where tensions between the races, or between host and recent immigrant populations, are seen to be rising, particularly in parts of Europe where the recent implementation of austerity measures has led to widespread civil unrest. (And in fact much of the initial work on social cohesion was done in the UK, spurred on by the northern mill town race-riots of 2001.)

The reality that many governments must face is that there are some ethnic communities that have greater difficulty integrating or being accepted than others, such as aboriginals, Muslims, and recent immigrants. These communities are both more likely to suffer from racial prejudice and (not so coincidentally) might have greater tendencies to stay within their own communities. But as social involvement and democratic participation are seen as necessary preconditions to cohesion, it is also necessary that ethnic marginalization be dealt with whenever possible.

According to Atkinson ([2010](#)), efforts to build racial and social cohesion must begin with evidence based on measurement... but also the human aspects of race relations must be kept in mind. Others including Ball ([2001](#)), Chan ([2006](#)), Duhaime ([2004](#)), Fujisawa ([2009](#)), and Reitz ([2009](#)) have noted the importance of studying specific cultures using indicators which take into account their *perceptions* about wellbeing and inclusion, as these might vary depending upon the culture. After more than 10 years of intensive study and measurement of social cohesion as it relates to a number of specific cultures, it is apparent that there is a large subjective component to social cohesion, and the flavour of this subjective perspective depends in part upon the cultural history and background of those being studied.

Though much valuable research has been done, and much policy written, on the topic of race and social cohesion, it is Jeffrey Reitz who has written the work on Canadian multiculturalism that is most comprehensive and useful for our purposes. He tackles the barriers to successful integration and diversity in a rigorous and systematic manner in [Multiculturalism and Social Cohesion: Potentials and Challenges of Diversity \(2009\)](#). Chief among these are religious differences that can lead either to persecution or to the testing of our democratic principles, as in the recent case of the Supreme Court-level challenge of Sharia law in 2005.

Another major challenge is the marginalization of those who have difficulty fitting in with Canadian culture. Reitz identified four class typologies: ethnic, mainstream, pluralist, and marginalized. Their data indicates that concern over attachment within ethnic groups is misplaced, and rather intervention efforts should be focused on those who are marginalized or excluded. There is still significant inequality in Canada, with visible minorities measurably worse off than people of European caucasian origin. The policy implication is that inequality must be dealt with in order to facilitate integration and attachment to Canada. Finally, Reitz concludes that official multiculturalism should be supported by policies which take into account both the strengths and challenges inherent in diversity.

b) Health, Safety and (In)equality

See Adler, Albanaese, Aronson, Atkinson, Boyd, Bruhn, Cooper, Egolf, Fujisawa, Lin, Pickett, Pronyk, Small, Westley, Wilkinson, Willms

There has been an exponential growth of empirical research on health disparities since 1990 (Adler, [2010](#)) which has paralleled the growth of research in social cohesion. And as with social cohesion, the research on health inequality has become increasingly sophisticated as researchers develop more complex models. Thanks to this research, there is now an abundance of evidence to show that poor health correlates with higher inequality and lower social cohesion (Albanese, [2010](#), Wilkinson and Pickett, [2007](#), [2009](#), Willms, [2002](#), Bruhn, [2005](#), [2009](#)). Unfortunately, there is also evidence that the gap between rich and poor is widening in many parts of the world including Canada. For example Adler ([2010](#)) and Albanese ([2010](#)) both identify major government initiatives undertaken in 1989 and 1990 respectively, where commitments were made to end child poverty by 2010, and yet according to UNICEF by 2005 little progress had been made. Such cases no doubt contributed to Chief Public Health Officer David Butler-Jones' decision to focus on inequalities in health as the theme of his first ever [Report on the State of Public health in Canada](#) (Boyd, [2008](#)).

However the fact that so much quality data has been gathered linking health, cohesion and equality in several large-scale studies carried out by various bodies ([Healthy People](#), [UNICEF](#), [Kids Count](#), [NLSYC](#), [UNDESA](#)), should provide researchers and policy analysts with the evidence they need to convince governments to pay more attention to these connections as their health care bills become steadily less manageable.

But even where grave inequalities or hardships exist, it may be possible to increase both health outcomes and social cohesion simultaneously, by using methods that involve both research *and* intervention, as was done by Pronyk ([2008](#)) in South Africa, where the results appear to indicate that social capital can be generated not only externally but quickly as well. Other interventions done at the local government and policy levels have also shown some promise, as in Camden, UK where improvements in four measures of social cohesion were shown from 2002 to 2005 (Khan, [2006](#)).

Ethnographic techniques have long been used to understand the interrelationships between social cohesion and health. For instance, even before the terms social capital and social cohesion began to be widely used, the Italian-American community of Roseto was studied when it was noticed that the rate of myocardial infarction was far lower than could be explained by health habits like diet, exercise and smoking (Egolf, [1992](#)).

Fujisawa and authors of the aboriginal-focused studies included in this annotated bibliography (Ball, [2001](#), Boyd, [2008](#), Duhaime, [2004](#), Joyce Green, [2006](#), Walker, [2005](#)) also point out that much of the research on health and cohesion to date has had a Western focus, and that culturally specific indicators should be used. Just as levels of health and happiness vary from culture to culture, so too do the things that are recognized as meaningful and important. Studying cultures other than our own and recognizing that certain attitudes and structural differences are correlated with higher levels of wellbeing, can help us decide how best to use our own resources.

The sophisticated modeling methods being used to analyze the large amounts of data being collected in these studies on the relationships between health, cohesion and inequality, are enabling researchers and governments to better understand the importance of taking care of our rich and poor, young and old alike. More recently, mapping tools (Willms, [2002](#), Aronson, [2007](#)) also are being brought to bear on the problem of how to put all this data into forms that are not only more comprehensible, but also communicate areas of greatest need quickly.

c) Social Capital and Social Networks

See Beaujot, Berry, Bruhn, Hipp, Lin, Onyx, Putnam, Ranson, Schaeffer, Steptoe, Weller

According to Aldridge and Halpern social capital “consists of the networks, norms, relationships, values and informal sanctions that shape the quantity and co-operative quality of a society’s social interactions;” ([2002](#), p. 5). This definition, though fairly broad, still manages to capture the essence of the ideas about social capital expressed by many others as well. Three types of social capital are often distinguished: bonding, bridging and linking (Putnam [2000](#)).

Bonding tends to be associated with social capital at the micro level (e.g. between family members and friends) but also at the meso level (church groups, co-workers, etc.) In other words these are the connections which bind people together into cohesive units that are able to accomplish all sorts of tasks which would be difficult or impossible for less cohesive units where the bonds are weaker or less permanent. However many sociologists

including Putnam have written about bonding as a type of potentially negative social capital, in cases where members of a bonded “in group” use their power to exclude or marginalize those they would like to keep outside.

Bridging occurs across ethnic or other groups. For instance if two church-based but separate organizations partner together temporarily to accomplish a particular goal, they are using bonding capital. Linking involves bridging, but across relationships where there is an imbalance of power. These three types may work simultaneously, as in the example of church groups being internally bonded, externally bridged, and externally linked to individuals or organizations with more or less power (e.g. the local homeless population, area politicians).

The exploration of the implications and possibilities inherent in these three types of social capital is a rapidly growing field. For instance in [Unanticipated Gains](#) Small (2009) uses a multi-method case study to reveal the importance of organizational context to mothers whose children go to certain New York City daycares. It is in places like this, the author argues, where some of the most useful bonds form. Lin (2001) corroborates this up by differentiating between Chinese families (where bonds are of vital importance since they also lead to career advantages) and Western families, where more useful bonds are increasingly likely to be formed outside of the family—even in cases where those bonds are temporary or expedient, as in mothers who help each other with occasional child care.

The concept of social capital relates closely to the concept of social networks, also sometimes known as exchange networks. There are three components to social capital: networks, norms and sanctions (Aldridge, 2009). The concepts of social capital and social cohesion, when applied to the study of social networks, have generated some interesting findings in recent years. For instance Berry (2008) was able to distinguish three major types of community participators and draw out the implications for social policy makers.

As Beaujot and Ravanera discuss in their paper [Family Change and Implications for Family Solidarity and Social Cohesion](#) (2008), people are getting married and having children later, or foregoing these things altogether. Divorce rates have been going up steadily in the last few decades, and more children are being raised by single parents or in blended families. Weller (2009) studied London children and found that they as well as their parents generated social capital for themselves and those in their networks as they went about their daily lives, not only in their immediate neighborhoods but in the places they were driven to as well, thereby providing an example of the bi-directional nature of social capital.

d) Social cohesion in the Neighborhood

Social capital benefits individuals and communities by facilitating the resolution of collective problems more easily, fostering the trust that enables projects and communities to advance. Also social networks serve as information conduits which further enables the creation of social capital. But as Putnam, Bruhn and many other social scientists have shown in recent years, the very idea of community is changing. More temporary and part-time work contributes to people moving more often as they go where the jobs are. Gated

communities are a rising trend, particularly in those countries with greater inequality such as the U.S. and UK (Burroughs, [2009](#)), along with gentrification and the closing of neighborhood schools in North America. All these factors contribute to lower social cohesion and social capital, as it is in the family and the neighborhood where social capital makes its presence or its absence most felt.

Where one comes from has always had implications for health and wellbeing, as was reaffirmed by Steptoe ([2001](#)) in his study which showed that living in neighborhoods with more problems contributes to higher levels of chronic stress. But along with rising interest in social cohesion has come a renewed focus on the neighborhood as the place where mundane routines and social patterns are re-enacted on a regular basis. It is when people share their lives, interests and activities that trust and cohesive bonds form and social capital is generated.

It is also worth noting that another of the most seminal works in defining social cohesion, [Social cohesion and multilevel Urban Governance](#) (Kearns and Forrest, 2001) is also all about neighborhoods as the places where social cohesion plays out in all its dimensions: common values social order, social solidarity, and attachment to identity and place.

Kearns and Forrest identified another thing about social cohesion in neighborhoods that mattered: the relationships that happen in them are complex and interactive. And thus began a flurry of research that attempted to take the examinations of social cohesion in neighborhoods beyond definition. For instance Berry looked at community participators and drew conclusions about which categories they belonged in based on how actively they were able to participate and what enabled them—or prevented them—from doing so, tying participation in with other elements of social capital such as bonding and inclusion. This study's active, participatory nature can be seen as part of a recent trend in health research that focuses on interactions between factors (Adler, [2010](#)). Aronson et al. ([2007](#)) recruited members of the studied communities to do neighborhood walkthroughs in order to gather the data needed to generate point and choropleth maps which could then be used to communicate clear messages about community needs.

6. A Sense of Belonging: The place of Canadian Aboriginals in Canada

Canadian aboriginals (First Nations, Metis and Inuit) face some of the most serious social problems of any of our citizens. Almost all of the indicators of strained social cohesion are present at higher rates among aboriginals than in the rest of the population (Boyd, [2008](#))—poor health, early mortality, higher rates of violence, addiction. And yet in some ways aboriginal Canadian society is quite cohesive. Childcare is routinely shared by extended family members, and there is a greater awareness of familial inter-connections. Furthermore there is a lasting sense of connection to nature which has manifested itself in many headline-grabbing incidents of environmental activism by aboriginal groups.

Despite these positives, much of the literature linking Canadian aboriginals with social cohesion address the obstacles they must face when attempting a return to a state where they are no longer struggling with the effects of structural inequalities and marginalization. Joyce Green ([2006](#)) builds a case of deeply embedded racism around the case of Neil Stonechild, who died in Saskatchewan as a result of an altercation with the police. Walker ([2005](#)) likewise argues that ignoring signs of continued intolerance will undermine government efforts to shore up social cohesion in Winnipeg, especially with its young and rapidly growing aboriginal population.

As social order and control are legitimate components of social cohesion, it may be tempting to view aboriginals as "dangerous others" (Cooper, [2008](#)) or as virtual wards of the state who need to be sustained with handouts. But neither approach gets to the source of the problem. Those who call for measures aimed at repairing the frayed bonds of family and community cohesion seem more likely to lead to longer-term success, as well as bridging with the greater community.

To this effect, Duhaime ([2004](#)) calls for a rethinking of our very model of social cohesion, which he claims fails to taken into consideration the importance of mundane home and school-based bonds and routinely shared activities. For aboriginals who have been displaced from their cultures, it seems especially important to reconnect individuals with their homes, extended families, and ways of learning. For instance Ball and Pence ([2001](#)) develop an early childhood care program in collaboration with First Nations student teachers and elders. The importance of attachment to identity and place in building social cohesion, were also recognized by involving elders and by conducting these programs in the participants' rural home communities.

These studies serve as reminders that people of dominant cultures are not the only ones who know how to build social capital together; and in fact egalitarian cultures tend to be more socially cohesive; and therefore people of such cultures may have much to teach us about our own social cohesion.

7. The Future of Social Cohesion

It is our social values and traditions that determine how we behave and interact with one another. Interactions based on civility and reciprocity establish trust. Trust in combination with social support builds social capital as well as social cohesion, and it is these bonds that facilitate the building of larger social networks, which in turn enable the support and growth of families and communities.

These social support networks have been shown to be beneficial in almost every aspect of our lives: health, happiness, financial success, and in the achievement of these things for our children as well. Those who come from socially cohesive environments stay healthier longer and are less susceptible to the effects of poverty and stress.

Places with greater inequality are also more likely to suffer from lower social cohesion and worse outcomes. According to Putnam "Indeed, across the various Kids Count indicators, social capital is second only to poverty in the breadth and depth of its effect on children's lives." (Putnam, [2000](#), p. 297). Here in Canada we are often content to occupy the middle ground, half way between high and low cohesion and equality nations. According to the Unicef index we are only in the middle of the pack in the well-being of our children too⁵. And yet, as one of the wealthier nations, we could be doing much better.

While considerable research has been done on social cohesion in the past two decades, much more needs to be done before we can place the diverse elements of this field into proper context. Although it is generally accepted that social cohesion operates at multiple levels to affect well-being of various kinds, the mechanisms that give rise to social cohesion or social disorganization are still poorly understood. Many questions remain, like what sort of interventions are most effective in improving outcomes, and how such factors as time and physical environment affect those outcomes.

But as in the case of poverty, interventions are best done carefully and selectively, after the issues and solutions have been carefully measured and understood. However we in Canada have a number of advantages when it comes to tackling social cohesion. We have a substantial research base and enough economic capital to shore up our levels of social cohesion now, an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure.

Social cohesion is a matter of choice, but as a multilevel phenomenon it requires commitment and investment from all levels of community and government. In Canada we are used to dealing with multi-ethnic communities where tolerance and acceptance are actively encouraged. However we still have a tendency to focus on specific aspects of child development, such as motor skills or reading fluency, rather than looking at the whole child as a holistic being who is affected by every aspect of his environment and upbringing. Continual learning is indeed something that should apply to adults as well as children, as we come to terms with what it means to have a socially cohesive society. Since social cohesion and social capital provide the foundation for economic and all other

⁵ Pickett, K.E., & Wilkinson, R.G. (2009). The Equality Trust. Accessed at <http://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/why/evidence/child-well-being> on December 3rd, 2010.

forms of prosperity, it is should acquire a central role in the definition of our policy agenda.

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Annotated Bibliography

1. **Abada, T., Hou, F., & Ram, B. (2007). Racially mixed neighborhoods, perceived neighborhood social cohesion, and adolescent health in Canada. *Social Science & Medicine*, 65(10), 2004-2017.**

Abstract: Using data from the Canadian Census and the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, we examine the effects of neighborhood concentration of racial minorities on general health status and depressive symptoms of Canadian adolescents. We also examine the role of perceived neighborhood cohesion and the extent to which it contributes to adolescent health. Our findings show that the racial concentration of ethnic minorities represents a health disadvantage for visible minority youth while perceived neighborhood cohesion is found to be a protective factor for both health outcomes. Perceived neighborhood cohesion is beneficial for the general health status (but not depression) of adolescents residing in neighborhoods with a high concentration of racial minorities.

Annotation: Noting the rapid increase of visible minorities in Canada's urban areas, the authors examine whether the concentration of racial minorities in these areas correlates with negative health outcomes for their youth. Previously-published theories of neighborhood cohesion and adolescent health are surveyed. Then the authors discuss their own study, which is based on the concept of "perceived neighborhood cohesion," derived from complementary models of collective efficacy and collective socialization. They look to fill a gap in the literature by extending the established relationship between neighborhood cohesion and mental health in adults, to an analysis of the same relationship in racial minority youth. Taking a large longitudinal sample of 13,439 households drawn from two NLSCY cycles measured 4 years apart, the researchers found that there was indeed a measurable effect on adolescent mental health as a result of neighborhood cohesion in areas where there were high concentrations of visible minorities, and the effect was more pronounced than it was in predominantly white urban areas. This is in contrast to more racially mixed neighborhoods, where no measurable effect was found. The researchers suggest that a reason for this difference is that urban neighborhoods in Canada tend to be more diverse both in terms of racial composition and SES (as opposed to in Europe or the U.S., where there is more of a racial enclave effect), and this mixing appears to have a protective effect on adolescent health outcomes. However, supportive relationships are more likely to develop in neighborhoods where minority youth have access to others of the same ethnic variety, which indicates that a balance between heterogeneity and pockets of ethnic density give rise to the most positive outcomes overall.

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2. **Adler, N. E., & Stewart, J. (2010). Health disparities across the lifespan: Meaning, methods, and mechanisms. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1186(1), 5-23.**

Abstract: Over the past two decades, exponential growth of empirical research has fuelled markedly increased concern about health disparities. In this paper, we show the

progression of research on socioeconomic status (SES) and health through several eras. The 1st era reflected an implicit threshold model of the association of poverty and health. The 2nd era produced evidence for a graded association between SES and health where each improvement in education, income, occupation, or wealth is associated with better health outcomes. Moving from description of the association to exploration of pathways, the 3rd era focused on mechanisms linking SES and health, whereas the 4th era expanded on mechanisms to consider multilevel influences, and a 5th era added a focus on interactions among factors, not just their main effects or contributions as mediators. Questions from earlier eras remain active areas of research, while later eras add depth and complexity.

Annotation: Health disparities between groups differentiated by socioeconomic status, race and other factors are a growing concern which is seen as warranting serious examination by social scientists. This study takes that examination to a new level while first providing an overview of the progression of research on SES and health through recent decades. Research of the most recent eras provided evidence that is particularly relevant for our increasingly complex times, with the last two focusing on multilevel influences and interactions among factors, respectively. Despite efforts to decrease the gap in health disparities between the rich and poor in the U.S. (i.e. the "Healthy People 2010" initiative begun a decade ago), little progress has been made, eliciting further concern and need for research that answers the crucial question: "How does socioeconomic status get under the skin?" (p. 11).

This paper is useful in that the authors take a sophisticated approach in looking at these questions and the methods that researchers have used to come up with answers so far. The conclusion ties research efforts in with corresponding changes in policy and projects which directly test these policies, such as PROGRESA in New Mexico. Work such as this should tie in well with high-level integrative work done by researchers in areas such as Human Ecology, Community Studies, and Social Cohesion.

3. **Albanese, P. (2010). *Child poverty in Canada* Don Mills, Ont. : Oxford University Press, 2010.**

Abstract: On 24 November 1989 the Canadian House of Commons unanimously passed an all-party resolution to eliminate poverty among Canadian children by the year 2000. Yet in 2005 a report by UNICEF placed Canada nineteenth in a ranking of the relative poverty of children in 26 of the world's richest countries (Greece, Hungary, and Poland all had a significantly better record). How can this be? This short and engaging book provides the latest research on child poverty by Canadian sociologist Patrizia Albanese. Looking at how many of Canada's children live in poverty, Albanese explores trends over time, across provinces, and among various groups. Her research reveals which children are most vulnerable and why, and describes the physical, behavioural, and educational impact of poverty. In clear terms Albanese presents some of the ways that poverty is measured in Canada and around the world, and considers the country in a global perspective to assess why it ranks so low on the international scale. Finally, she discusses how the events of 1989 have shaped the outcome of child poverty in Canada and evaluates the theories and possible solutions to the problem. Of interest to students of sociology, social work, and early childhood studies - and concerned readers alike - this important book provides a useful introduction to a topic of key importance.

Annotation: Why is a book on child poverty being included in this bibliography? Because, in the words of Robert Putnam in *Bowling Alone*, "Indeed, across the various Kids Count indicators, social capital is second only to poverty in the breadth and depth of its effect on children's lives." (p. 297). And certainly the evidence in this short but pithy book by Canadian sociologist Patrizia Albanese provides plenty of evidence for the strong correlation between child wellbeing and the social capital and cohesion in their environments. There are chapters on defining and measuring child poverty, rates and trends, the impact of poverty on children, causal factors at the family, neighborhood, and societal levels, international comparisons, proposed solutions and recommendations. With each chapter the pattern becomes more clear: poverty undermines social cohesion at every turn. Nor is it enough to focus on the individual children, whose lives are inextricably linked to those of the people around them. Albanese urges policy-makers to take this context into account when seeking remedies, and provides numerous examples of the ways in which equality, or lack thereof, affects a wide range of outcomes. For instance: "Some have found the link between family income inequality and poor physical health to be so consistent that they have agreed that it is effectively a natural law: greater income equality within a society... results in better health outcomes for the entire society." (p. 31). Albanese recommends the implementation of a national action plan to end poverty, with special attention paid to the welfare of our country's children.

4. **Aldridge, S., & Halpern, D. (2002). *Social capital: A discussion paper*. London, UK: Performance and Innovation Unit.**

Abstract: (From the Introduction)

The concept of social capital has been around since the 1920s. However, there has been an explosion of interest in the importance of social relationships, norms and networks across the social sciences over the past 5-10 years (see table 1). The purpose of this paper is :

- to clarify the meaning of social capital;
- to explain why it is important;
- to examine the main determinants or drivers of social capital;
- to review the main trends and future prospects for social capital in the UK and other countries; and
- to draw out some implications for policymakers.

Annotation: This paper, which is well-organized and quickly readable despite its 81-page length, is almost an FAQ of social capital. The first 8 pages alone contain an excellent primer to social capital: its definition, why it's important, whether it's declining and where, policy implications for different levels of governments, and suggested areas of investment. The rest of the paper expands upon these items and includes a number of interesting tables. Table 1, for example, shows how references to social capital in the academic literature have grown exponentially since 1985, while Table 8 conveniently shows the relationship between social capital and key policy outcomes at individual, mezzo and macro levels sector by sector. Another table, Table 9, shows whether social capital is stable, declining or increasing in several OECD countries. Aldridge and Halpern treat their subject with due rigor; on more than one occasion, they caution the reader to treat empirical findings on social capital with a degree of caution due to missing variables, estimated relationships, and varying response rates. However they go on to say that there is enough evidence from a large enough variety of sources and methods to present a

strong argument as to the relevance and effects of social capital worldwide. In short, this paper is worth reading for its conciseness and clarity, and for the overview it provides on all the major players, ideas and issues relating to social capital.

5. **Amit, V., Dyck, N., & Rapport, N. (2002). Children's sport in suburban Canada. Realizing community: Concepts, social relationships and sentiments (1st ed.,). New York, NY: Routledge.**

Abstract: 'Community' is so overused both in everyday language as well as in scholarly work that it could easily be dismissed as a truism. However, the persistence of the term itself shows that the idea continues to resonate powerfully in our daily lives, ethnographic accounts as well as theoretical analyses. This book returns a timely and concerted anthropological gaze to community as part of a broader consideration of contemporary circumstances of social affiliation and solidarity.

Annotation: This chapter's value to this bibliography is that it takes an ethnographic approach to examining a specific example of adaptation to the changing social landscape. In *Children's sport in suburban Canada*, social anthropologist Noel Dyck studies children's amateur soccer culture in a British Columbia suburb. Rather than discussing social capital and cohesion at the theoretical level, Dyck demonstrates how these things can actually work in context. With all the anxiety around declining levels of cohesion, it is efficacious to read examples of ways in which the traditional social structures can change and be re-configured rather than disintegrating. In the subculture detailed, suburban parents are willing to drive their children to soccer practice regularly, and bonds are quickly formed around this shared activity. In some cases the bonds are extended to additional shared activity outside soccer, and in some cases not. As this author points out, concerns about "threat of extinction from the unrelenting forces of industrialization, urbanization, and westernization" have existed since the founding of sociology and anthropology as academic fields in the nineteenth century" (p. 106), but if our ancestors could adapt to these shifting conditions, then we can too.

About the Author(s): (From Contributors section)

Noel Dyck is Professor of Social anthropology at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. He has studied relations between Aboriginal peoples and governments since the 1970s and is the author of *What is the Indian 'Problem'? Tutelage and Resistance in Canadian Indian Administration* (1991). His current research focuses upon adult involvement in the organization of children's sports as well as the nexus between immigration, integration and sport. He is the editor of *Games, Sports and Cultures* (2000).

6. **Aronson, R. E., Wallis, A. B., O'Campo, P. J., & Schafer, P. (2007). Neighborhood mapping and evaluation: A methodology for participatory community health initiatives. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 11(4), 373-383.**

Abstract: OBJECTIVES: This paper describes the use of neighborhood mapping as a key element in an ecological study of a community-based urban infant mortality prevention program. We propose the use of neighborhood mapping in evaluation research to more fully examine the local context of community health programs. Mapping can be used to study community change and to describe community assets and structural, epidemiological, and social features of neighborhoods that may influence program

implementation and outcomes. **METHODS:** Data on physical features were collected by community residents during street-by-street neighborhood walkthroughs. Other data sources included program records, Census, birth certificate, and state and city data. Analytic methods included geo-coding, exploratory factor analysis to create spatial density indicators of neighborhood features at the Census block group level, and analysis of associations between neighborhood features and outcomes. **RESULTS:** Point and choropleth maps provide a powerful illustration of neighborhood features (e.g., vacant buildings), client distribution and participation, health outcomes, and change over time. Factor analysis indicated two salient clusters of non-residential land use: (1) legitimate daily usage (liquor stores and other businesses) and (2) non-legitimate daily use (houses of worship and vacant buildings). A composite scale was created to indicate overall risk related to physical neighborhood features. **CONCLUSIONS:** Neighborhood mapping is a powerful tool that brings participants and residents into the research process. Moreover, it can improve understanding of the role of neighborhood ecology in program implementation and outcomes.

Annotation: This is an interesting study, very relevant to the EMap project. Furthermore, this sort of mixed-method mapping approach has a number of advantages which could make it highly useful for researchers in social cohesion:

- by using a participatory model to gather data about the physical features of the neighborhood, researchers were able to gather high-quality data and maximize community interest in the project
- mapping fits well in situations where cohesive solutions are needed, in order to provide an impression of where the problems are concentrated so decisions can be made about where programs are most urgently needed
- mapping is also very useful in giving information about context in situations where context is crucial, as in the Baltimore Healthy Start Initiative studied in this paper. It is worth noting that this project uses not only mapping, which can be used to oversimplify or even distort data, but also a good conceptual model to guide research (that of the Neighborhood Milieu). And by showing policymakers and resident maps which depicted areas of highest risks, participants were again motivated to seek the most efficacious solutions possible to prevent pregnancy and birth problems. This study serves as an excellent example of how more sophisticated solutions are available to aid researchers in studying complex problems of social cohesion, especially as many of these studies rely on the gathering of geographically-specific data. Already researchers in this area are discovering that correlations between social cohesion and specific factors (such as inequality) can appear or disappear depending upon the geographic sample size. It is clear that emergent modeling methods are needed, and this study provides an excellent example of how this can be done.

7. **Atkinson, A., & Marlier, E. (2010). Analysing and measuring social inclusion in a global context. New York, NY: The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (DESA).**

Abstract: (From the Preface)

In the past 20 years, there has been steady progress in achieving socio-economic development, promoting wider support for democratic values and strengthening collaborative relationships among governments, social institutions and civil society worldwide. Yet, at the same time, inequality and exclusion not only persist, but are

expanding in many parts of the world, both within and between countries. Many societies are facing negative social conditions, such as widening disparities and marginalization of certain groups and/or communities. To prevent the further increase of social tensions among their members, it is vital that societies be equipped with strategies and tools for adequately assessing the realities and addressing existing challenges in a more proactive, constructive and holistic way, so that they may become better prepared for new challenges and more resilient in confronting them and better able to adjust to emerging imbalances—and to adjust more quickly, less violently and more sustainably.

...

This study is meant to serve as a guiding framework for policymakers, researchers and practitioners interested in developing practical tools for evidence-based policymaking, impact assessment, monitoring and evaluation in the area of social inclusion. It is also meant to provide guidance on how to develop tools, taking into consideration the historical, cultural and contextual backgrounds of one's own society. The study builds on the work on social indicators that has already been undertaken by many people at local, national, regional and international levels. It is hoped that the study will help to inspire new ideas and to generate innovative approaches.

Annotation: The purpose of this study is to analyze and measure social inclusion in a global context, thereby providing a framework for others interested in doing the same measurements in their own contexts. Those factors which make inclusion difficult, including poverty and social exclusion, are defined and explored for their underlying causes and interrelationships. For instance, poverty is a problem not only because it represents a lack of economic resources, but also a barrier to full social participation (aka social exclusion). Quantification using contextualized benchmarking is seen as a vital first step in the measurement of progress. However, the authors also underline the need for quantitative evidence to be supported by qualitative evidence in order to facilitate understanding at the human level. This study demonstrates the relevance of analytical methods in the delineation of these issues, and describes how statistical data and theoretical solutions may be operationalized in the reduction of social cohesion problems. Because of the multidimensional nature of social cohesion, indicators measured should include not only economic resources but also "inter alia, health, education, affordable access to other public services (for example, justice), housing, civil rights, security and justice, well-being, information and communications, mobility, social and political participation, leisure and culture" (p. 56). This study should be of interest to those working in policy for various levels of government, as well as researchers in the social sciences and members of relevant civil and social organizations.

8. **Ball, J., & Pence, A. (2001). Constructing knowledge and training curricula about early childhood care and development in canadian aboriginal communities. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Division 1, Seattle, WA. 2-41.**

Abstract: The effectiveness of the 'Generative Curriculum Model' was demonstrated in seven partnership programs involving rural aboriginal communities and a team based at the University of Victoria. A constructivist model of curriculum design and teaching by Elders ensured cultural relevance of the training curricula in child and youth care and subsequent transfer of training to development of community services by program graduates. Seventy-eight per cent of the First Nations enrolees completed the two-year diploma program. Implication of the program evaluation findings for advancing the

decolonization of post-secondary education and the utility of education as a tool for aboriginal community development are discussed.

Annotation: This study was based on a bicultural, early childhood care and development training curriculum developed jointly by the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC) of Saskatchewan and the University of Victoria's School of Child and Youth Care in British Columbia. With input from tribal elders, students from seven different Aboriginal communities assisted the researchers in constructing the 2-year curriculum which was then delivered to their home communities. A 2-year evaluation followed, which showed among other things an unprecedentedly high rate of Aboriginal student-teacher retention and revitalization of community in the form of intergenerational cooperation. Dozens of other communities have now adopted the "generative curriculum" approach, and the program appears to still be in effect (see <http://fnpp.org/home.htm>). Considering the challenges that Saskatchewan and other Canadian provinces foresee in dealing with rapidly growing aboriginal populations who still suffer from the effects of a legacy of racism and structural exclusion, new approaches such as generative curriculum offer renewed hope for greater cohesion both within aboriginal Canadian communities and possibly with mainstream communities as well. Researchers and educators interested in early childhood development should feel encouraged to contact the authors of this paper for more information.

About the Author(s): Jessica Ball and Alan Pence are professors in the School of Child and Youth Care at the University of Victoria. They can be contacted through the First Nations Partnership Programs, School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria, (250) 472-4128 or fnpp@uvic.ca.

9. **Beaujot, R., & Ravanera, Z. (2008). Family change and implications for family solidarity and social cohesion. *Canadian Studies in Population*, 35(1), 73-101.**

Abstract: Social cohesion can be viewed in terms of common projects and networks of social relations that characterize families, communities and society. In the past decades, the basis for family cohesion has shifted from organic to mechanical or from breadwinner to collaborative model. As in many Western countries, data on family change in Canada point to a greater flexibility in the entry and exit from relationships, a delay in the timing of family events, and a diversity of family forms. After looking at changes in families and in the family setting of individuals, the paper considers both intra-family cohesion and families as basis for social cohesion. Implications are raised for adults, children and public policy.

Annotation: In this paper authors Beaujot and Ravanera put forward the theory that the old Durkheim model of organic versus mechanical solidarity, with families operating on the basis of gender-based role differentiation, could be replaced by a two-fold classification where both types of solidarity exist in balance with each other. In discussing the ways in which families have changed, the researchers drawn on data that shows that both parents are typically breadwinners, families are smaller, and childbearing begins later (though these delays do not necessarily constitute disadvantage as they allow for longer investment in the various life phases). Also, familial relationships are now less fixed, with emphasis placed upon greater individual mobility, autonomy and self-gratification. In

Canada divorce and separation have become much more frequent since the 1960's, as has cohabitation as opposed to traditional marriage. Consensus in the literature is that the growing instability in unions has had adverse effects on children, and sets patterns for their own familial relationships in adulthood. Families are more diverse in composition, which can enhance social cohesion when well tolerated. Fewer people are living in families, which still correlates with greater economic disadvantage for women, and poorer health outcomes and longevity for men. Those with children and/or spouses tend to score higher on social cohesion indicators than people who are single and/or childless. In short, the family continues to play a critical task in building human and social capital at both the individual and societal level, providing social, emotional, material support and assistance for its members. The findings of this study indicate that what matters most for social cohesion at the family level is that there be a basic family unit, ideally larger than one parent and one child, and that this unit be stable over time. While families have changed considerably over recent decades, they continue to serve as foundational building blocks for a cohesive society.

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10. **Beauvais, C., & Jenson, J. (2002). Social cohesion: Updating the state of the research. Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Policy Research Networks.**

Abstract: (From the foreword by Judith Maxwell)

When social policy is regarded solely from the perspective of economics, there is no lack of “big picture concepts” to frame policy discourse. Gross domestic product serves as the measure to gauge economic progress, while competitiveness and globalization are buzzwords that capture some of the biggest forces affecting the trends in economic activity. It was only in the 1990s that social policy analysts found an expression for the big picture framing of their discourse – social cohesion. This concept, or quasi-concept, emerged in the first half of the 1990s in Europe and in Canada. It filled a big gap in the analytic language, serving as the term which captures the “macro” picture for social policy discussion. As Jane Jenson pointed out in her 1998 paper, *Social Cohesion: The State of the Canadian Research*, social cohesion meant different things to different people, even as it inspired a burst of intellectual activity in international organizations, national bureaucracies, universities and think tanks, indeed in policy communities in general. That paper unpacked the different meanings and described the state of thinking as it existed at that time. The research and the debate have flourished since 1998, and this paper provides a structured analysis of the direction the literature has taken over the past four years. Caroline Beauvais and Jane Jenson were asked by the Department of Canadian Heritage to conduct this review and they found that, in 2002 as in 1998, there are still many definitions of social cohesion. But this is not necessarily a weakness. Rather, social cohesion has great utility, which depends upon “its contribution to framing conversations, to helping to make sense of complex relationships, and to setting goals.” In effect, social cohesion helps us to think more clearly about how different elements in our economic and social lives are related to each other. They also argue that the debates about social cohesion are as much about political values and goals as they are about the science behind the idea.

Annotation: This paper essentially follows up on the CPRN-published Mapping Social Cohesion: The State of Canadian Research (1998), taking into account studies that followed which built on this influential work. Jenson and Beauvais provide a structured reading of the literature and a bibliography. Section 1 explores the definitional range of the concept of social cohesion, Section 2 explores definitions and concludes that there still is no unanimous position on whether social cohesion is a cause (independent variable) or a consequence (dependent variable) of other aspects of social, economic and political life. The authors found that most that the studies reviewed could only demonstrate that a correlation exists rather than a direct causal relationship. In the later literature reviewed, they found an increasing tendency to see social cohesion as interactive and multilevel. This more recent literature also focused more on action: the kinds of interventions that can prevent social cohesion from being undermined, or on those that can help rebuild it. Another group of studies saw globalization and diversity as factors which could or were undermining social cohesion. A significantly larger body of literature, which mostly focused on social capital as an active force for social cohesion, emphasized the need to make investments at the policy level in children, jobs, and communities. The final section, The Politics of Social Cohesion, provides a few examples of major national and international social policy-making institutions such as the Council of Europe continue to see social cohesion as a useful framing concept.

About the Author(s): Jane Jenson was the Director of the Family Network of the Canadian Policy Research Networks from 1999 to 2004. CPRN was a an Ottawa policy think tank which did some important work on social cohesion, much of it authored by Jenson. (See www.cprn.org). Caroline Beauvais was also a Researcher in the Family Network. Their reports can be consulted on www.cprn.org. Both are among the most pre-eminent of Canadian researchers and authors on the topic of social cohesion.

11. **Berry, H. (2008). Social capital elite, excluded participators, busy working parents and aging, participating less: Types of community participators and their mental health. Social Psychiatry & Psychiatric Epidemiology, 43(7), 527-537.**

Abstract: With the prevalence and costs of mental health problems increasing, safe, effective and economically viable prevention and treatment strategies are urgently needed. Community participation is protectively linked to mental health and is considered a valid mental health promotion strategy. However, little consideration has been given to socio-demographically driven patterns of participation that would differentially affect the success of such a strategy. The aims of this study were to group and describe members of a socio-economically disadvantaged rural region according to patterns of community participation, report on their levels of social cohesion and psychological distress and reflect on policy implications. Participants were 963 community members, aged 19–97, randomly selected from a socio-economically disadvantaged coastal Australian region, who voluntarily completed an anonymous postal survey. Measures included (1) frequency of fourteen types of participation, (2) thoughts and feelings about each type, and (3) five aspects of social cohesion. Two-step cluster analysis was undertaken to derive groupings of respondents based on their socio-demographic characteristics and levels of and perceptions about their participation. Psychological distress was assessed for each group. Four distinct groupings of participants were identified: social capital elite; busy working parents; aging, participating less; and excluded participators. The last of these reported particularly poor participation, cohesion and psychological distress. For mental health

promotion strategies to be effective, they must be tailored to the circumstances of intended recipients. This requires a sophisticated analysis of target groups. This study has shown that members of a socio-economically disadvantaged rural region may be described according to systematically varying patterns of socio-demographic characteristics, participation, social cohesion and distress. Policy-makers might consider (1) how and whether different groups might respond to the use of increased community participation as a mental health promotion strategy and (2) barriers that might have to be overcome in different groups.

Annotation: The purpose of this study was to group and describe a large sample of rural, socio-economically disadvantaged Australian coastal residents according to their participation in the community, report on their differences with respect to social cohesion and psychological distress, and finally to draw out the policy implications. Four clusters were identified: "busy working parenting", who had plenty of social capital but mostly in the context of their work-and-school-centric lives; "social capital elite", who consistently reported the highest levels of social capital, cohesion and participation; "excluded participators", who tended to struggle with part-time or ill-paying work, lack of leisure time, lower levels of enjoyment in participatory activities, and poverty; and "ageing, participating less", older people who were usually better off than the excluded participators, but still facing some obstacles to full participation. One finding was that women, when healthy, tended to have more social capital than men, but were perhaps more likely to suffer from psychological distress when socio-economically challenged. There was a definite correlation between socio-economic advantage and likelihood of belonging to the social capital elite. This study should be of interest not only to those who work with the socially disadvantaged, but also researchers interested in how best to group community participants by type. Berry suggests that those concerned with building community cohesion should realize that participation is more amenable to intervention than cohesion itself; and, not all groups engage substantially in all types of participation, so it is worthwhile to find out about a group's composition and needs before deciding whether and how to encourage participation.

12. **Bodor, R., Lamourex, R., & Biggs, H. (2009). Bringing home the kids. *Rural Social Work & Community Practice*, 14(2), 12-17.**

Abstract: The destructive processes of colonization and assimilation of First Nations and Métis people in Canada has not come to an end rather, like a chameleon, these forms of oppression simply change their appearance and continue on. From the tragedy of Residential Schools, to the ravages of the Sixties Scoop, to the incremental devastation of family and community by the bureaucratic process of putting children "in-care", the cumulative negative impacts of contact with Western society remain. In 2006, in a northern Alberta (Canada) First Nations community of 8000 people, approximately 150 children were "in-care" and living two hours away in a large urban centre with minimal contact with their home community. Community-based Children's Services (Wahkohtowin) decided it was time to "Bring Home the Kids" - and staged an event designed to reconnect these children to their community. While it was acknowledged that a single event will not solve the problem of the number of children taken into care, it was felt that this opportunity to reconnect would help with the issues of anxious and disrupted attachment that many of the children (and the community) were experiencing - and would also help to increase community awareness of the number of children who are in care. Perhaps it

would eventually lead to repatriation. It was a place to continue the process of healing. This is the story of that event.

Annotation: This paper tells the story of the 60 "in-care" First Nations children who were given the opportunity to reconnect with their families in their original home community. This was done under the auspices of an applied research project, and as such, some background information was provided in this paper about attachment, visitation, and kinship. Each child who participated was given a kinship map specific to his or her family, a culturally appropriate colouring book, booklet, backpack, t-shirt and more. Each child was welcomed in a special ceremony involving a tribal elder. Although the event was deemed positive and successful, the researchers expressed concern about the resources that would be needed if the program were to be expanded in order to repatriate larger numbers of children. However, it was hoped that this project would serve as an example to researchers and community workers who would like to know how and why to build bridges between displaced First Nations children and their native homes and communities.

13. **Boggs, C. (2001). Social capital and political fantasy: Robert Putnam's bowling alone. *Theory & Society*, 30(2), 281-297.**

Abstract: This article discusses social capital and political fantasy with reference to the sociologist Robert Putnam, and is deeply critical of identified shortcomings within Putnam's thesis. Putnam argues that a pervading sense of civic malaise and disengagement has taken over a society in which the vast majority of people are materially satisfied but deeply alarmed about the political, cultural, and moral direction of the country. During the first two-thirds of the century," Putnam writes, "Americans took a more and more active role in the social and political life of their communities, in churches and union halls, in bowling alleys and clubrooms, around committee tables and card tables and dinner tables then, mysteriously and more or less simultaneously, people began to do all those things less often. Putnam clearly has his fingers on the pulse of some critical long-term developments in twentieth-century U.S. history. The author argues people abandoned formal bowling leagues for informal interaction; there is abundant evidence to suggest that we do in fact live in a rather thoroughly depoliticized society, even if significant countertrends are becoming visible at the turn of the millennium.

Annotation: The main thrust of this critique is that Putnam ignores major political or societal movements when considering indicators of civic participation. While there may be some validity to this—for instance, Putnam does give short shrift to the youth movement in the 60's and to social media today—others would argue that in order for the book to have attained the influence and popularity of *Bowling Alone*, it must capture the zeitgeist and concerns of post-9/11 society quite well. Boggs critiques Putnam's methodology as well, especially his choice of indicators such as memberships in clubs and service organizations, which Boggs claims are of less significance than informal participation in causes that are personally meaningful. In the case of shrinking union memberships, Boggs blames the changing nature of work itself, particularly as a result of globalization, rather than apathy on the part of those who might otherwise be members. As for the lack of involvement in movements such as for gay or women's rights, Boggs says this is a result of significant gains in these areas, and also of focus shifting to other concerns, such as the environment. Putnam ignores "dynamic" expressions of social activity in favour of ones that Boggs claims are increasingly outdated; however, one could argue that rapid change

is the root cause of our current difficulties with cohesion. However this paper is worth reading for the way in which it captures many of the criticisms raised by others as well. And it may be that Putnam shares Boggs' concern with Bowling's lack of contextual interpretation, since his current book, *Better Together*, looks at a number of social-capital building organizations within their own contexts.

14. **Boyd, R., & Marshall, H. (2008). The chief public health officer's report on the state of public health in Canada, 2008. Ottawa, Ont: Chief Public Health Officer, 2008 (Saint-Lazare, Quebec: Gibson Library Connections, 2008).**

Abstract: (From "A Few Words from Canada's Chief Public Health Officer")

My first annual Report on the State of Public Health in Canada is intended to inform Canadians and stimulate discussion of the many factors that contribute to good health and what can be done individually and collectively to advance public health in Canada. I am happy to report that the majority of Canadians enjoy good to excellent physical and mental health, reinforcing that Canada is one of the best places in the world in which to live. Thanks in part to public health efforts — such as the introduction of mass immunization, and smoking cessation and seat-belt awareness programs — we are living longer and have reduced our infant mortality rates.

Despite this progress, there are Canadians in every corner of the country who continue to experience high rates of injury, chronic or infectious diseases and addictions. These individuals are at a higher risk of poor health and premature death. They are also more likely to need the health-care system for what are largely preventable health issues. Poor health also results in higher rates of absenteeism and lowers productivity in our workplaces.

While certain disadvantaged segments of the population have poorer health than most of us, none of us is immune to the health inequalities that limit our potential as individuals and as a nation. For this reason, my first report focuses on inequalities in health. With few exceptions, the evidence shows that people with better incomes, better education and better social supports enjoy better health than those with fewer social and economic opportunities.

Dr. David Butler-Jones, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada

Annotation: In this first annual report on the State of Public Health in Canada, Chief Public Health Officer Dr. David Butler-Jones chose health equities and inequalities as his major focus, a choice that is likely reflective of concerns about social cohesion in Canadian government circles. The report begins by highlighting some historical health care successes, including declines in smoking and vaccine-preventable disease. Also lauded are the epidemiological-evidence-based practices and strong inter-sectoral partnerships. However, a section-by-section examination of factors that influence our health reveals strong relationships between inequality and poor health. It is in those areas where the worst inequalities are present, such as in aboriginal communities, where the health challenges are also the most significant. Clear, graphic evidence is given of the health gap between those of higher and lower SES (socio-economic status) across such indicators as life expectancy, infant mortality, heart disease, obesity, mental illness, and so on. And while some progress had been made in closing that gap in the 70's and 80's, that progress appears to have stalled in more recent decades. In Chapter 5, "Addressing Inequalities", Butler-Jones offers a list of suggested remedies based on social investment, community building, and inter-sectoral action. However the report falls short of a concerted call to

action at the governmental level. However the growing interest in social cohesion by our government is evidence of a growing realization that changes must be made at a structural level if we are to keep our communities healthy into the future. (246 words).

About the Author(s): Dr. David Butler-Jones is Canada's first and current Chief Public Health Officer. A medical doctor, David Butler-Jones has worked throughout Canada and consulted internationally in public health and clinical medicine. He is a professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba and a clinical professor with the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology at the University of Saskatchewan. He is also a former Chief Medical Health Officer for Saskatchewan, and has served in a number of public health organizations, including as President of the Canadian Public Health Association and Vice President of the American Public Health Association. In 2007, in recognition of his years of service in public health, Dr. Butler-Jones received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from York University's Faculty of Health.

15. **Bruhn, J. G. (1979). The roseto story University of Oklahoma Press.**

Abstract: Roseto is a small Italian-American community in east-central Pennsylvania. This fifteen-year study drawing on medical histories, physical examinations, and laboratory tests, compared a large sample of Rosetans to inhabitants of two neighboring communities, Bangor and Nazareth, and followed up this research with a sociological study of the three communities.

Despite a greater prevalence of obesity in Roseto, and despite similar dietary, smoking, and exercise habits and similar ethnic and genetic background, the inhabitants of Roseto were relatively immune to heart disease at the beginning of the research in 1963. They were also strikingly tenacious in adhering to Old World values and customs. Family relationships were very close and mutually supportive, and this cohesive quality extended to neighbors and to the community as a whole. When these traditional values and relationships were abandoned by the rising generation, the death rate from heart disease climbed toward the American norm. The study concluded that unconditional interpersonal support counteracts life stress and thus preserves life.

16. **Bruhn, J. G. (2005). The sociology of community connections. New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.**

Abstract: (From the summary)

Community is a key concept in sociology. In the last decade, especially with the explosion of electronic communication, the definition of community has changed. There is now a need to define the concept of community and tie it to the various levels of human interaction, from the global to the individual. Currently there are many books that address many aspects of community, but there is a lack of text which "connects" the concept of community with the range of issues from the macro level to the micro level. This book will discuss the rationale for community, the varieties of communities, the effect of social change on communities and many other factors of connectedness as the costs for losing it.

Annotation: This graduate-level sociology text by eminent sociologist John G. Bruhn provides a lucidly written overview of a whole range of topics in the rapidly growing field of community studies. Chapters cover topics including the formative relationships between children and their caregivers, communities past and present, ties within and

between some specific communities including immigrant, ethnic, homeless, faith-based, and even online. Bruhn builds on the work of Robert Putnam and his canonical work *Bowling Alone* by providing some unique insights into the changing nature of our social relationships. He posits that these relationships are becoming more temporary, fragile and expedient, and the net effect is that we invest less social capital in our communities than we used to. However the focus of this book is not so much on social decline as on change; for instance he builds on Putnam's theories about bonding versus bridging capital by looking at the ways in which weak ties are replacing strong, traditional ones across all demographics and types of communities. Bruhn is particularly interested in the effects of social cohesion on the psychological and physical health of individuals, having written some important works on this topic including *The Roseto Story* (1979). For an insightful and topical overview on the field of community connection in all its aspects, there is no text I can more highly recommend than *The Sociology of Community Connections*.

17. **Bruhn, J. G. (2009). *The group effect*. [electronic resource] : Social cohesion and health outcomes Dordrecht [The Netherlands] ; New York : Springer, c2009.**

Abstract: (From Amazon)

Sociologists and anthropologists have had a long interest in studying the ways in which cultures shaped different patterns of health, disease, and mortality. Social scientists have documented low rates of chronic disease and disability in non-Western societies and have suggested that social stability, cultural homogeneity and social cohesion may play a part in explaining these low rates. On the other hand, in studies of Western societies, social scientists have found that disease and mortality assume different patterns among various ethnic, cultural and social-economic groups. The role of stress, social change and a low degree of cohesion have been suggested, along with other factors as contributing to the variable rates among different social groups.

Social cohesion has been implicated in the cause and recovery from both physical and psychological illnesses. Although there has been a large amount of work establishing the beneficial effects of cohesion on health and well-being, relatively little work has focused on HOW increased social cohesion sustains or improves health. This work is based on the premise that there are risk factors, including social cohesion that regulate health and disease in groups. One of the challenges is how to measure social cohesion – it can be readily observed and experienced but difficult to quantify. A better understanding of how social cohesion works will be valuable to improving group-level interventions.

Annotation: This book is quite possibly the single best work by any author on the topic of social cohesion. Bruhn lucidly and comprehensively examines how human beings get along with one another, and what happens when relationships break down. In particular, he focuses on the effects our relationships have on our health, which is of particular value to researchers and policy-makers in social cohesion since the bulk of the research on risk factors to date has focused on the micro (individual) or macro (whole population) level. In this work Bruhn takes the social group as the unit of analysis, noting the differences in health and welfare outcomes between societies including Old Order Amish, Israeli Kibbutz, and Okinawan and Costa Rican centenarians. Other sections examine definitions relating to groups and social cohesion, types of groups, effects of various kinds of social ties and issues on health, and finally a concise summary. The book is well-organized and highly readable despite the density of the information; Table 1.2, for instance, provides a concise list of the characteristics shared by healthier societies.

About the Author(s): John G. Bruhn is the Adjunct Professor of Health Sciences, College of Health and Social Services, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico, and the author of more than 40 books and papers on the topics of human group social dynamics and its effect on health. As one of the pre-eminent authors on social cohesion, his works should be read by anyone with an interest in this field.

18. **Burroughs, K. (2009, February 14 2009). Within these walls. Financial Times (FT.Com), <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/34a58324-f897-11dd-aae8-000077b07658.html>**

Abstract: (From article)

Nobody drives through the massive, black wrought iron gates without a permit and those on foot need a prior invitation. The postman never penetrates the barricaded entrance, which is manned 24 hours a day by uniformed security officials. Even the pizza delivery boy must be on the guest list and, once admitted, CCTV cameras track his progress around the seven-acre site. There is no doubt that Bow Quarter, a gated community in London's East End, is a secure environment. And, in a market beset by plunging property prices, some buyers think it is also a safer place for their money.

Annotation: This article points to an interesting trend in housing: an increase in the number of wealthier people who are buying into gated communities. According to Burroughs and her sources, gated properties are hot commodities in the UK, US, South America, South Africa, India, China, and Australia, even in a global real estate market that is flat or declining. It is worth noting that many of the places on this list are developed countries with some of the most serious inequality and cohesion problems, particularly the US, where 6% of US homes are in gated communities and 80% of new developments are also gated. And while gated communities might seem like the answer to security concerns in places like South America, Burroughs notes that surrounding communities may be left with few resources while inside the gated communities residents maintain their own power supply, water, and security systems. Burroughs also provides a brief literature survey in which she finds only a small number of study authors took a positive view of gated communities, while the majority of academics expressed concerns about the growth of enclave living as a manifestation of the growing divide between rich and poor. Although residents of some gated communities take measures to give something back to their less well off neighbors, in others in the US, residents may opt out of using local systems and withdraw their taxes. Opinions seem to vary on whether these communities are genuinely friendly and supportive places for their own residents to be, but in the end it seems that this is part of the trend which makes social cohesion difficult in places where uncurbed capitalism allows inequalities to flourish.

19. **Cantle, T. (2006). Parallel lives. Index on Censorship, 35(2), 85-90.**

Abstract: (From the conclusion)

Unfortunately, we have had little experience of 'promoting good race relations', despite this being a statutory duty in Britain for 30 years. This aspect of diversity has largely been ignored, or given over to a small number of badly resourced voluntary agencies that have often struggled against the odds, while the main focus has been on the equality agenda. Of course, the focus on equalities remains essential, but it is no longer sufficient and we have to invest in changing attitudes and values – winning hearts and minds. This has to be

a 'mainstream' activity for all public services. This also means a much more difficult debate about 'commonalities', rather than simply focusing on difference. We have promoted difference in so many respects: encouraging separate schools for different faiths, housing provision for minorities, a wide range of separate cultural, arts and sports programmes, regeneration schemes based on different communities, separate employment training schemes etc, but have generally failed to promote the things that all communities have in common. As a defensive mechanism to racism and discrimination, the focus on difference may have been justified, but we now have to redress the balance and challenge areas of difference that conflict with wider societal interests, more vigorously promote a common language and active citizenship, rather than relying on 'peaceful co-existence'. This will not be easy, but it is now necessary. We do have to continue to make clear, however, that while we expect to see a much greater sense of commonality – or integration – at the political and economic level, we also expect to maintain a separation at the cultural level to allow diversity to flourish. Those people that are still in denial about our multicultural reality oppose all attempts to promote equalities and positive action programmes. But the equalities agenda still has to be reinforced, not simply to ensure fairness and social justice, but also as a means of promoting interaction, understanding and respect. In this sense, racial equality and community cohesion programmes come together and are mutually reinforcing. However, we need a more positive approach to breaking down segregation and 'parallel lives' not only interacting in our daily lives, but also in as part of a political entity, as nationals with a common interest in the direction and development of the state. If not, we will forever be attempting to micro-manage peoples' behaviour, through ever more detailed legislation to prevent discrimination and ensure equal opportunities, rather than changing underlying attitudes and values and making the changes self-sustaining.

Annotation: "Multiculturalism" has become a much-studied concept in the UK especially since the race riots of 2001, which catapulted social cohesion to the forefront of the national political agenda. Since then Ted Cantle has written a number of seminal books and papers relating to various aspects of social cohesion, and *Parallel Lives* is one such paper. In it Cantle elucidates the main ideas and issues behind achieving cohesion between the various ethnically differentiated communities. Surprisingly little progress has been made over the past several decades, Cantle claims, in integrating ethnic communities into the mainstream, even in the school system. But despite this seeming intractability, Cantle warns against ignoring the issues arising out of de facto segregation, whether that segregation seems to be of a voluntary nature or not. The danger of ignoring race issues would be governments forever finding themselves micro-managing the behavior of individual or small groups using legislative and other cumbersome means. Cantle encourages governments to avoid the extreme positions of 1) multiculturalists who defend all differences automatically, and 2) those who oppose multiculturalism in the guise of defending "Britishness". It would be worthwhile for Canadians interested in our own version of multiculturalism and concerned about issues with enclaves to read this before attempting to work with visible minority groups.

20. **Cantle, T. (2008). *We are not all the same*. *Community Care*, (1729), 14-16.**

Abstract: The article discusses the research of the Institute of Community Cohesion (iCoCo) which assesses the growing diversity of minority and majority communities in Great Britain. The research reveals that variations within the Muslim communities are great

between the other communities, however, engagement is limited to small leaders. It shows that traditional community leaders struggle to the increasing diverse patterns of neighbourhoods, relative to the representation of youth and new communities. INSET: WHAT CAN LOCAL AUTHORITIES DO TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY COHESION?.

Annotation: In this short article Ted Cantle, author of the a number of notable works on social cohesion in the UK, writes that social services in the UK are being made more challenging by the rapidly growing number of local ethnic leaders with whom relationships must be fostered before meaningful dialogue can take place, and also by the growing number of youth who appear to be joining ethnic gangs. Also neighborhood instability is seen as a growing threat to cohesion, with some school populations changing by as much as 50% - 90% in a single year. However community workers are finding that there are sometimes "gatekeeper leaders" who can facilitate communication between government bodies and multiple local leaders. Also in the "good news" category, "mixed race" is a fast-growing category that is gradually leading to greater integration and facilitating inter-group communication. In other words, bridging continues to be a challenging but necessary part of shoring up social cohesion in the UK and beyond. Cantle urges white leaders to update their old ideas about these cultural communities, and use mapping to understand emerging needs and sources of conflict and tension. Although we experience somewhat fewer issues relating to racial tension in Canada, understanding these problems in the UK can help our own leaders and policy-makers deal with our rapidly growing aboriginal and recent immigrant populations.

About the author(s): Professor Ted Cantle is chief executive of iCoCo, the Institute of Community Cohesion. In August 2001, he was appointed by the Home Secretary to Chair the Community Cohesion Review Team and to lead the review on the causes of the summer disturbances in a number of northern towns and cities. The 'Cantle Report' was produced in December 2001 and made around 70 recommendations. The concept of 'community cohesion' was subsequently adopted by the Government and Ted was asked to chair the Panel which advised Ministers on implementation. He is presently Associate Director at the IDeA and also a member of the Board of the Environment Agency for England and Wales. Ted has contributed over 200 articles and publications on a wide range of subjects including, 'social capital', 'housing defects' race and housing' 'sustainable development' 'leadership' and 'community cohesion' - which is the subject of his book: Community Cohesion: A New Framework for Race and Diversity .
(Source: <http://www.cohesioninstitute.org.uk/AboutUs/OurPeople/ProfessorTedCantleCb>)

21. **Chan, J., To, H., & Chan, E. (2006). Reconsidering social cohesion: Developing a definition and analytical framework for empirical research. Social Indicators Research, 75(2), 273.**

Abstract: Despite its growing currency in academic and policy circles, social cohesion is a term in need of a clearer and more rigorous definition. This article provides a critical review of the ways social cohesion has been conceptualized in the literature in many cases, definitions are too loosely made, with a common confusion between the content and the causes or effects of social cohesion. This motivates us to propose a refined definition that we hope is clearer and more rigorous. We will show how our definition could be operationalized into a measurement scheme that facilitates empirical work on social cohesion.

Annotation: In their review of previous literature the authors found frequent muddying of the content, causes and effects of social cohesion. They divided the literature found into two streams of thought, one from sociologists, the other from policy analysts. Papers from the first stream lacked definitional rigor, with the exception of Lockwood (1999) who provided a definition based on primary networks plus "civic integration". Chan et al., though critical of Lockwood's negative focus, adopt some of his indicators, such as trust beyond one's primary network. Policy analysts have been more concerned with the problem of measurement, and Canadian policy makers especially have done some useful work in this area. The authors note that government policymakers are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that these issues necessitate new forms of governance that require the successful promotion of 1) trust, also known as solidarity; 2) active citizen participation and 3) a more integrated approach to public policy design and implementation. For their study the authors decided upon a measurement scheme which included both individual and group-level data, much of which could be taken from the large-scale World Values Survey. They conclude that "social cohesion is defined as a state of affairs concerning both the vertical and the horizontal interactions among members of society as characterized by a set of attitudes and norms that includes trust, a sense of belonging and the willingness to participate and help, as well as their behavioural manifestations."

22. **Claridge, T. (2004). Social capital research website. Unpublished manuscript from <http://www.socialcapitalresearch.com/>**

This website is based on a research project on social capital conducted by Tristan Claridge which was completed in 2004. The research was conducted as part of a masters research project at the University of Queensland, Australia. This site is intended to be a guide to anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding the complex nature of this important concept, including its conceptualisation and operationalisation... The major focus of this site is to develop a more rigorous conceptualization of social capital. To do this, an extensive review of literature on social capital was undertaken including work from disciplines including sociology, economics, political science, and anthropology. This review provided the basis for the new conceptualization of social capital that incorporated current social capital theory and identified gaps and deficiencies. One of the major deficiencies of current social capital theory is that it does not sufficiently take into account the complexity of social capital, particularly in terms of level and structure. The conceptualization designed for the purposes of this study incorporates the relationships between determinants, structural elements and manifestations and considers the complexity in terms of externalities, chance, level, feedback loops and specific context. Social capital involves a complex interaction of space and time and as such, highlights the importance of an event as a major determinant.

23. **Coleman, J. S. (1997). Social capital in the creation of human capital. FRONTIER ISSUES IN ECONOMIC THOUGHT, 3, 213-215.**

Abstract: Introduces and illustrates the concept of social capital, describes its forms, and examines the social structures in which it arises. An application of the concept is used in analyzing high school dropouts. The theory is set in the context of rational action, with sociological and economic explanations (both of which are criticized and revised). Social capital as a resource for action is a way of importing the principle of rational action in the analysis of social systems, including economic systems. Social capital is a particular kind of

resource available to an actor. Although not completely fungible, it is productive and makes achievement of ends possible. It inheres in the structure of relations between and among actors. It also shares features with public goods (in that it benefits all who are part of the structure). Social capital is employed in the creation of human capital, which is created by changes in persons that create skills and capabilities that enable them to act in new ways. It is especially important in creating human capital in the next generation. Social capital is one of three components (along with financial capital and human capital) in family background. An application of the concept of social capital is undertaken by examining the effect of its lack in high school sophomores on their drop-out rate. The study draws on the data in the High School and Beyond dataset. Various analyses show that social capital in the family is an educational resource of children, just as are the family's financial and social capital. For example, frequent family moves disrupt the family's social capital, and each move increases the child's dropout rate. Low drop out rates at Catholic and private schools are also indicators of a child's social capital outside the school. (TNM)

Annotation: James Coleman is often credited with being the first major definer and popularizer of the term "social capital", but this paper is also worth reading for the way in which Coleman places social capital in the historical landscape between how sociologists view individuals (mainly in terms of their social context, and actions as being determined by the social norms acting upon them), and how economists view them (as self-interested and independent in action). Coleman proposes the term "social capital" for a concept that includes components from both schools. It is the combination of rational action, self-interested motivation and social organization that gives rise to social capital. Coleman goes on to further delineate social capital as a productive, multi-part entity, defined more by function than characteristics, and gives several examples from family and community contexts. Different types of capital are discussed (economic, social, physical and human) and the ways in which they interact. Social capital is less tangible than physical capital, yet just as able to facilitate productive activity; in fact, it is essential beyond a certain minimal level of organization. Even in purely financial markets like the stock exchange, traders who work with each other are more successful than those who don't. Underpinning all these forms of social capital are obligations and expectations, information flows, and norms and sanctions. Higher levels of family and community social capital lead to greater student achievement and lower dropout rates, as detailed in this paper and elsewhere. This book was published in 2006; Coleman's paper was first published in 1988.

NOTE: Coleman S.J. and Coleman J.S. are TWO different authors.

About the author(s): Coleman achieved renown with two studies on problem solving: *An Introduction to Mathematical Sociology* (1964) and *Mathematics of Collective Action* (1973). He taught at Stanford University and then at the University of Chicago. In 1959 he moved to Johns Hopkins University where he taught until 1973 before returning to Chicago, where he then directed the National Opinion Research Center. In 1991 Coleman was elected President of the American Sociological Association. (Source: From Wikipedia).

24. **Coleman, S. J., John A. (2000). Compassion, solidarity and empowerment: The ethical contribution of religion to society. *Social Thought*, 19(2), 7-20.**

Abstract: This served as the Msgr. John Schoklee lecture in Social Justice and as a keynote for the conference "Raising Children Out of Poverty" at St. Louis University. The author

argues that compassion, solidarity and empowerment represent the three key anchors of Catholic social teaching. All three are inter-related. The concrete embodiment of compassion--so as to remove mere sentimental vagueness to the concept, entails the three-fold practices of direct social services, public advocacy and strategies of empowerment. In particular, the Catholic notion of justice as participation looks to the active empowerment of those who are marginalized. Ultimately, welfare means more than merely providing for those in need. It looks to enabling them to become active agents in society. Having sketched the social teaching, the author then looks to sociological evidence about how well the churches practice what they preach. In our society, churches pre-eminently generate acts of compassion through voluntarism. Members of churches are more likely to give time and money to the voluntary sector than non-members. The paper ends with a sketch of one concrete program of empowerment: churchbased community organizing.

Annotation: In this keynote lecture Coleman unpacks the idea that faith-based organizations can and do build social capital. He examines religious ethics as three interrelated forces: compassion, solidarity and empowerment. This is similar to the Catholic church's definition of compassion as working through direct contact with the ministered in three areas: social services, advocacy for programs, and empowerment for the powerless. Coleman points out that those involved in faith-based institutions already know what today's social scientists are only now discussing widely in the literature: causes and effects of social issues form a multi-layered complex which must be dealt with at the structural level at the same time as the congregation's day-to-day needs are being met. Furthermore, empowerment, means that the marginalized must be actively involved in efforts towards greater equality and justice, if the achievement of those goals is to have lasting effect. And while Putnam links social capital to political participation, Coleman more precisely defines the relationship between the two when he says that the latter leads to and maximizes the former. Two-thirds of those who are socially active claim their faith as a major motivator, and according to a study Coleman did himself, religion is the primary motivator for social work. While this lecture is about religion, it places that religion in the context of other writings on social capital, and makes some highly valid points about the trust that is engendered by working with familiar others "over the long haul" in an atmosphere of mutual trust and altruism.

25. **Commission on Integration and Cohesion. (2007). 'What works' in community cohesion No. June). London, Bressenden Place: Department for Communities and Local Government.**

Abstract: The Commission on Integration and Cohesion (CIC) was established in August 2006 as a fixed-term body (reporting in June 2007), charged with deepening an understanding of community cohesion issues and relevant policy approaches, and developing practical approaches to support community cohesion in local areas. This research study was commissioned to contribute to the ongoing work of Communities and Local Government and the Commission. It seeks to help understand 'what works' in terms of cohesion policy and initiatives by investigating policy and practice in six case-study areas. In particular, the study focuses on identifying some best practice approaches in relation to:

- how cohesion-related work might be organised in a local authority area
- what types of initiatives are effective in supporting community cohesion

Annotation: Executive Summary:

"The main body of the report provides a very wide range of detailed and specific learning points about the types of project and approach that have been seen to 'work' in the six case-study areas we visited. This summary seeks to draw out some of the common strands from across the research."

Key approaches which were seen to work in building community cohesion included the following:

- addressing socio-economic well being as a pre-requisite for cohesion
- targeting areas of greatest need and likely tension for intervention
- initiating projects to engage young people, with schools playing a key role
- supporting new arrivals
- tailoring innovative approaches on a case-by-case basis, taking care not to exclude anyone

There is considerable examination of particular areas of risk in the UK, including Blackburn, Birmingham, Bradford, Tower Hamlets and Peterborough. Numerous community-cohesion-building projects were undertaken in these and other areas, with examination after the fact as well to see how effective the various initiatives were. See page 96 for a table which shows this explicitly.

This work would be a good resource to those working in fields where interaction and intervention in disadvantaged communities is needed. It is clear that some interventions are more effective than others, and a flexible, interactive approach is often helpful or even necessary.

26. **Commission on the Social Determinants of Health. (2008). Closing the health gap in a generation: The work of the commission on social determinants of health and its recommendations. final report of the commission on social determinants of health.**

Abstract: The Commission's overarching recommendations:

1. Improve Daily Living Conditions

Improve the well-being of girls and women and the circumstances in which their children are born, put major emphasis on early child development and education for girls and boys, improve living and working conditions and create social protection policy supportive of all, and create conditions for a flourishing older life. Policies to achieve these goals will involve civil society, governments, and global institutions.

2. Tackle the Inequitable Distribution of Power, Money, and Resources

In order to address health inequities, and inequitable conditions of daily living, it is necessary to address inequities – such as those between men and women – in the way society is organized. This requires a strong public sector that is committed, capable, and adequately financed. To achieve that requires more than strengthened government – it requires strengthened governance: legitimacy, space, and support for civil society, for an accountable private sector, and for people across society to agree public interests and reinvest in the value of collective action. In a globalized world, the need for governance dedicated to equity applies equally from the community level to global institutions.

3. Measure and Understand the Problem and Assess the Impact of Action

Acknowledging that there is a problem, and ensuring that health inequity is measured – within countries and globally – is a vital platform for action. National governments and international organizations, supported by WHO, should set up national and global health equity surveillance systems for routine monitoring of health inequity and the social

determinants of health and should evaluate the health equity impact of policy and action. Creating the organizational space and capacity to act effectively on health inequity requires investment in training of policy-makers and health practitioners and public understanding of social determinants of health. It also requires a stronger focus on social determinants in public health research.

Annotation: From "Notes from the Chair", Michael Marmot:

Part 1 sets the scene, laying out the rationale for a global movement to advance health equity through action on the social determinants of health. It illustrates the extent of the problem between and within countries, describes what the Commission believes the causes of health inequities are, and points to where solutions may lie.

Part 2 outlines the approach the Commission took to evidence, and to the indispensable value of acknowledging and using the rich diversity of different types of knowledge. It describes the rationale that was applied in selecting social determinants for investigation and suggests, by means of a conceptual framework, how these may interact with one another.

Parts 3, 4, and 5 set out in more detail the Commission's findings and recommendations. The chapters in Part 3 deal with the conditions of daily living – the more easily visible aspects of birth, growth, and education; of living and working; and of using health care. The chapters in Part 4 look at more 'structural' conditions – social and economic policies that shape growing, living, and working; the relative roles of state and market in providing for good and equitable health; and the wide international and global conditions that can help or hinder national and local action for health equity.

Part 5 focuses on the critical importance of data – not simply conventional research, but living evidence of progress or deterioration in the quality of people's lives and health that can only be attained through commitment to and capacity in health equity surveillance and monitoring.

Part 6, finally, reprises the global networks – the regional connections to civil society worldwide, the growing caucus of country partners taking the social determinants of health agenda forward, the vital research agendas, and the opportunities for change at the level of global governance and global institutions – that the Commission has built and on which the future of a global movement for health equity will depend.

27. **Commission to the European Parliament and the Council. (2008). Growing regions, growing europe: Fifth progress report on economic and social cohesion Luxembourg : Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2008.**

Abstract: The first part of this report presents the main conclusions of the public consultation on the future of European cohesion policy launched by the Commission. The second part of the report is dedicated to an analysis of the competitiveness of European regions and the key factors which underpin competitiveness and economic growth at the regional level.

This report presents a summary of the contributions submitted by more than 100 institutional and non-institutional actors to the public consultation on the future of European cohesion policy, launched by the Commission.

Annotation: This progress report includes specific recommendations about how to encourage growth in the EU while reducing regional disparities with policies relating to energy efficiency, social inclusion and poverty reduction. Considerable attention is paid to

governance considerations, with suggestions to increase the role of regional and local authorities in implementing these policies. Also, the regions were examined as to their adherence to cohesion-related policy objectives. Competitiveness in the world economy was said to have improved due to investments in research and development as well as increased specialization in the services sector.

28. **Cooper, C. (2008). Community, conflict and the state: Rethinking notions of 'safety', 'cohesion' and 'wellbeing' Basingstoke [England] ; New York : Palgrave Macmillan, c2008.**

Abstract: Traditional understandings of what constitutes community safety have created a skewed understanding of crime and disorder that ignores the real threats to community cohesion and wellbeing. State-sponsored community safety strategies focus on property crime, street violence, drugs and fear of crime. While these issues should be of concern to policy makers and practitioners, this ground breaking study argues that such policies ignore more serious threats to community safety caused by the activities of the powerful – i.e. social harms caused by pro-market policies, such as the effects of welfare cut-backs on life chances – or by the actions of major corporations – such as environmental pollution. This book redresses a gap in social policy and criminology by offering a different conceptual understanding of community safety, based on a more proportionate understanding of social harms inflicted on communities. Analysing how notions of 'community' and 'conflict' have been used and understood in relation to 'safety', 'cohesion' and 'wellbeing' in British social policy, this study critiques the practical policy-oriented application of these ideas, particularly in relation to 'community wellbeing'. Concluding with radical suggestions for future social policy, the author offers practical proposals for researching and working with communities in empowering ways, which offer greater prospects for enhancing the social wellbeing of the many.

Annotation: This book addresses the fear which seems to be inherent in our fast-paced, competitive society and which can in itself be seen as a force which undermines trust and social cohesion. Cooper's contention is that, throughout UK history, concerns about safety have been fixated on threats to the privileged from the "dangerous others" of the underclass. Social conditions underwent some major structural improvements after the second world war until the mid-1970's when governments once again began favouring economic and individualistic interests. More recently, the New Labour government put forward the idea of "community" as a panacea to concerns about rising racial and other tensions. Cooper raises the question as to whether the threat to community safety is cultural (i.e. are certain deficient people responsible?) or structural (inequality, inequity, lack of basic social supports)? Cooper believes that the real threats are structural, with the marginalized needing self-respect in order to participate fully enough to make structural change possible. Cooper encourages the reader to question the linking of safety concerns to the activities of the relatively powerless. There are possibilities for countering the dominant paradigm, he suggests, and these would begin by scrutinizing the motives and methods of those in power, and working with others to bring about a healthier and more socially cohesive society.

29. **Dharmalingam, A., & Markus, A. (2007). Mapping social cohesion: The 2007 scanlon foundation surveys**

Abstract: (from the Executive Summary): Mapping Social Cohesion is a report on the first round of a major longitudinal survey of social cohesion in Australia, funded by the Scanlon Foundation and directed by Professor Andrew Markus of Monash University. The principal objectives of the project, established by the Scanlon Foundation, were to: 1) establish a benchmark measure of social cohesion in Australia, 2) provide information that will contribute to improving social cohesion in Australia, 3) identify social or cultural barriers to increasing Australia's population through increased immigration.

The broad indicators point to a society that is succeeding in establishing and maintaining a high level of positive outcomes within the domains of belonging, social justice and worth. There are, however, indicators of concern within the domains of participation and acceptance, with a significant level of misunderstanding between birthplace groups and experience of discriminatory and hostile behaviour. The challenge for policy is to foster increased participation in community life within areas of high immigrant concentration and to further understanding of the immigrant experience, of the difficulties of resettlement in unfamiliar environments and alien cultures, of the personal impact of discriminatory acts, and of the contribution that immigrants have made and continue to make to Australian society.

Chapters: Research Objectives - - Methodology, Questionnaire Design & Administration - - The Concept of Social Cohesion - - Immigration & Ethnic Diversity: The Research Context - - 2007 – The National Mood - - Benchmarking the National Mood - - Variability at the National Level - - Birthplace Groups - - Local Surveys - - Conclusion.

30. **Dickes, P., Valentova, M., & Borsenberger, M. Social cohesion: Measurement based on the data from european value study.**

Abstract: The main aim of the present study is to review the latest research conducted on the concept of social cohesion, to link and to upgrade the existing conceptualizations of social cohesion in a systematic manner and to measure social cohesion using the micro data from the 1999 European Values Study. That 1999 study contains a great number of subjective and objective items that measure attitudes toward and behaviour regarding social relations, participation, and trust at many levels of social reality as well as in many spheres/domains of everyday life. This paper builds on the research of Berger-Schmitt (1999), Jenson (1998), Chan et al. (2006) and mainly Bernard (1999). Empirical analyses/construction of social cohesion indicators is realized by employing multidimensional scaling and confirmatory factor analysis.

Annotation: This study by Luxembourg scientists Dickes, Valentova and Borsenberger builds on the work of Bernard and other social scientists who have attempted to define and conceptualize social cohesion. They do this by looking at 18 operational indicators covering almost all of the dimensions relating to social cohesion that Bernard (1999) examined, excluding only the economic sphere due to lack of appropriate items. The authors drew individual-level survey data from the European Values Study from Luxembourg in 1999, despite the fact that social cohesion is normally measured at the macro level. However it is entirely possible that social cohesion is emergent behaviour, socially programmed into individuals. In the case of this study, multidimensional scaling followed by confirmatory factor analysis was used to support Bernard's original conceptualization of social cohesion. The authors leave the reader with the caveat that their measurements should be proven replicable across time and place with the aid of further research.

31. **Duhaime, G., Searles, E., Usher, P. J., Myers, H., & Fréchette, P. (2004). Social Indicators Research, 66(3), 295.**

Abstract: Social cohesion has emerged as a powerful hybrid concept used by academics and policy analysts. Academics use the concept to underline the social and economic failings of modernity, linking it to the decline of communal values and civic participation. Policy analysts use it to highlight the social and economic inequities caused by globalization. The desired effect of using this concept is often to influence governments to implement policies that will enhance social cohesion by reducing social and economic disparities. Despite its widespread use, however, statistical measures of social cohesion tend to overlook local, non-Western strategies of social inclusion as well as the social impact of non-Western economic systems, such as the mixed economy typical of many Aboriginal communities in North America. In this paper, we develop a model of social cohesion that addresses these omissions through the use of social indicators that measure both the behavior and perceptions of Inuit living in the Canadian Arctic with respect to the social, cultural and economic conditions of Arctic communities. We explain how and why measuring social cohesion is optimized by combining both culturally-specific and non-specific social indicators.

Annotation: This study of social cohesion among the Arctic Inuit by Canadian (with the exception of Searles) researchers Duhaime et al. provides a welcome non-white perspective to the topic of social cohesion. Their conceptual model begins with the idea from pre-eminent French sociologist Émile Durkheim that solidarity or social cohesion is composed of a combination of mechanical solidarity (i.e. family and community-based) and organic solidarity (labour-based), and that the two types must be in balance in an individual's or a community's life in order for there to be a healthy amount of social cohesion. The authors argue that the domestic side of social cohesion has been under-represented in research on social cohesion and that in Northern aboriginal communities especially, there is much greater focus on family and community ties than in white western societies, an assertion supported by Walker (2005) in his paper included in this bibliography. The emphasis on measuring social capital as opposed to cohesion, particularly in the US, also supports this contention (that some methods of measuring social cohesion have a Western or capitalistic bias). This model led the researchers to include both objective and subjective criteria of social cohesion in their measurements. Although this research does not go much beyond the formulation of a new model for studying social cohesion, the authors make some excellent points which other researchers would be well-advised to take into account when constructing their own models and studies.

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32. **Egolf, B., Lasker, J., Wolf, S., & Potvin, L. (1992). The roseto effect: A 50-year comparison of mortality rates. American Journal of Public Health, 82(8), 1089.**

Abstract: Objectives. Earlier studies found striking differences in mortality from myocardial infarction between Roseto, a homogeneous Italian-American community in Pennsylvania, and other nearby towns between 1955 and 1965. These differences disappeared as Roseto became more "Americanized" in the 1960s. The present study extended the comparison over a longer period of time to test the hypothesis that the findings from this period were not due to random fluctuations in small communities. Methods. We examined death certificates for Roseto and Bangor from 1935 to 1985. Age-standardized death rates and mortality ratios were computed for each decade. Results. Rosetans had a lower mortality rate from myocardial infarction over the course of the first 30 years, but it rose to the level of Bangor's following a period of erosion of traditionally cohesive family and community relationships. This mortality-rate increase involved mainly younger Rosetan men and elderly women. Conclusions. The data confirmed the existence of consistent mortality differences between Roseto and Bangor during a time when there were many indicators of greater social solidarity and homogeneity in Roseto.

Annotation: Roseto is an Italian-American community in Pennsylvania that has been studied by a number of noteworthy sociologists and authors including John Bruhn (*The Roseto Story: An Anatomy of Health*, 1979), Robert Putnam (*Bowling Alone*, 2000) and Malcolm Gladwell (*Outliers*, 2008). Research surrounding the Roseto phenomenon is of interest due the original residents' low myocardial infarction rates, compared to those living in surrounding communities. Egolf et al. performed a thorough search of all available mortality data 50 years after the initial study, in order to determine if the original hypothesis (that myocardial infarction rates would go up as younger Rosetans became integrated into mainstream American society) was correct. The results confirmed the hypothesis, with a significantly increased number of deaths from heart attacks among younger men and older women. Also of interest is the fact that this increase in myocardial infarction rate (and mortality from other causes as well) corresponded with measurably declining social cohesion and homogeneity. The "Roseto Effect" is particularly relevant as an example of how social cohesion can be the factor which makes the difference to health and overall well-being, even after all other health-related factors have been controlled for.

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33. **Forrest, R., & Kearns, A. (2001). Social cohesion, social capital and the neighbourhood. *Urban Studies* (Routledge), 38(12), 2125-2143.**

Abstract: In current theoretical and policy debates concerning social cohesion, the neighbourhood has re-emerged as an important setting for many of the processes which supposedly shape social identity and life-chances. It is in this context of a renewal of interest in local social relations and particularly the deployment of notions of social capital that this paper offers a critical review of a wide-ranging literature. The paper explores initially and briefly the idea that societies face a new crisis of social cohesion and outlines the key dimensions of societal cohesion. The core of the paper is then devoted to an examination of where the contemporary residential neighbourhood fits into these wider debates, particularly in relation to the interaction between social cohesion and social

capital. In this context, some of the key debates around the concept of social capital are outlined. In moving beyond abstraction, the paper also shows how social capital can be broken down into relevant domains for policy action at the neighbourhood level and how concepts such as social cohesion and social capital can be operationalised for research purposes.

Annotation: In this paper Forrest and Kearns place the concept of neighborhood in the context of past and current research. How is it thought of, especially in relation to the concepts of community cohesion and social capital? In light of concerns about a crisis in social cohesion and growing concentrations of disadvantaged peoples in urban areas, particularly in the UK, is the idea of neighborhood as a fixed geographical place under siege? Neighborhood has long been of major interest to sociologists but interest has been at a new height of late. They discuss neighborhood as the most likely site for what they call "mundane routines" and therefore quite possibly the best level at which to measure social capital and cohesion. This study is frequently cited in the literature, especially Table 1, "The Domains of Social Cohesion". Also community workers and policy makers could find Table 5., "The domains of social capital and appropriate neighborhood policies to support them" useful in deciding whether a particular area of social cohesion should fall under their jurisdiction. This is a substantial and influential paper worth reading for the thorough and disciplined way in which they cover the topics of social cohesion and capital at the neighborhood level. However the authors fail to address why it is that people feel less connected to their neighborhoods even in cases where they continue to interact with people at a similar frequency as in bygone eras.

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This paper was presented in an earlier form at the ESRC Cities programme Neighbourhoods Colloquium held at Liverpool University on 5–6 June 2000.

34. **Fujisawa, Y., Hamano, T., & Takegawa, S. (2009). Social capital and perceived health in Japan: An ecological and multilevel analysis. *Social Science & Medicine*, 69(4), 500-505.**

Abstract: Numerous empirical studies, largely conducted in Western societies, have linked social capital to health outcomes. However, few studies thus far have been conducted in northeastern Asian countries, particularly Japan. Therefore, whether social capital is a determinant of health in Japanese society remains unclear. This study attempted to provide new evidence for the impact of social capital on health in Japan by analyzing original survey data with two different statistical models. In total, 1910 subjects were randomly selected from 210 enumeration districts (EDs) considered in the 2000 population census. In the present study, after excluding missing data on the outcome and predictor variables, we conducted an analysis of 1157 individuals nested within 206 EDs. Ecological and multilevel regression analyses were performed to examine the association between social capital and health, measured by the General Health (GH) perception item (a subcategory of Short Form 36 (SF-36)), and to estimate the impact of aggregated indicators of social capital on health. We developed an original Japanese version of three social capital items (perceived helpfulness, kindness, and greeting) based on previous

studies and expert opinions and prepared a social cohesion index that integrated these three social capital items. The ecological model, after adjusting for sociodemographic factors, revealed that perceived helpfulness and greeting, along with the social cohesion index, were observed to have statistically significant associations with GH. The multilevel model, after adjusting for individual social capital perceptions, indicated that the two aggregated indicators of community social capital (kindness and greeting), along with the social cohesion index, showed a statistically significant association with GH. These results showed the existence of a contextual effect of social capital on health outcomes, although individual differences in social capital perceptions in Japan were considered.

Annotation: In this study Fujisawa et al. look to address a gap in the research on the link between social capital and health outcomes in Asian countries, Japan in this case. Using a good-sized sample of survey data based on questions relating to an Asian version of social cohesion, they performed multilevel analyses and concluded that there is indeed a contextual correlation between certain indicators of social capital (helpfulness, greeting, and a social cohesion index, derived by combining and summing individual-level responses) and GH (good health). Gender, educational attainment, and kindness did not have a measurable impact. One interesting finding of this study is that it demonstrates that the size of the sampling unit may lead to very different outcomes when it comes to the statistical relationship between social capital and health. Studies that examine social capital at the country level may find little correlation, while smaller-scale studies may find considerable correlation. This inconsistency between studies suggests that further research is needed. Another finding in both this study and others done in Western countries is that there is indeed a cognitive or perceptual component to social cohesion and good health. However, countries that have less inequality tend to be less dependent upon this contextual effect. While this study does indeed fill an important gap in the research, it also highlights the need for more research at different spatial levels and in different cultural regions.

35. **Fukuyama, F. (1999). Social capital and civil society. IMF Conference on Second Generation Reforms, Washington, D.C.**

Abstract: Social capital is important to the efficient functioning of modern economies, and is the sine qua non of stable liberal democracy. It constitutes the cultural component of modern societies, which in other respects have been organized since the Enlightenment on the basis of formal institutions, the rule of law, and rationality. Building social capital has typically been seen as a task for "second generation" economic reform; but unlike economic policies or even economic institutions, social capital cannot be so easily created or shaped by public policy. This paper will define social capital, explore its economic and political functions, as well as its origins, and make some suggestions for how it can be cultivated.

Annotation: Along with John G. Bruhn and Robert Putnam, Francis Fukayama is one of the most influential academics writing in the areas of social capital. This paper is unique in the way in which it combines scientific rigor in the defining and measurement of social capital, with accessible language which facilitates a clear understanding of these topics, even delving into the history of how human societies have organized themselves. Topics covered include the definition of social capital, its relationship to trust, the functions of social capital in a free-market liberal democracy, and the measurement of social capital.

This last part in particular builds upon Putnam's findings (2000). Fukuyama goes on to discuss the important topics of where social capital comes from and how it can be increased. He raises such questions as, if globalization has indeed proven to be a force against social cohesion, then has it been worth it? Has it led to the breakdown of more dysfunctional old paradigms, or more traditional functional ones? This paper is an excellent primer to some of the history and ideas which are influencing thinking about social capital around the world today.

About the Author(s): Professor of International Political Economy at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins University, Fukuyama has written a number of influential works relating to social cohesion, including *Trust: The Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity* (1995), and *The Great Disruption: Human Nature and the Reconstitution of Social Order* (1999).

36. **Green, A., Preston, J., & Janmaat, J. G. (2006). Education, equality and social cohesion: A comparative analysis Basingstoke [England] ; New York : Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.**

Abstract: (From the back cover)

The first fully comparative empirical analysis of the relationship between education and social cohesion, this book develops a new "distributional theory" of the effects of educational inequality on social solidarity. Based on a wide-ranging theoretical critique, and extensive analysis of data on inequality and social attitudes for over 25 developed countries, the study shows how educational inequality undermines social trust, civic co-operation and the rule of law. It is not how much education a country has that matters for social cohesion but how it is distributed and the co-operative values that people learn.

Annotation: The authors examine the connections between social cohesion and education in various parts of the world, especially the OECD and EU nations where large amounts of data have been connected in recent years. Concerns about social cohesion have led to emphasis on inclusion through education and training, particularly in the US and UK where social capital is a popular concept. The authors use their distributional model in two different ways to identify how education affects social cohesion. Does education make a difference because of the skills and knowledge it inculcates in students, or by socializing them in ways that make them better adapted? They found a strong correlation between education and income equality, and a range of social cohesion indicators including trust, crime, and political participation. The authors conclude by encouraging more study of this connection in different cultural contexts and using time-series analysis methods, in order to better understand the mechanisms and processes at work behind education and social cohesion. However this book already contains much that could be of use to policy-makers and educators, when there are pressing decisions to be made about achievement versus equality in education. The focus on achievement geared towards increasingly economic competitiveness over the past quarter century has resulted in an educational "arms race" that can only lead to inequality problems which will in the end could harm the very social cohesion which provides the foundation for economic security. This book could be what's needed to show that achievement and equality need not be incompatible goals.

About the Author(s): Andy Green is a Professor of Comparative Education at the Institute of Education, University of London, UK, who has published on a range of education issues including globalization, competitiveness, comparisons of European education systems.

John Preston has written widely on exclusion, adult education, social capital and social cohesion, as well as having consulted for UNESCO and the European Commission.

37. **Green, J. (2006). From stonechild to social cohesion: Anti-racist challenges for saskatchewan. Canadian Journal of Political Science, 39(3), 507.**

Abstract: In this article, I study the conclusions of Mr. Justice David Wright's report on the inquiry into the death of Neil Stonechild, and discuss the incident in the context of Aboriginal-settler relations in Saskatchewan. I view these exemplars of the racism in Saskatchewan's, and Canada's, political culture. I argue that the processes of colonialism are the impulse for the racist ideology that is now encoded in social, political, economic, academic and cultural institutions and practices, and which functions to maintain the status quo of white dominance. Confronting systemic and institutional racism, and de- and re-constructing political culture, are essential for social health and for the possibility of a post-colonial future. Given Saskatchewan's demographic trajectory, which indicates a majority Aboriginal population in the near future, failure to deal with white racism will guarantee social stresses between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations, damaging the province's economic and social viability into the future. Therefore, a proactive, self-reflective, anti-racist policy and a strategy for building public support should be a priority for any Saskatchewan government. Social cohesion, a necessary condition for a healthy citizenship regime and a notion of considerable interest to provincial and federal politicians and to academics, cannot be constructed without tackling racism. I conclude by suggesting that decolonization is the necessary political project to eradicate the kinds of systemic practices that arguably killed Nell Stonechild and others.

Annotation: Green builds a case of embedded anti-aboriginal racism in Saskatchewan around the example of Neil Stonechild's death. Police investigators later found that the case had been inadequately and superficially dealt with, and to Green this is indicative of systemic apathy and indifference towards aboriginal people. Green argues that race constructs some as subordinate, leading to anger and tension, the cause of which is denied by the dominant class. And racism in Canada, according to Razack (p. 9) has a "spatialized component" as well, in that whites are permitted anywhere, but "dangerous" Aboriginals are in effect colonized into their own poorer-quality neighborhoods and built environments. The media then exacerbates this problem by treating Aboriginal stories and cases as being of less interest or importance than similar stories about whites. Mr. Justice David Wright, who presided over the Stonechild case, correctly, in Green's eyes, identified the "toxic gulf" (p. 15) between Aboriginal and white communities, but failed to identify colonialism as being the underlying cause of this gulf. Green claims that until dominant populations deal with systemic inequalities, a truly cohesive and inclusive society will not be possible. This and other similar cases should be of particular concern in Saskatchewan, where there is a large and rapidly growing aboriginal population. This paper should be of interest to those who work with or formulate policies for aboriginal or multi-ethnic communities, especially ones where there is an enclave effect, cohesion issues, or tensions between the races.

About the author(s): Joyce Green is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Regina. She can be contacted at joyce.green@uregina.ca or (306) 585-4444. Her current research interests include Aboriginal-settler relations and the possibility of decolonization

in Canada; and a transformative ecology of relationship with place, epitomized by many traditional Aboriginal conceptions of land and place.

38. **Hertzman, C., Siddiqi, A., Hertzman, E., Irwin, L. G., Vaghri, Z., Houweling, T. A., Bell, R., Tinajero, A., & Marmot, M. (2010). Bucking the inequality gradient through early child development. *BMJ (Clinical Research Ed.)*, 340, c468.**

Abstract: What happens to children in their early years is critical for their development throughout life. Healthy early childhood development, including the physical, social-emotional, and language-cognitive domains, influences obesity and stunting, mental health, heart disease, competence in literacy and numeracy, criminality, and economic participation. Investment in early childhood is thus a powerful strategy for social development in both rich and poor countries. The economic returns to a society over the life course are likely to more than repay the original investment, especially if they are reinforced in later childhood. We examine the challenges for resource rich and poor countries.

Annotation: In this analysis, Clyde Hertzman, Director of the Human Early Learning Partnership at the University of British Columbia, and his colleagues examine the effects of inequality and the benefits of quality programs for young children. Their research, based on a comprehensive study of early child development in British Columbia, found that a high proportion of variance in indicators of child welfare were attributable to neighborhood socioeconomic characteristics. A comparison with other studies done internationally and of other socioeconomic gradients likewise show that societies with less social inequality have better outcomes for children. Based on their research, the authors argue that countries such as Sweden and Cuba with universal models of early child care, education and health, tend to have outcomes that are much better than could otherwise have been predicted from their overall wealth or socioeconomic status. Therefore, children of lower socioeconomic status stand to benefit greatly from early investment in health, education and welfare, for a relatively low incremental cost.

About the author(s): Dr. Hertzman is Director of the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), College for Interdisciplinary Studies at UBC; Canada Research Chair in Population Health and Human Development; and Professor in the School of Population and Public Health at UBC. He can be reached at clyde.hertzman@ubc.ca.

39. **Hetherington, M., Benefield, P., Lines, A., Paterson, C., Ries, J., & Shuayb, M. (2007). Community cohesion for children, young people and their families: A rapid review of policy, practice and research in local authorities. UK: NFER (National Foundation for Educational Research). Retrieved from <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/publications/LCO01/>**

Abstract: This review provides a snapshot of guidance, policy and practice as at November 2006. Highlighting research, best practice and current initiatives in community cohesion, and identifying gaps in knowledge, it is essential reading for all local authority staff involved in the work towards community cohesion. Key findings: There is a wealth of policy, guidance and information about community cohesion from central government and other organisations. To date, there appears to be a paucity of research on community cohesion. For this reason, it is not possible to identify definitive evidence of good practice in community cohesion in the research reports found for this review. The majority of

research studies on community cohesion are concerned with adults. There is a limited research focus on the role of children and young people in community cohesion outside of school. Little research was found on the relationship between community cohesion and faith communities or refugees and asylum seekers. Some local authorities have gained Beacon status or won other awards for their practice in promoting community cohesion, particularly in relation to different cultural and faith communities. Examples of local authority community cohesion strategies that it has been possible to identify for this review are: Barking & Dagenham; Bristol; Calderdale; Coventry; Luton and Northamptonshire. Racism may be an issue in rural areas. Local authority policy documents such as social inclusion, anti-bullying and local preventative strategies for children at risk from social exclusion address strands of community cohesion, but these are not necessarily identified as such. From the studies surveyed, there was little recent evidence of research focusing on community cohesion in relation to sexual orientation or political extremism in young people.

Annotation: This rapid review of resources and policy initiatives for families and children in the UK is worthwhile both for the community-building ideas it contains, and as a comparison with what's being done by similar agencies and institutions in Canada. Especially see Figure 3.1 "Community Cohesion – an overview map" which shows examples of contributions from education and children's services. Note also the policy shift from attempting to deal with social inclusion problems directly, to a more community-building approach which encourages rather than dictates interaction between people of different ethnic groups. Other interesting sections include 5.1, "Best Practices", which outlines some beacon programs including the Home Office funded "pathfinders", which are community cohesion programmes launched in 2003 under the previous government. Also included are appendices listing major organizations and individuals involved in community cohesion, as well as search terms, methods and sources. And as this review specifically focuses on cohesion resources for those who work with children in the UK, it should be of particular interest to their counterparts in other places. However, it may be of limited use to researchers more interested in a specific theoretical or conceptual aspects of social cohesion or not interested in community initiatives directed at children.

40. **Hipp, J. R., & Perrin, A. (2006). Nested loyalties: Local networks' effects on neighbourhood and community cohesion. *Urban Studies*, 43(13), 2503-2523.**

Abstract: Recent scholarship has suggested that cohesion at the neighbourhood level may not translate into greater cohesion for the broader community and may even have detrimental effects. Employing a sample from a recently developed 'new urbanist' community within a southern US city, the paper simultaneously explores the determinants of perceived cohesion with the local neighbourhood and with the broader community. It is found that there is indeed a positive relationship between the two in this sample. However, the determinants of the two differ: while both strong and weak informal ties in the neighbourhood increase perceived neighbourhood cohesion, only weak ties foster perceived cohesion with the broader community. No effect is found of residents' structural positions within local networks on perceived cohesion beyond the effect of strong and weak ties. The paper ends with a discussion of the implications of the findings for the broader literature viewing the effects of bridging and bonding social capital.

Annotation: This study examined whether there is a relationship between internal and external cohesion. That is, if cohesion is high within a local neighborhood, then do the residents of that neighborhood tend to feel stronger or weaker ties with the broader community, i.e. the city in which the neighborhood is located? The researchers tested nine hypotheses regarding bonds between individuals and groups, the qualities of these bonds such as their relative strength, and how these different types of bonds affect each other. Data was used from about 150 housing units in a relatively new neighborhood. Both formal and informal ties were measured, drawing upon many of Putnam's cohesion yardsticks. While the number of neighborhood ties was found to be relatively low, residents still felt more connected to their immediate communities than to the greater area. Also there was something of an inverse correlation between strong community ties and perception of cohesion to the larger group. As with other studies, it was determined that feelings of belonging do not necessarily correlate with feelings of morale. This too has implications for policy-makers who should be reminded that there are types of cohesion that benefit the greater community, and other types which may not, particularly in cases where a neighborhood suffers from deprivation leading to a ghetto effect. It was suggested that future researchers adopt an ethnographic approach when measuring cohesion within and around specific communities.

41. **Jenson, J. (1998). Mapping social cohesion: The state of canadian research [Ottawa] : CPRN, c1998.**

Abstract: (From CPRN, Canadian Policy Research Networks)

Much clarification is needed before drawing any conclusions about the meaning of social cohesion and its contribution to collective well-being. The first part of this study argues that concerns about social cohesion are a product of our times. It then goes on to map social cohesion by breaking the concept into its constituent dimensions and by mapping the Canadian literature that addresses at least one of these dimensions. Gaps and spaces for a research agenda are identified, and the paper ends by stressing that social cohesion has always been and remains a contested concept.

Annotation: This paper by Canadian political science professor and policy analyst Jane Jenson is one of the first which clearly and authoritatively attempted to define social cohesion, breaking it down into five pairs of components (which are different from those used by Kearns and Forrest (2001)): belonging / isolation, inclusion / exclusion, participation / non-involvement, recognition / rejection and legitimacy / illegitimacy. Jenson wrote the paper because, at the time, there was much discussion but little consensus on what social cohesion was or what the policy implications were, so the paper was much cited in the explosion of research interest which followed. After a preliminary definition, Jenson places concerns about social cohesion in the context of "a paradigm shift in social and economic policy towards neo-liberalism" (p. 5) and rising social tensions and inequality in Canada. Next she provides historical and contextual perspective by mapping the concept and disaggregating it into the above-noted five dimensions, followed by a survey of the literature which examines these dimensions. Part III of the paper outlines areas where more research needs to be done, asking questions about how social cohesion and capital may be accumulated and who would benefit. This paper is best read before Beauvais' and Jenson's followup paper four years later, *Social Cohesion: Updating the State of the Research* (2002).

About the Author(s): Jane Jenson is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Montreal, where she holds the Canada Research Chair in Citizenship and Governance. She earned her B.A. Honours from McGill and her Ph.D. from the University of Rochester, and then taught at Carleton University from 1971 to 1993. She has been a Visiting Professor at a number of European universities, including the Universität Augsburg, Freie Universität Berlin, and the European University Institute in Florence. Dr. Jenson held the William Lyon Mackenzie King Chair in Canadian Studies at Harvard University in 1988-89 and in spring 2005 the Chaire Bernheim d'études sur la Paix et la citoyenneté at the Université libre de Bruxelles. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1989 and named a Fellow of the Trudeau Foundation (2005-08). Dr. Jenson is Editor of *Lien social et Politiques*, a social policy journal. Between 1999 and 2004, she was the Director of the Family Network of Canadian Policy Research Networks, Inc., a policy think tank located in Ottawa. Her current research interests and publications cover a wide spectrum of topics, including: citizenship and especially social citizenship, social policy, social movements, diversity, and gender studies. She is particularly active in the analysis of changes to social policy paradigms in the direction of the social investment perspective in Canada and the European Union. She is frequently consulted on these matters by governments, NGOs and research groups in Quebec, Canada and the European Union. She publishes frequently in scholarly journals in English and French in Canada and abroad and has written numerous policy research reports. Many of the latter can be consulted on www.cprn.org while the former are available at www.cccg.umontreal.ca.

42. **Kearns, A., & Forrest, R. (2000). Social cohesion and multilevel urban governance. *Urban Studies* (Routledge), 37(5), 995-1017.**

Abstract: Explores in detail where urban dynamics and urban governance fit in the debates about social cohesion. Dimensions of social cohesion; Social cohesion at different spatial scales; Focus of urban regeneration policy in Great Britain.

Annotation: In this paper Kearns and Forrest address the new pressures put on neighborhoods and cities by the information age, globalization and competitive economic policies, and discuss reactions to these changes by some of the pre-eminent thinkers in the field including Fukuyama, Putnam and Coleman. The next section of the paper covers the dimensions of social cohesion, a definition which has been used and elaborated upon by other social researchers ever since. Those five dimensions are: 1) common values and a civic culture 2) social order and social control 3) social solidarity and reduction in wealth disparities 4) social cohesion as social networks and social capital 5) social cohesion as place attachment and identity. The links and interrelationships between these domains are also discussed, along with the policy implications at the various spatial scales (i.e. neighborhood, city, inter-city, regional, and inter-regional). The authors argue that the complex relationships within and between these aggregations of people give rise to the need for a multilevel perspective on social cohesion, especially in this age of globalization and multiculturalism. Upon careful reading this paper reveals a depth of insight and knowledge of a number of areas (social cohesion, multilevel governance, urban policy, planning and development), which makes it one of the very most important pieces in the literature of social cohesion.

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43. **Khan, H., & Muir, R. (2006). Sticking together: Social capital and local government: The results and implications of the camden social capital surveys 2002 and 2005. London Borough of Camden: Institute for Public Policy Research.**

Abstract: (From the introduction by Ben Rogers and Philip Colligan)

These days, politicians and commentators from both left and right agree on the importance of promoting 'social capital', by which we mean the social networks, shared norms and co-operative relationships that help us get along together as a society. This emphasis on social capital is not without good reason. There is now an impressive body of research that testifies to the importance of active communities and a strong civil society for individual and communal well-being. In particular, it seems clear that social capital has an important contribution to make towards tackling poverty and disadvantage. Communities with strong networks, high levels of trust and well-established habits of co-operation and association are generally much better off than those without these things. In 2002 and 2005, Camden commissioned two surveys aimed at measuring social capital, as it is broadly understood, in the borough (Office for Public Management 2002 and 2005). This publication is intended to help Camden explore the significance of the survey findings and develop policies in response to them. But we also hope it will help others in local government think about why social capital matters to them and what they can do to promote it.

Annotation: Once a fairly traditional industrial community, Camden in the UK suffered a marked decline in cohesion indicators in recent years. This led to a joint project by ippr (Institute for Public Policy Research) and the Camden Council to perform broad-based surveys in 2002 and again in 2005, with questions based on Onyx and Bullen's (Onyx and Bullen 2000) four components of participation, reciprocity, trust and sociability, as well national surveys including the Health Survey for England and the Home Office Citizenship Survey. As this study is the first of its kind in scale and comprehensiveness, researchers should find it useful in designing cohesion-measuring studies and surveys of their own. Also, this report is clearly written by some of the most respected people in the field of social cohesion, including Ted Cattle. A significant improvement in perception of health and public service availability and equality between 2002 and 2005 suggests that the initiatives taken by the local council in the intervening years were effective, although lack of civic engagement is still an issue. Suggestions are given for future research and community-levels projects.

44. **Lin, N. (2001). Social capital : A theory of social structure and action [electronic resource] / nan lin Cambridge ; New York : Cambridge University Press, c2001.**

Abstract: Social Capital explains the importance of using social connections and social relations in achieving goals. Social capital, or resources accessed through such connections and relations, is critical (along with human capital, or what a person or organization actually possesses) in achieving goals for individuals, social groups, organizations, and communities. The book introduces a theory that forcefully argues and shows why "it is who you know," as well as "what you know" that makes a difference in life and society.

Annotation: In this monograph Lin presents his theory that people are motivated to act in ways that will enable them to engage others for the purpose of accessing their resources and gaining their support. The outcomes of these actions depend not only on structural elements (e.g. in the person's environment) but also upon the choices that actors make in trying to achieve their goals. Lin begins by stating that for him sociology is the study of choices made and acted upon (or not) in the context of structural opportunities. In Part I he examines theories of capital including social capital, delving into structural and relational dynamics. A description of how resources are embedded in networks, is followed by a chapter on the part which motivation plays in action. The next three chapters systematically unpack Lin's theory and its operation in research. The remaining chapters in the first part explore the links between social capital status attainment, and inequality. In the second part Lin looks at choice in the context of micro and meso dynamics, followed by explorations into the possibilities of choice actions giving rise to social structures and exchange networks. In the final chapter Lin argues against Putnam's (2000) supposition that electronic media does little to replace traditional social networks, and instead highlights their possibilities in our new global age. In short, this is a book which integrates decades worth of empirical evidence and Lin's knowledge about social capital into a readable whole.

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I did my undergraduate work at Tunghai University, Taiwan, received my M.A. from Syracuse University, and finished my Ph.D. at Michigan State University in 1966. I taught at Johns Hopkins University and the State University of New York at Albany, before joining the Duke faculty in 1990. My main research interests are social networks and social capital, the life stress process (especially social support as resources), social stratification and mobility, and Chinese societies. I teach Cybernetworks (Soc. 114), Methods of Social Research (SOC 132), Social Capital (Soc. 228), and Stress and Coping (Soc. 227) and others. (Source: Nan Lin's webpage at <http://fds.duke.edu/db/Provost/international/faculty/nanlin>)

45. **Nieminen, T., Martelin, T., Koskinen, S., Simpura, J., Alanen, E., Härkänen, T., & Aromaa, A. (2008). Measurement and socio-demographic variation of social capital in a large population-based survey. *Social Indicators Research*, 85(3), 405-423.**

Abstract: Objectives The main objective of this study was to describe the variation of individual social capital according to socio-demographic factors, and to develop a suitable way to measure social capital for this purpose. The similarity of socio-demographic variation between the genders was also assessed. Data and methods The study applied cross-sectional data from the national Finnish Health 2000 survey (n = 8,028) which represents the adult population, aged 30 years and over. Several variables indicating social capital were condensed to dimensions on the basis of factor analysis. Participants were categorized into tertiles in each dimension of social capital by means of factor scores. The multinomial logistic regression model was used to produce the adjusted prevalences for the dimensions of social capital according to socio-demographic categories (age, gender, education, living arrangements, income, and type of region). Results Three dimensions of social capital were distinguished: social support, social participation and networks, and trust and reciprocity. Age had an inverse association with social support as well as participation and networks, and a curvilinear association between age and trust and

reciprocity, the oldest age groups showing the highest level of trust. Married persons and those in the highest educational and income groups tended to have more social capital than other persons. Residents of urban and rural regions did not systematically differ from each other in their level of social capital although residents of urban regions participated less and showed less trust than people living in semi-urban or rural regions. Social support varied significantly with gender. The decline of social support by age was steeper in women than in men. Social participation and networks increased with education, the gradient appearing steeper among men. The difference between married and cohabiting men was substantial compared to women when it came to trust. Conclusions People who are young, married, educated, and well-off have plenty of social capital. This information might help various services to concentrate the actions on the people in danger of social exclusion. Our results also form a basis for the future by allowing the changes in social capital to be examined over time and over different studies.

Annotation: Three dimensions of social capital were identified and delineated in this study, based on cross-sectional data drawn from the Finnish Health 2000 survey which looked at 8,028 adults. Those 3 dimensions were 1) social support, 2) social participation and networks, and 3) trust and reciprocity, which corresponded well with dimensions used by other researchers (see Forrest, Kearns, Jenson in this bibliography) in their measurements and definitions of social capital including. The results of this study indicate that individuals with more economic capital, education, and youth tend to have more social capital, though older people tended to be somewhat better on the third dimension. So in general, people with more social capital were better off in almost every respect, whereas those with less social capital were in greater danger of social exclusion and disadvantage of various other kinds as well. This led the researchers to conclude that those with less social capital should be helped to avoid the preconditions for exclusion. It was further suggested that more research be done on the ways in which social capital distribution changes over time.

46. **Onyx, J., & Bullen, P. (2000). Measuring social capital in five communities. *The Journal of Applied Behavioral Science*, 36(1), 23.**

Abstract: An empirically grounded definition of social capital is developed. Drawing on the work of Coleman and Putnam and others, social capital in terms of participation in networks, reciprocity, trust, social norms, the commons, and social agency, is discussed. A questionnaire containing 68 potential items was administered to approximately 1,200 adults in 5 Australian communities: 2 rural communities, 2 outer metropolitan areas, and one inner-city area of Sydney. The responses identified a single general underlying factor and 8 orthogonal specific factors, accounting for 49% of the variance. Three of the specific factors identified were community participation, agency, and trust.

Annotation: This study by Onyx and Bullen measured social capital in five communities of different types in Australia. The paper includes a literature review which concludes with the idea that social capital refers to "interlocking networks of relationships between individuals and groups" (p. 24). Also highlighted are the roles of reciprocity, defined as a "combination of short-term altruism and long-term self-interest" (p. 24) and trust. The study itself represented an empirical exploration of the various dimensions of social capital. Multiple methods of data analysis were used, including hierarchical factor analysis. As there were no outliers and minimal missing data, the results of this study should have a

high level of reliability. Questions relating to government, specific reciprocity, and individuals in isolation were eliminated as being insufficiently relevant in determining social capital. Onyx and Bullen found that for the most part demographic variables such as age, gender, income, and even education were only mildly correlated with social capital. This is in contrast to other studies (Pickett, 2007, 2009, Nieminen, 2008) which show strong correlations between social capital and many of the above factors. However this study is interesting in that it provides some evidence for social capital as a form of "people power" irrespective of income. Another finding was that rural people generally have more of the bonding type of social capital, while urban people have more of the bridging type. Onyx and Bullen found that their empirical analysis strongly supported their conceptual analysis: participation in networks, trust, and willingness to socialize were all important determinants of social capital.

47. **Pickett, K. E., & Wilkinson, R. G. (2007). Child wellbeing and income inequality in rich societies: Ecological cross sectional study. *BMJ: British Medical Journal*, 335(7629), 1080-1085.**

Abstract: Objectives: To examine associations between child wellbeing and material living standards (average income), the scale of differentiation in social status (income inequality), and social exclusion (children in relative poverty) in rich developed societies. Setting: Cross national comparisons of 23 rich countries; cross state comparisons within the United States. Population: Children and young people. Main outcome measures: The Unicef index of child wellbeing and its components for rich countries; eight comparable measures for the US states and District of Columbia (teenage births, juvenile homicides, infant mortality, low birth weight, educational performance, dropping out of high school, overweight, mental health problems). Results: The overall index of child wellbeing was negatively correlated with income inequality ($r=-0.64$, $P=0.001$) and the percentage of children in relative poverty ($r=-0.67$, $P=0.001$) but not with average income ($r=0.15$, $P=0.50$). Many more indicators of child wellbeing were associated with income inequality or children in relative poverty, or both, than with average incomes. Among the US states and District of Columbia all indicators were significantly worse in more unequal states. Only teenage birth rates and the proportion of children dropping out of high school were lower in richer states. Conclusions: Improvements in child wellbeing in rich societies may depend more on reductions in inequality than on further economic growth.

Annotation: This study covered many of the same bases as *The Spirit Level*, the multi-award-winning book also by Pickett and Wilkinson, but with a focus on the wellbeing of children in the wealthier OECD countries. The authors don't use the terms "social capital" or "community cohesion" much, but their measurements use many of the same indicators, drawn from the Unicef index of child wellbeing in rich countries. Indicators were grouped into six dimensions: Material wellbeing, health and safety, educational wellbeing, peer and family relationships, behaviours and risk, and subjective wellbeing. They found that health and social problems associated with lower SES were more common in societies with greater overall inequality, irrespective of that country's overall wealth. They suggest that it is differences in social status which somehow translate into these worse health outcomes. The researchers then went on to test whether these differences in child wellbeing related to average income, income inequality, and social exclusion as measured by relative poverty. They then extended their analysis to all 50 of the US states in an attempt to confirm their findings elsewhere. They found that the overall index of child

wellbeing was indeed strongly correlated with income inequality in particular. Health, safety and educational wellbeing were all especially adversely affected by inequality, relative poverty and lower average family incomes. They found similar results when looking at the US, though higher average incomes did translate into fewer teen pregnancies and high school dropouts. However, the very low scores on child wellbeing and high scores on Income Inequality in the US and UK (see table on p. 5) should be of particular concern to those who work with children, with Canada scoring only somewhat better near the middle of the pack. The evidence appears to support the idea that children are as sensitive to inequality as their parents are, even in situations where their basic material needs are being met. The authors make a persuasive case for the importance of not only economic but social equality as well.

About the author(s): Kate Pickett's interests include social determinants of health. She has been shortlisted with her co-author, Richard Wilkinson, for "Research Project of the Year" in the Times Higher Education Awards 2009 for her research and publication: *The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better*. She can be reached at 01904 32(1377) or kate.pickett@york.ac.uk.

Richard G. Wilkinson is a British researcher in social inequalities in health and the social determinants of health. He is Professor Emeritus of social epidemiology at the University of Nottingham, having retired in 2008. He is also Honorary Professor at University College London. (Source: Wikipedia).

48. **Pronyk, P. M., Harpham, T., Busza, J., Phetla, G., Morison, L. A., Hargreaves, J. R., Kim, J. C., Watts, C. H., & Porter, J. D. (2008). Can social capital be intentionally generated? A randomized trial from rural south africa. *Social Science & Medicine* (1982), 67(10), 1559-1570.**

Abstract: While much descriptive research has documented positive associations between social capital and a range of economic, social and health outcomes, there have been few intervention studies to assess whether social capital can be intentionally generated. We conducted an intervention in rural South Africa that combined group-based microfinance with participatory gender and HIV training in an attempt to catalyze changes in solidarity, reciprocity and social group membership as a means to reduce women's vulnerability to intimate partner violence and HIV. A cluster randomized trial was used to assess intervention effects among eight study villages. In this paper, we examined effects on structural and cognitive social capital among 845 participants and age and wealth matched women from households in comparison villages. This was supported by a diverse portfolio of qualitative research. After two years, adjusted effect estimates indicated higher levels of structural and cognitive social capital in the intervention group than the comparison group, although confidence intervals were wide. Qualitative research illustrated the ways in which economic and social gains enhanced participation in social groups, and the positive and negative dynamics that emerged within the program. There were numerous instances where individuals and village loan centres worked to address community concerns, both working through existing social networks, and through the establishment of new partnerships with local leadership structures, police, the health sector and NGOs. This is among the first experimental trials suggesting that social capital can be exogenously strengthened. The implications for community interventions in public health are further explored.

Annotation: In this paper Pronyk et al. describe their intervention in rural south Africa where they worked with 845 participants to strengthen both the health outcomes and social capital of impoverished women in a number of rural areas. Under the auspices of this study, the Intervention with Micro-finance for AIDS & Gender Equity (IMAGE), participants were provided with micro-capital loans to set up small businesses, but there were also training and group support components to the program. The researchers performed both qualitative and quantitative tests on the participants and a well-matched control group. Over a two-year period, physical and sexual abuse by partners was reduced by approximately 50%, and there were reductions in HIV risk behaviour among younger participants. Additional benefits were observed among not only group members but their wider social networks as well, as participants felt empowered to work together to solve other problems in their communities. The researchers note that this is one of the few studies to demonstrate that, contrary to Putnam's assertions, significant social capital can be generated over quite short periods of time. There appeared to be a positive feedback effect, where the existence of a cohesive organization that was able to provide both social and financial support led to additional support from multiple levels in the community. This study's careful design and highly positive results make it a potential model for other researchers to draw upon when designing their own studies on intentionally generated social capital and cohesion.

49. **Putnam, R. D. (1995). Bowling alone: America's declining social capital. *Journal of Democracy*, 6(1), 65-78.**

Abstract: The US once had an enviable society, but over the last two or three decades this civic society has shrunk, and more people are watching TV. Possible explanations for this trend include more women in the workplace, increased mobility of families and changing demographics.

Annotation: This is a seminal work on social cohesion that has informed much of the debate since its publication in 1995.

50. **Putnam, R. D. (2000). Bowling alone: The collapse and revival of american community (1st ed.). New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.**

Abstract: (From amazon.com)

Few people outside certain scholarly circles had heard the name Robert D. Putnam before 1995. But then this self-described "obscure academic" hit a nerve with a journal article called "Bowling Alone." Suddenly he found himself invited to Camp David, his picture in *People* magazine, and his thesis at the center of a raging debate. In a nutshell, he argued that civil society was breaking down as Americans became more disconnected from their families, neighbors, communities, and the republic itself. The organizations that gave life to democracy were fraying. Bowling became his driving metaphor. Years ago, he wrote, thousands of people belonged to bowling leagues. Today, however, they're more likely to bowl alone: Television, two-career families, suburban sprawl, generational changes in values--these and other changes in American society have meant that fewer and fewer of us find that the League of Women Voters, or the United Way, or the Shriners, or the monthly bridge club, or even a Sunday picnic with friends fits the way we have come to live. Our growing social-capital deficit threatens educational performance, safe neighborhoods, equitable tax collection, democratic responsiveness, everyday honesty,

and even our health and happiness. The conclusions reached in the book *Bowling Alone* rest on a mountain of data gathered by Putnam and a team of researchers since his original essay appeared. Its breadth of information is astounding--yes, he really has statistics showing people are less likely to take Sunday picnics nowadays. Dozens of charts and graphs track everything from trends in PTA participation to the number of times Americans say they give "the finger" to other drivers each year. If nothing else, *Bowling Alone* is a fascinating collection of factoids. Yet it does seem to provide an explanation for why "we tell pollsters that we wish we lived in a more civil, more trustworthy, more collectively caring community." What's more, writes Putnam, "Americans are right that the bonds of our communities have withered, and we are right to fear that this transformation has very real costs." Putnam takes a stab at suggesting how things might change, but the book's real strength is in its diagnosis rather than its proposed solutions. *Bowling Alone* won't make Putnam any less controversial, but it may come to be known as a path-breaking work of scholarship, one whose influence has a long reach into the 21st century. --John J. Miller

Annotation: *Bowling Alone* by Robert D. Putnam may be the single most influential work on the topic of social cohesion yet written, an accomplishment made the more impressive by the fact that this book is ostensibly about social capital, not social cohesion. However, the fact that this work is referred to by the academic authors of the majority of studies on social cohesion, should give the reader some indication of its importance. Although some have criticized Putnam for his methods (e.g. using mostly data about membership in traditional community organizations as opposed to genuine participation in a range of formal and informal groups), *Bowling Alone* is considered groundbreaking because with it Putnam was able to capture the American zeitgeist leading up to the turn of the millenium: growing anxiety and concern over a sense of community that slowly seemed to be slipping away. Putnam goes chapter by chapter and, backed up by dozens of charts, graphs, and years of research in democratic participation, demonstrates that civic engagement and social cohesion have been declining steadily in America since the 1960's. He chooses to focus on the types of organizations and activities where social capital traditionally flourished: in political and religious organizations, volunteerism, service organizations, sports leagues and so on. Another section discusses the possible reasons for this decline. Although Putnam does not provide clear proof of a cause-and-effect relationship between any single factor and the slackening of social cohesion, time and money pressures and the ever-increasing amounts of time spent with electronic media, especially by children, are among the primary culprits in Putnam's long list of suspects. Also noteworthy is Putnam's use of the terms "bonding" and "bridging" which he uses to describe links within and between groups. He explores the dark side of social capital that can occurs when members of "in" groups or individuals use their social power to exclude or outright harm those outside their social network. Although Putnam has been criticized for under-estimating the levels of informal and nontraditional engagement in social capital-building activities, this book is definitely worth reading, even in an age when the greatest poverty suffered by many of us in the wealthier world, is the lack of time itself.

51. **Putnam, R. D., Feldstein, L. M., & Cohen, D. (2004). *Better together : Restoring the american community* / robert D.putnam and lewis M. feldstein ; with don cohen New York : Simon & Schuster Paperbacks, 2004; 1st Simon & Shuster pbk. ed.**

Abstract: (From Publishers Weekly)

Putnam's much praised *Bowling Alone* put the concept of social capital (social networking) into broad currency by remarking on its growing absence. Now the Harvard prof and fellow public policy expert Feldstein approach the issue from the opposite direction: without suggesting communitarianism is sweeping the nation, they offer a dozen case studies of what groups of varying size have accomplished by cultivating networks of mutual assistance. Examples range from a neighborhood subdivision in Boston to an entire Mississippi county as well as the "virtual community" of Craigslist, an online bulletin board that has become the prime "go-to" source for job and apartment listings in San Francisco and elsewhere. The authors stress the importance of participatory involvement, championing networks that create opportunities for people to find their own public voice rather than relying on organizers to speak for them. Thus, one chapter recounts a New Hampshire public arts project in which townspeople's stories created the structure of an interpretive dance about a local shipyard's history; another chapter has schoolchildren in Wisconsin writing to local and state leaders to propose public improvements. Though each group is, as one person puts it, "recreating our neighborhood into the kind of village we want it to be," the book emphasizes no particular approach, juxtaposing the work of local governments with neighborhood associations and churchgoers with union organizers. The overarching argument, supported anecdotally rather than statistically, is tentative-something's going on but it's too early to tell how big it might become-but Putnam's reputation will guarantee the book a hearing.

Annotation: *Better Together* follows up on Putnam's highly influential book about the decline of social capital in America, *Bowling Alone*. After extensive research, Putnam, Feldstein and their team chose a dozen community-based organizations and initiatives to study, based on their success in building trust, community and social capital, longevity, scope, and reputation. A range of projects were chosen in order to show the diversity of bridging and bonding possibilities available at a time when the U.S. is suffering from considerable strains on its social cohesion. The cases selected included a project which brings to life the history of a shipyard in New Hampshire through interpretive dance; a school in Wisconsin where the children help organize neighborhood improvement projects; and a branch library in Chicago which has managed to bridge the divide between the multi-ethnic Cabrini community and the much wealthier and predominantly white Gold Coast community. It is worth noting that libraries across North America have been adopting similar models and have also been successful in helping their patrons cross the digital divide, a topic which Putnam also addresses in *Better Together* in the chapter on Craigslist. Although this book has less of a basis in scientific method or research than most of the others included in this bibliography, it makes for an engaging read for those who would like to move beyond research to the utilization of social capital in the real world. Also see the website which accompanies this book for some additional resources, including 150 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO BUILD SOCIAL CAPITAL (<http://bettertogether.org/150ways.htm>) and Better Together Stories (<http://bettertogether.org/stories.htm>)

About the Author(s): Robert D. Putnam is the Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard, where he teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses. He is also Visiting Professor and Director of the Manchester Graduate Summer Programme in Social Change, University of Manchester (UK). Professor Putnam is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the British Academy, and past president of the American

Political Science Association. He can be reached at (617) 495-0539 or Robert_Putnam@ksg.harvard.edu

52. **Rajulton, F., Ravanera, Z. R., & Beaujot, R. (2007). Measuring social cohesion: An experiment using the canadian national survey of giving, volunteering, and participating. *Social Indicators Research*, 80(3), 461.**

Abstract: Social cohesion is a concept difficult to define and to measure. As there can be many definitions, so there can be many measurements. The main problem, either in defining or measuring the concept, is its multilevel and multidimensional nature. At one extreme, country is the most commonly used level to view social cohesion but measurement at this level is of little use for any interventions. At the other extreme, community is the most useful level but it is a social construct for which data are difficult to get, given the administrative boundaries used in social surveys. As an initial attempt to measure social cohesion at a subcountry level, this study focuses on census metropolitan areas for which data on several dimensions of social cohesion are available. We use the information gathered by the National Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP) on three dimensions of social cohesion: political (voting and volunteering), economic (occupation, income, labour force participation) and social (social interactions, informal volunteering). Using statistical techniques including factor analysis and standardization, we create an overall index of social cohesion for each CMA. We point out use of this measure for further analysis of social dynamics.

Annotation: In this study researchers Rajulton, Ravaneera and Beaujot attempt to address what they perceive as the gap in measuring social cohesion at the local or community level by surveying members of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) in Canada using questions relating to social cohesion drawn from the National Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP). Prior to beginning the survey they divided the domains of study into social, political and economic. Using statistical modeling methods including factor analysis, they were able to generate an index of social cohesion for each CMA. Although they encountered some difficulties with their model and methods—for instance, overlap between the three domains and a lack of cognitive/subjective measures which proved important—the conceptual map their study generated showed some interesting differences in social cohesion in the different regions of Canada. For instance, those regions more focused on economics (i.e. B.C. and Alberta) appeared to be less concerned with social and political aspects of life. However the rather arbitrary nature of CMA boundaries and the great contributions made to social science by studies of culturally delineated communities like Roseto in Pennsylvania (see *The Roseto Effect: A 50-Year Comparison of Mortality Rates and The sociology of community connections* in this bibliography) suggest that even more interesting results may be obtained by taking a technique or two from the cultural anthropologists: studying social cohesion not at the macro but at the community level, and using both objective and subjective measures to paint pictures of those communities which will help us understand their mechanisms of social cohesion.

53. **Ranson, S., Marsh, D., O'Toole, T., Davies, L., Schweisfurth, M., Williams, C., Yamashita, H., Barnes, M., Gale, R., Grosvenor, I., Prior, D., Jones, S., Mathur, N., Skelcher, C., McCabe, A., Ross, L., Griggs, S., & Smith, M. (October 2004). Researching civil renewal: A set of scoping papers prepared for the home office civil renewal unit**

Abstract: (Introduction)

This collection of papers results from an invitation by the Civil Renewal Unit of the Home Office to develop initial thinking about the shape of an academic research agenda on civil renewal. Our approach has been to identify themes and issues relating to the broad concept of civil renewal with which colleagues were already engaged, and to develop these in a way that maps out the potentialities and challenges of a 'Civil Renewal Research Centre'. This approach demonstrates the breadth and richness of research relevant to policy on civil renewal that can be offered by researchers from different disciplines and with different substantive interests.

The first stage in the process was to identify the likely contributors. This drew on existing collaborative relationships and networks within the university and generated clear expressions of interest from four separate academic departments: the School of Education, the Institute of Local Government Studies (from the School of Public Policy), and the Institute of Applied Social Studies and the Department of Sociology (both from the School of Social Sciences). The next step was to convene an early meeting of potential contributors in order to agree both a general way forward and a set of topics that would become the subject of 'scoping papers', that is, papers that identified and examined an issue likely to be relevant to the future work of the Centre and that considered the implications for research.

A key stage in the process of development was the presentation and discussion of all the papers (some of which were very much 'work in progress') at an all-day workshop on 14 September 2004. As well as the contributors, this event was attended by representatives of the Home Office, Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Voluntary Services Council and Wolverhampton City Council. The discussion was of substantial benefit both in providing reassurance of the overall relevance of the topics being pursued and in assisting contributors to finalise their papers.

Annotation: This set of scoping papers was drawn from researchers in education, governance, social studies and sociology at The University of Birmingham. Papers were contributed on the following topics relating to civil renewal: 1) theory, concepts and methods 2) communities and cultures 3) young people 4) institutions and governance. In the first category, Ranson discusses the challenges of coping with multiple cultures within a society, in the context of the neo-liberal political paradigm. Marsh and O'Toole discuss the obstacles in getting people to participate in the democratic process. Davies et al. provide a set of definitions around civil renewal. Barnes offers some relevant research designs and methodologies. In the second category, O'Toole examines political participation of ethnic minorities in Birmingham. Gale and Grosvenor also focus on the ethnic minority presence in Birmingham and argue that historic backgrounds must be appreciated when attempting to integrate newcomers into host societies. Prior then considers community safety in the context of civil renewal. In the section on youth, Davies et al. talk about how to ready them for active participation in the adult world and what sort of research could extend the current thinking on this matter. O'Toole and Jones argue that young adults are interested in politics but express that interest in ways that aren't easily recognized. In section four Barnes, McCabe and Ross look at some grassroots political movements in the UK, while Mathur and Skelcher urge a renewed interest in the democratic potential of already-established public institutions. Finally, Griggs and Smith warn against the setting up of processes and partnerships that, in effect, lead to the exclusion of the very groups they wish to involve in more active participation.

54. **Reitz, J. G. (2009). Multiculturalism and social cohesion: Potentials and challenges of diversity. 1st ed New York : Springer, c2009.**

Abstract: Does multiculturalism 'work'? Does multiculturalism policy create social cohesion, or undermine it? Advocates praise multiculturalism for its emphasis on special recognition for cultural minorities as facilitating their social integration, while opponents charge that multiculturalism threatens social cohesion by encouraging social isolation. Multiculturalism is thus rooted in a theory of human behaviour, and this book examines the empirical validity of some of its basic propositions, focusing on Canada as the country for which the most enthusiastic claims for multiculturalism have been made. The analysis draws on the massive national Ethnic Diversity Survey of over 41,000 Canadians in 2002, the most extensive survey yet conducted on this question. The analysis provides a new and more nuanced understanding of the complex relation between multiculturalism and social cohesion, challenging uncritically optimistic or pessimistic views. Ethnic community ties facilitate some aspects of social integration, while discouraging others. For racial minorities, relations within and outside minority communities are greatly complicated by more frequent experiences of discrimination and inequality, slowing processes of social integration. Implications for multicultural policies emphasize that race relations present important challenges across Quebec and the rest of Canada, including for the new religious minorities, and that ethnic community development requires more explicit support for social integration.

Annotation: This text addresses the question of whether multiculturalism "works" when properly applied. Is growing racial tension in many parts of the world evidence that the theories on which multiculturalism are based should be re-tested, re-configured, or even scrapped? Reitz purports that Canada is "in many ways the founder of multiculturalism as a formal government policy" (p. 1) since it was implemented in 1971, based on acceptance of ethnic diversity, inclusion, equality, and equal participation, all of which were then enshrined in our Constitution in 1982. Concerns raised since then have included: whether or not visible minority women are sufficiently protected; whether multiculturalism perpetuates inequality and marginality; whether there has been a retreat from multiculturalism in Canada and elsewhere in recent years. Inequalities and patterns of social attachment were examined using data from Statistics Canada's Ethnic Diversity Survey of 41,000 Canadians in 2002. The authors identified four class typologies: ethnic, mainstream, pluralist, and marginalized. The data indicates that concern over attachment within ethnic groups is misplaced, and rather intervention efforts should be focused on those who are marginalized or excluded. There is still significant inequality in Canada, with visible minorities measurably worse off than people of European origin. The policy implication is that inequality must be dealt with in order to facilitate integration and attachment to Canada. Finally, Reitz concludes that official multiculturalism should be supported by policies which take into account both the strengths and challenges inherent in diversity.

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55. **Rodríguez-García, D. (2010). Beyond assimilation and multiculturalism: A critical review of the debate on managing diversity. *Journal of International Migration & Integration*, 11(3), 251-271.**

Abstract: In the past few years, both assimilationist and multiculturalist approaches to the management of immigration and diversity have been called into question. This article is an attempt to critically review and examine the key points of the debate regarding assimilationism and multiculturalism, while arguing for an interculturalist model of socio-cultural incorporation that reconciles cultural diversity with social cohesion. This paper looks at both European and North American cases and contends that when support for diversity occurs within a framework of social justice and political equality, and when all members of society are permitted to fully participate in the public space, the result is a more cohesive, albeit plural, civic community.

Annotation: This paper by cultural anthropologist Dan Rodríguez-García provides a critical review of current literature on approaches to immigration and diversity. He divides the literature into three categories: 1. assimilationist 2. multiculturalist/pluralist 3. segregationist/exclusionary (although some see this third category as a subset of the second). Although not a Canadian, Rodríguez-García pays particular attention to the Canadian model, comparing and contrasting it to less successful models in the European Union and elsewhere. He warns against the extremes of a) an uncompromisingly assimilationist approach which fails to take into account the nuances and challenges posed to and by the integration of new cultural group, and b) an essentialist or even segregationist approach to multiculturalism, which can lead to the neglect of the rights of sub-groups such as women and children. He argues that no single model will work in all cases, but that there is a positive trend towards bi-directional adaptation. Ultimately, he argues for a balance between respect for diversity, and respect for liberal democratic values, an approach which has contributed greatly to Canada's success as a leader in multicultural policy and practice.

56. **Saint-Martin, D. (2002). Social cohesion nexus. Retrieved from <http://www.cprn.org/theme.cfm?theme=32&l=en>**

Abstract: (From the Social Cohesion Nexus archive online at CPRN: <http://www.cprn.org/theme.cfm?theme=32&l=en>)

Between July 2000 and September 2002, CPRN research associate, Denis Saint-Martin, produced 25 issues of Social Cohesion Nexus. Each monthly issue considered the burgeoning literature on social cohesion from a different thematic perspective. More than 800 subscribers in approximately 30 countries used the service.

Each issue of Social Cohesion Nexus included:

- reviews and summaries of recent studies and reports on a specific theme;
- news about up-coming events and research; and
- direct links [where available] to authors, publications and related links.

Annotation: The Social Cohesion Nexus was an ongoing project of CPRN, the Canadian Policy Research Networks. For approximately two year Saint-Martin produced regular newsletters on different topics relating to social cohesion, including current research, policy analysis, social housing, trust, citizenship, poverty, inequality, exclusion, work, health, and many more. Jane Jenson, who wrote some seminal papers on social cohesion,

was director of the Family Network of CPRN when the Social Cohesion Nexus was in existence. The purpose of CPRN was to provide "Canada's leaders on the issues of our times and the policy options to move Canada forward. Our mission is to create knowledge and lead public dialogue and discussion on social and economic issues important to the well-being of all Canadians. The relevance of our work is reflected in our ranking as Canada's most influential social policy think tank. Through more than 700 publications, CPRN's work touches on many of the major socio-economic challenges facing Canadian society. We analyze important public policy issues in health care, supports to families, learning opportunities, job quality, and sustainable cities and communities. Our efforts to engage more Canadians on public policy have led to dialogues on issues that are fundamental to our democracy, including civic engagement and the low voter participation by young people."

(Source: <http://www.cprn.org/page.cfm?page=124&l=en>)

57. **Sarracino, F. (2010). Social capital and subjective well-being trends: Comparing 11 western european countries. *Journal of Socio-Economics*, 39(4), 482.**

Abstract: Discovering whether social capital endowments in modern societies have been subjected or not to a process of gradual erosion is one of the most debated topics in recent economic literature. This new stream of research has been inaugurated by Putnam's pioneering studies about social capital trends in the United States. Recently, a considerable work by put a new emphasis on this topic contending Easterlin's assessment. Present work is aimed at analyzing the relationship between changes in social capital and subjective well-being in western Europe considering 11 different countries. In particular, I would like to answer questions such as: (1) is social capital in western Europe declining? Is such erosion a general trend of modern societies or is it a characteristic feature of only some of them? (2) social capital trend can help to explain subjective well-being trend? In so doing, my research considers four different set of proxies of social capital controlling for time and socio-demographic aspects in eleven different western European countries using World Values Survey (WVS) data between 1980 and 2000. My results are encouraging, showing evidence of a probable relationship between social capital and happiness. Furthermore, my results show that during last 20 years western European citizens have persistently lost confidence in the judicial system, in the church, in armed forces and the police. Finally, considering single countries, we discover that United Kingdom is the only country, among the investigated ones, with a negative pattern for social capital: the majority of the proxies of social capital in UK declined over the considered period.

Annotation: In this study Italian economic scientist Francesco Sarracino set out to answer the questions of whether social capital correlated with subjective well-being (SWB), and also whether social capital has been declining in Western Europe as it has in the U.S. Sarracino used four different sets of proxies and data from the WVS (World Values Survey). The results were positive in both cases, showing a strong correlation between social capital in SWB, and an upward trend in social capital in 10 of the 11 countries studied. The UK was the sole outlier, although in the other countries there has been a decline in trust of large religious, governmental and other institutions. Some comparison was also done between the European countries studied and the U.S., where the large bodies of available data made it possible to identify not only a downward trend but also a strong correlation between declining social capital and inequality. These findings about inequality in the U.S.

and UK agree with those of other researchers, most notably the authors of "The Spirit Level" (Wilkinson and Pickett).

58. **Schaefer, D. R., & Kornienko, O. (2009). Building cohesion in positively connected exchange networks. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 72(4), 384-402.**

Abstract: This research investigates the process through which individuals build cohesive relationships in positively connected exchange relations. Positive connections exist any time exchange in one relation must precede exchange in another. Such situations arise through gatekeeping, in generalized exchange contexts, and when resources diffuse across a network. Prior exchange research has focused primarily on negative connections, whose defining feature is competition, leaving theoretical understanding of cohesion-building in positive connections relatively underdeveloped. A key feature of positive connections is that unlike negative connections, they allow actors to exchange often even if their relationship is power-imbalanced. Consequently, we propose that in positive connections, structural power affects cohesion primarily through the mediating effects of power use and emotions, but not through exchange frequency and uncertainty. Results of a laboratory experiment support this causal model and enhance our understanding of the distinctive processes operating in positive connections.

Annotation: In this paper Schaefer and Kornienko study positive connections which they define as "relationships... whereby exchange in one relation facilitates exchange in another" (p. 384). They examine well-established ideas about reciprocity in the context of new ideas about social cohesion. In anthropology reciprocity is often divided into generalized, balanced and unbalanced types, where generalized is the least concerned with immediate gain and most likely to be the type practiced among members of egalitarian societies. In this paper, positive connections are thought of as mapping most closely onto a type of generalized reciprocity known as serial, which is a sort of "pay it forward" system where the granting of a gift or favour obligates the recipient to then give a gift or favour to someone else. Also, there is a gatekeeping aspect to positive connections, where an obligation must be met in order to receive the favour before it is granted. They then detail a series of experiments which tested structural power relationships and emotional affect by offering test subjects choices about whether to accept points from other subjects. In exchanges where the test subjects felt fairly treated, the result was more positive feeling and higher evaluation of relational cohesion. Also, the hypothesis that positive exchange structure results in more frequent and flexible exchanges was supported by the data. While this study may provide some useful methodology in studying relational power structures, it would be worth doing more work with other types of relationships as well.

59. **Small, M. L. (2009). *Unanticipated gains : Origins of network inequality in everyday life*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.**

Abstract: Contents: Social capital and organizational embeddedness -- Childcare centers and mothers' well-being : whether mothers did better when their children were in daycare -- Opportunities and inducements : why mothers so often made friends in centers -- Weak and strong ties : whether mothers made close friends, acquaintances, or something else -- Trust and obligations : why some mothers' support networks were larger than their friendship networks -- Ties to other organizations : why mothers' nonsocial ties were not

always social -- Organizational ties and neighborhood effects : how mothers' nonsocial ties were affected by location -- Extensions and implications.

Annotation: In this book, sociologist Mario Luis Small presents and argues the theory that social capital can flourish and enhance the lives of individuals... but only to the extent that those individuals are embedded in the right organizational structures. Small explores this theory by using data from two sources, a national survey of 3,500 urban mothers (Fragile Families survey) and a New York City survey of nearly 300 centers. For the latter study he conducted extensive quantitative and qualitative research in the form of surveys, interviews and organization case studies. The book contains many excerpts and descriptions of conversations with mothers as they talk about their relationships with other mothers and about how the daycare centers their children go to affect their day-to-day lives. It is clear that well-run centers provide countless opportunities for building social capital and cohesion, and Luis uses these examples to show how individual characteristics can often matter less than being in the right places, at the right times. The descriptions are backed up with solid theoretical underpinnings as well as a literature review near the beginning of the book. Many aspects of social capital are examined, including strong versus weak ties and the impact of context on trust and cohesion.

60. **Standing Senate Committee, Government of Canada. (1999). Final report on social cohesion. The Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology.**

Abstract: (Foreword)

How will Canada care for its citizens in the face of changes brought about by globalization and technology? As we enter a new, post-deficit era, governments and business are under increasing pressure to start thinking more about the longer-term societal implications of economic policies. There are concerns that the drive toward greater economic performance could be undermined if the sacrifices and social costs are seen to fall only on the poorest and weakest segments of society and the benefits accrue to a relative few. This has led, in turn, to a preoccupation with issues related to "social cohesion". On June 18, 1998, the Senate issued a mandate to the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology to conduct a study of this subject and to report by June 30, 1999. Globalization and technology are generating enormous wealth. However, these economic advances have caused a social fallout that no country has addressed successfully. The fallout has included a rise in poverty and the phenomenon of the polarization of jobs and incomes, that is, a growing gap between those who have reasonably secure, reasonably well-paid jobs with reasonable benefits, and, people who are in part-time, contractual, temporary work at low wages with virtually no security and very few benefits. Through its twelve month study, this Committee sought the views of academics, business and union leaders and people from the voluntary sector. These witnesses offered valuable insights into the stresses on the social fabric being created by globalization and technological change. We heard from 39 witnesses, and held 30 meetings. We believe that the questions considered by this study will be the dominant issues in the fields of economics, social sciences and especially politics in the years just ahead. The overriding responsibility of politicians will be to ensure that economic growth contributes to a strong social fabric.

Annotation: A number of historically important writings on social cohesion and capital were produced between 1999 and 2001. This Final Report on Social Cohesion by Canada's Standing Senate Committee is one such report. In it the authors bring forth the crucial

issues of social disorganization brought about by rapid technological change and globalization. These changes have led to a weakening of social cohesion which has especially impacted those sectors of society already struggling with socioeconomic disadvantage. The Standing Committee's report was based on a twelve month study wherein they sought the views of experts from the academic, business and voluntary sectors. After providing some preliminary definitions, the authors provide historical context by going back to the World Wars and Great Depression and discussing how the resulting instabilities led to an overhaul of economic and social systems that are now being eroded by the power of global markets and accelerated by advances in Information Technology. The authors argue that social cohesion not only encourages economic productivity, but is absolutely essential in providing a foundation for it; and trust between individuals in turn provides the necessary foundation for social cohesion. Finally, the authors provide a specific list of recommendations, and a set of goals based on the idea of the social investment state and translating it into concrete policies in the areas of education, families, collective action, and new technologies. This call to action on social cohesion is worthwhile reading not only for policy-makers but for anyone interested in the future of Canadian society.

61. **Steptoe, A., & Feldman, P. J. (2001). Neighborhood problems as sources of chronic stress: Development of a measure of neighborhood problems, and associations with socioeconomic status and health. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 23(3), 177.**

Abstract: The impact of the residential neighborhood on health and well-being is being increasingly recognized in behavioral medicine, with evidence for neighborhood-level effects that are independent of the individual characteristics of residents. This study addressed the possibility that the effects of neighborhood are due in part to exposure to community-wide stressors rather than variations in protective factors such as social capital. A questionnaire survey including a 10-item neighborhood problems scale and measures of self-reported health, health behaviors, and social capital was completed by 419 residents of 18 higher socioeconomic status (SES) neighborhoods and 235 residents of 19 lower SES neighborhoods. Data were analyzed using regression and multilevel methods. Neighborhood problem scores were greater in lower than higher SES neighborhoods, positively associated with individual deprivation, and negatively correlated with social capital. Neighborhood problems were not related to smoking, diet, alcohol consumption, or physical activity. However, neighborhood problems were associated with poor self-rated health, psychological distress on the General Health Questionnaire, and impaired physical function, independent of age, sex, neighborhood SES, individual deprivation, and social capital. Adjusted odds ratios for the highest versus lowest neighborhood problem quartiles ranged from 2.05 (confidence interval = 1.15-3.69) for poor self-rated health to 3.07 (1.63-5.79) for impaired physical function. The results provide preliminary evidence that residential neighborhood problems constitute sources of chronic stress that may increase risk of poor health.

Annotation: This study examines the possibility that individuals may suffer from poorer health outcomes as a result of community-wide problems leading to chronic stress, independent of the protective effects of social capital. Social capital measures were broken down into two categories: social cohesion and social control, both of which are believed to contribute to overall impressions of collective efficacy. Data was analyzed using regression and multilevel analysis. Predictably, those from the lower SES

neighborhood studied reported lower levels in both categories, though when multilevel modeling was done, it was determined that the lower scores were mostly a result of higher numbers of individual deprivation in the lower SES neighborhood. In the end it was determined that "neighborhood problem scores were inversely associated with social cohesion... When the analyses were repeated after partialling out SES neighborhood and individual deprivation, the strength of associations was reduced, but the correlations remained significant... for social cohesion and social control..." (p. 181). Therefore the significance of this study to the academic community is that it provides evidence that living in a neighborhood with more problems does indeed increase the likelihood that individuals living in such neighborhoods will experience chronic strain which is strongly associated with adverse health.

62. **Toye, M., & Canada, Parliamentary Information and Research Service. (2007). Social cohesion: The canadian urban context**

Abstract: (From the Introduction)

The concept of social cohesion emerged in the early 1990s in Europe and in Canada and has received growing academic and policy attention since that time. When a federal parliamentary committee issued its final report on social cohesion in June 1999, it concluded that the tensions between globalization and social cohesion were real, and that they were unlikely to disappear of their own accord. Indeed, social and economic changes have continued to unfold, driven in large measure by globalization. In some regions, these changes have resulted in economic restructuring that has created the conditions for increased population mobility and diversity, persistent unemployment, new forms of exclusion in the age of information technology and network society, and increasing public disenchantment with democratic politics. Faced with these rapid and profound shifts, "Politicians and policymakers worldwide have gradually come to recognize that these new forms of social cleavages necessitate a new form of governance, which in general entails three elements: promoting trust or 'solidarity' alongside with other traditional welfare and economic policies; a recognition that the process of participation matters as much as the outcome and a more holistic approach to public policy design and co-ordination." The troubling incidence of shootings in Toronto, questions about "reasonable accommodation" in Quebec, and international events such as the 2005 riots in Paris and Australia have revived interest in the notion of social cohesion as a barometer that can help us understand how well communities and populations are coping with rapid change, and as a guide for policy development that reflects a new approach to governance. Since the 1999 report was issued, research on social cohesion has expanded significantly, ranging from efforts to define what social cohesion is, what conditions foster it and what effects its presence or absence can have, to studies increasingly focused on the kinds of interventions that can strengthen social cohesion.

Annotation: This paper, prepared by the non-partisan Parliamentary Information and Research Service in 2007, is a short and surprisingly pithy report which will quickly give the reader the Canadian background and perspective on a topic which is particularly relevant to us as a people who are widely dispersed both geographically and culturally. Toye in essence agrees with the authors of the Standing Committee Report on Social Cohesion (see this bibliography) when they say that Canada is "faced with... rapid and profound shifts," referring to troubling incidents of violence and unrest at home and abroad. Toye continues with a quick survey of social cohesion definitions and work done by Canada's

own Policy Research Initiative (www.policyresearch.gc.ca/) which resulted in a "reciprocal, holistic and self-referential model" that derives social cohesion from equitable distribution of resources. Further sections of the paper deal with reasons for focusing on social cohesion, and Canada's particular challenges, including immigration, multicultural diversity, growing economic inequality, Quebec and aboriginal populations. Finally, program and policy options for coherent and co-ordinated changes are drawn from the OECD (see Table 1 - Signals and Strategies for Competitiveness and Cohesion, p. 10).

63. **Walker, R. C. (2005). Social cohesion? A critical review of the urban aboriginal strategy and its application to address homelessness in winnipeg. Canadian Journal of Native Studies, 25(2), 395-416.**

Abstract: Aboriginal self-determination has been reasserted over the past few decades, especially since the 1970's. The right of self-government is recognized in federal policy. Social welfare goals have been articulated in terms of developing greater social cohesion. Aboriginal people in urban areas have received significant attention, given their disproportionate socioeconomic marginalization and the threat this poses to social cohesion. The Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) was introduced in 1998 to help deal with this marginalization. The article considers the effectiveness of the UAS, especially in terms of dealing with homelessness in Winnipeg, Manitoba. (English)

Annotation: In this paper, author Ryan Walker argues that the UAS (Urban Aboriginal Strategy) has not served the rights of urban aboriginals as well as it could, especially those who struggle with homelessness in Winnipeg. By choosing to spend more resources on tackling short-term problems and less on self-determination and self-governance, the UAS may be unwittingly retrenching aboriginals in the old "charity" model. Walker also argues that by resisting this retrenchment and instead continuing to fight for aboriginal self-governance, the UAS and other aboriginal-based organizations could also further the government's goals towards enhancing social cohesion, particularly those aspects of social cohesion which depend on decreasing inequality and marginalization. A further benefit would be greater buy-in by aboriginals if the organization is seen to be working towards their longer-term goals and priorities rather than short-term stop-gap solutions, particularly in urban areas. While Walker makes some good arguments, this paper is really more of a proposal than a full-fledged research study. Further evidence and study should be done to substantiate his claims that programs designed and delivered by aboriginals would result in better program outcomes, and that recognizing self-determination is necessary when establishing partnerships between aboriginals and mainstream society.

64. **Weller, S., & Bruegel, I. (2009). Children's 'place' in the development of neighbourhood social capital. Urban Studies (Sage Publications, Ltd.), 46(3), 629-643.**

Abstract: The restrictions many parents place on children's spatial freedoms are often tied to concerns about 'urban risk'. Concurrently, those children afforded greater spatial autonomy are often represented as threatening and disruptive to local social interaction. Little research has, however, explored the implications of children's spatial freedoms on social cohesion. Framed by the concept of social capital, this paper examines the role children play in developing the kinds of connection and relationship that build social networks, trust and neighbourliness. Focusing on children's lives in three innercity and two suburban locations in England, the paper explores neighbourhood social capital in

relation to two 'critical interactions': first, between social policy, parenting values and children's autonomy and, secondly, between children's and parents' local engagement.

Annotation: In this paper, Weller and Bruegel study social capital as it's used and created by children living in some London neighborhoods. Normally studies of this type focus on parents and assume that their social outcomes will be more or less shared by their children, so this perspective on the children as they progress into secondary school may be unique in the literature. Questions of children's autonomy are considered as well as the effects of that autonomy—or lack thereof—as the children move through their daily routines and environments. The children are interviewed in their homes and in focus groups, and so the qualitative nature of this paper gives the reader a good “feel” for what it's like to walk in these children's shoes; in some cases even the parents are surprised by the ways in which their children experience their own neighborhoods. Also in some cases social capital is “brought home” in that the children create bridging capital for their parents. Some of the results are surprising. For instance, children from ethnic minorities are given less autonomy than white children, except that white children from socially ambitious families are also more restricted in their movements and activities. On the whole, parents' reactions to their children were determined to be based largely on class and ideas about what it means to be a “good” parent. It would be worthwhile to conduct similar studies in Canadian contexts.

65. **Westley, F., Patton, M. Q., & Zimmerman, B. (2007). *Getting to maybe: How the world is changed*. Toronto: Vintage Canada.**

Abstract: A practical, inspirational, revolutionary guide to social innovation
Many of us have a deep desire to make the world around us a better place. But often our good intentions are undermined by the fear that we are so insignificant in the big scheme of things that nothing we can do will actually help feed the world's hungry, fix the damage of a Hurricane Katrina or even get a healthy lunch program up and running in the local school. We tend to think that great social change is the province of heroes – an intimidating view of reality that keeps ordinary people on the couch. But extraordinary leaders such as Gandhi and even unlikely social activists such as Bob Geldof most often see themselves as harnessing the forces around them, rather than singlehandedly setting those forces in motion. The trick in any great social project – from the global fight against AIDS to working to eradicate poverty in a single Canadian city – is to stop looking at the discrete elements and start trying to understand the complex relationships between them. By studying fascinating real-life examples of social change through this systems-and-relationships lens, the authors of *Getting to Maybe* tease out the rules of engagement between volunteers, leaders, organizations and circumstance – between individuals and what Shakespeare called “the tide in the affairs of men.”

Getting to Maybe applies the insights of complexity theory and harvests the experiences of a wide range of people and organizations – including the ministers behind the Boston Miracle (and its aftermath); the Grameen Bank, in which one man's dream of micro-credit sparked a financial revolution for the world's poor; the efforts of a Canadian clothing designer to help transform the lives of aboriginal women and children; and many more – to lay out a brand new way of thinking about making change in communities, in business, and in the world.

Annotation: In "Getting to Maybe" Frances Westley writes about how to achieve progress

and positive change in a time where many of the most important problems appear so large and complex as to seem intractable. She talks about resilience as "the capacity to experience massive change and yet still maintain the integrity of the original" (p. 65), and of social innovators as people who are able to embody this attitude of flexible strength. She eschews heroism and instead chooses to hold up ordinary people who were inspired by hardship to harness the impetus towards change they saw in their environments. The book is organized into chapters which tackle different aspects of complexity theory, using a different real-life innovator as a model in each case. She profiles Bob Geldof, who was inspired to overcome his own disadvantaged upbringing in Ireland and distrust of those who hold the reins of power, in order to raise millions for the truly impoverished; Muhammad Yunus, who played a major part in the micro-credit revolution; Reverend Jeff Brown, who tackled the problems of youth poverty and violence in his inner city Boston parish; and Linda Lundstrom, who set out to help aboriginal women in Canada by giving them meaningful employment and by starting the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation. In a world where gradual change is no longer an option, this book provides some valuable lessons in strategic innovation.

66. **Wilkinson, R. G., & Pickett, K. (2009). *The spirit level : Why more equal societies almost always do better* London ; New York : Allen Lane, c2009.**

Abstract: (From Publishers Weekly)

Wilkinson and Pickett make an eloquent case that the income gap between a nation's richest and poorest is the most powerful indicator of a functioning and healthy society. Amid the statistics that support their argument (increasing income disparity sees corresponding spikes in homicide, obesity, drug use, mental illness, anxiety, teenage pregnancies, high school dropouts—even incidents of playground bullying), the authors take an empathetic view of our ability to see beyond self-interest. While there are shades of Darwinism in the human hunt for status, there is evidence that the human brain—with its distinctively large neocortex—evolved the way it has because we were designed to be attentive to, depend on, and be depended on by others. Wilkinson and Pickett do not advocate one way or the other to close the equality gap. Government redistribution of wealth and market forces that create wealth can be equally effective, and the authors provide examples of both. How societies achieve equality, they argue, is less important than achieving it in the first place. Felicitous prose and fascinating findings make this essential reading. (Jan.)

Annotation: Wilkinson and Pickett have taken 30 years of research on inequality and have condensed their findings into this lucidly-written and persuasive book. *The Spirit Level* draws upon reams of data, presented in the form of dozens of graphs and scatter plots, to support their thesis, which is that inequality is the single factor which consistently underlies a long list of social problems; the greater the inequality in a society, the worse that society's social problems are, irrespective of average wealth. The book is international in scope, so they are able to compare regions and countries to see inequalities' effects on a host of outcomes. Chapters on mental health drug abuse, physical health, obesity, education, teen births, violence, imprisonment, and social mobility further examine these correlations and possible underlying causes, while the last section, "A Better Society," takes what the authors assert is a proven correlation between inequality, poor health and social problems, and suggest some ways in which we might move past these problems. Critics have complained about a lack of proof of uni-directional

cause and effect, but considering the scope of the problem and the difficulties inherent in measuring inequality in entire populations, the authors do an admirable job of providing evidence to support their thesis. It's entirely possible that this book could do for inequality what *Bowling Alone* did for social capital, and may be just what's needed to inspire a shift in research and public policy. For critiques from academics see

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Spirit_Level:_Why_More_Equal_Societies_Almost_Always_Do_Better#Academia

And for the authors' response see <http://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/resources/response-to-questions>

About the Author(s): Richard Wilkinson has played a formative role in international research on inequality, and his work has been published in ten languages. He is professor emeritus at the University of Nottingham Medical School. He can be contacted at richard.wilkinson@equalitytrust.org.uk Kate Pickett is a senior lecturer at the University of York and a National Institute for Health Research Career Scientist. They live in North Yorkshire, England. She can be contacted at kate.pickett@equalitytrust.org.uk

67. **Willms, J. D. (2002). *Vulnerable children: Findings from Canada's national longitudinal survey of children and youth*. Edmonton, AB; Hull: University of Alberta Press; Human Resources Development Canada, Applied Research Branch.**

Abstract: All children are vulnerable from the moment of birth. But some must also cope with unduly negative life experiences, such as racial and ethnic prejudices, learning and behaviour disorders, inadequate parenting, family violence, and poverty. These children are particularly vulnerable and may, as they grow up, experience mental and physical health problems, participate in delinquent activities, drop out of school, and face prolonged unemployment. *Vulnerable Children* presents a comprehensive discussion of the results from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY). The volume identifies central issues to guide policy development and interventions to improve the health and well-being of Canadian children.

Annotation: This book is based on the findings from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) in Canada. The authors authoritatively and comprehensively provide a wealth of data and discussion on topics relating to what makes Canadian children vulnerable and what we can do about it. In section one we are provided with an overview of the NLSCY, the purpose of which is to "develop a national database on the characteristics and life experiences of Canadian children as they grow from infancy to adulthood." (p. 5) Dominant theories and a survey of literature relating to childhood vulnerability are examined. Then social gradients are discussed, with a focus on health and educational outcomes. Other sections look at early signs of vulnerability, life in the family and school, and implications of research of government social policy. Appendices show outcome measures used, and colour-coded maps which show childhood vulnerability province by province and in the neighborhoods of five major cities. This book provides an important complement to the research on social cohesion, in that it backs up with comprehensive research and data the supposition that social cohesion, social capital, and equality are vital factors in the successful raising of children. (See the Survey Overview for the 2006/2007 Data Collection Cycle 7, attached, for more information on data collection methods).