CHANGING MIDDLE CLASSES: COMPARATIVE AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Presented by the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion
September 21–22, 2018

Belfer Case Study Room (S020)
CGIS South Building, Harvard University.
1730 Cambridge Street,
Cambridge, MA 02138

Friday, September 21

9:00–9:15 Welcome
Michèle Lamont, Director, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. Robert I. Goldman
Professor of European Studies; Professor of Sociology and of African and African American Studies,
Departments of Sociology and African and African American Studies, Harvard University.

9:15–11:00 Session I: Middle Class Formation: State Capacity, Expertise, and Labor Markets in
the Global South
Chair: Jacob Olupona, Faculty Associate; Chair, Weatherhead Research Cluster on Religion in Public
Life in Africa and the African Diaspora. Professor of African Religious Traditions, Harvard Divinity
School; Professor of African and African American Studies, Department of African and African American
Studies, Harvard University.

“Fearing Such a Lady: University Expansion, Economic Precarity, and the Hypergamy Ideal in
Kampala, Uganda”
Margaret Frye, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.
(Uganda)

“Renegotiating the Boundaries of Middle Class: First-Generation Black College Graduates in Brazil
and South Africa”
Graziella Moraes Silva, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Graduate
Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. (Brazil and South Africa)

“Urban Kenya’s Diverse ‘Middle Class’: Middle-Income Milieus and Symbolic Boundaries in Nairobi”
Florian Stoll, Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Development Sociology, Bayreuth Academy of
Advanced African Studies, Germany. (Kenya)

Discussant: Alejandro de la Fuente, Faculty Associate; Chair, Weatherhead Initiative on Afro-Latin
American Studies. Robert Woods Bliss Professor of Latin-American History and Economics, Department
of History; Director, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Hutchins Center; Professor of African and
African American Studies, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University.

11:00–11:15 Coffee Break (provided)
11:15–1:00  
**Session II: Spatial Segregation, Homophily, and Social and Symbolic Boundaries**

Chair: **Joscha Legewie**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Harvard University.

“Work in London, Love in Paris”

**Patrick Le Galès**, Research Professor, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique; Center for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Sciences Po, Paris.

**Christine Barwick**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Sociology, Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin. (France and the United Kingdom)

“Elite Sociability, Segregated Inclusion, and Power Games in Delhi”


“Relocated Ethnicities: How Do National-Cultural Repertoires Shape the Ethnic Identities of Socially and Spatially Mobile Migrants? Evidence from Israeli Mizrahim Living in Germany, Israel, and the United States”

**Avihu Shoshana**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Counseling and Human Development; Department of Leadership and Policy in Education, Faculty of Education, University of Haifa. (Israel)

Discussant: **Diane Davis**, Faculty Associate. Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning and Urbanism; Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University.

1:00–2:15  
**Lunch Break**

2:15–4:00  
**Session III: Class Consolidation: Identity, Distinction, and Cultural Practices**

Chair: **Matthias Koenig**, Visiting Scholar, Weatherhead Scholars Program. Professor, Department of Sociology, Göttingen University.

“Transnational Human Capital and Social Class: How German Upper-Middle-Class Parents Prepare Their Children for Globalization”

**Jürgen Gerhards**, Chair of Macrosociology, Institute for Sociology, Freie Universität, Berlin. (Germany)

“One or Two Type(s) of ‘Concerted Cultivation’? The Educational Practices of (Upper-) Middle-Class French Parents”

**Agnès van Zanten**, Senior Researcher, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Observatoire Sociologique du Changement, Sciences Po, Paris. (France)

“Upper Middle Class Social Reproduction: Wealth, Schooling, and Residential Choice in Chile”

**Maria Luisa Méndez**, Director, School of Sociology, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile.  
**Modesto Gayo**, Professor, School of Sociology, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile. (Chile)

Discussant: **Natasha Warikoo**, Faculty Associate. Associate Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education.

4:00–4:30  
**Coffee Break (provided)**

4:30–5:45  
**Keynote Address**

“The Geopolitics of Inequality: The Remaking of Elites and Middle Classes”

**Mike Savage**, Martin White Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, London School of Economics.

5:45  
**Open Reception**
Saturday, September 22

9:00–10:45 Session IV: Class Trajectories and Mobility
Chair: Jessica Welburn Paige, Sheila Biddle Ford Foundation Fellow, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University; Assistant Professor, Sociology and African American Studies, University of Iowa.

“Paris’ Refounded Neighborhoods and the Refusal of Socio-Spatial Integration”
Bruno Cousin, Assistant Professor, Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Sciences Po, Paris. (France)

“Class and Inequality in the Shadow of Law in China”
Ya-Wen Lei, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Harvard University. (China)

“Global Security Strategies across the Pacific: Professional-Middle-Class Chinese Parents in Taiwan and the US”
Pei-Chia Lan, Distinguished Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University. (Taiwan and the United States)

Discussant: Jason Beckfield, Faculty Associate; Chair, Weatherhead Initiative on Gender Inequality. Chair; Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Harvard University.

10:45–11:00 Coffee Break (provided)

11:00–12:45 Session V: Politics and Social Movements
Chair: Jennifer Hochschild, Faculty Associate. Henry LaBarre Jayne Professor of Government; Chair, Department of Government; Professor of African and African American Studies, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University; Harvard College Professor.

“Becoming Gay-friendly: ‘Coming Out’ and the Production of Gay-friendly Attitudes amongst the Straight Upper Middle Classes in France and in the US”
Sylvie Tissot, Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Université de Paris 8. (France and the United States)

“Middle Class Under Increasing Economic Risk in Russia and China”
Chunling Li, Professor, Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing. (China and Russia)

“How We Became Black: Racial Activism in Contemporary France”
Abdoulaye Gueye, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa. (Senegal and France)

Discussant: Ellis Monk, Faculty Associate. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Harvard University.

12:45–2:00 Lunch (provided)

2:00–3:00 Concluding Session: What We Have Learned