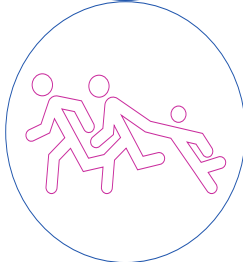


The Impact of the 2020–2022 Pandemic on World Society

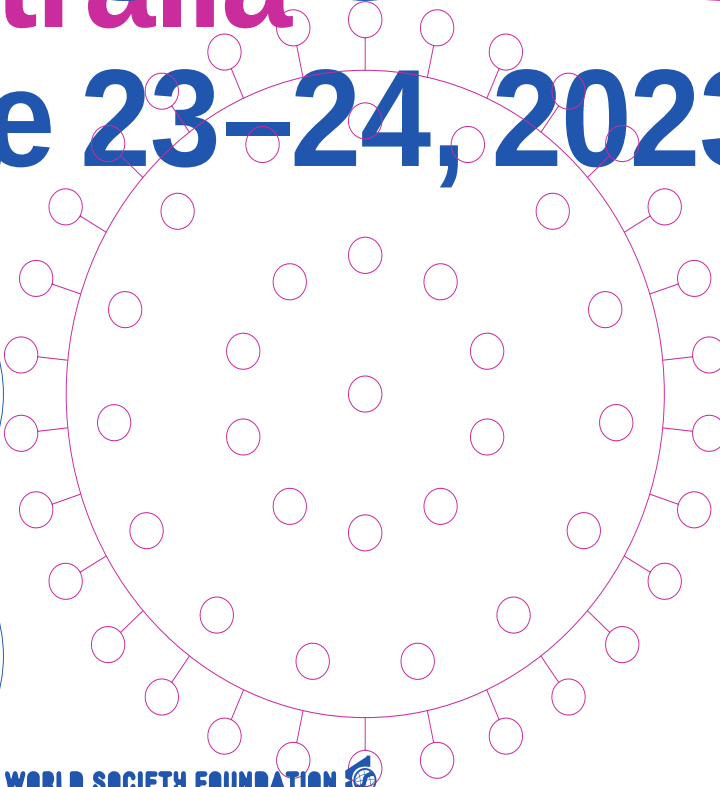
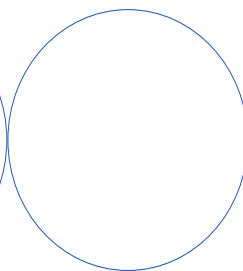
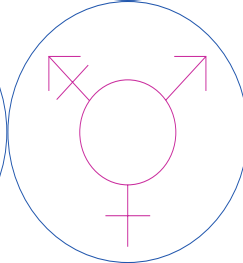
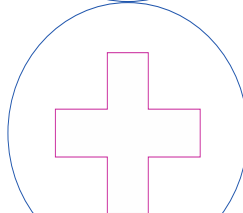
Melbourne Graduate School of Education, Australia

June 23–24, 2023



RC55

WORLD SOCIETY FOUNDATION



Welcome Note by the Conference Organisers

Dear conference participants, colleagues and friends.

Welcome to the international conference on *The Impact of the 2020–2022 Pandemic on World Society*. The conference, hosted by the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne, is co-organised by the *Research Committee 55* (RC55) on social indicators of the *International Sociological Association* (ISA) and the World Society Foundation (Zurich, Switzerland).

The idea to organise in Melbourne a pre-conference to the ISA World Congress of Sociology came up when the RC55 board looked for possibilities to support in person participation at the ISA World Congress for its committee members. The aim of this pre-conference is to bring together researchers from the Global North and the Global South and from different social sciences (sub)fields to discuss, debate and understand the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on societies across the world as well as for world society as a whole. The participants of the conference have been selected from more than 50 abstract and paper submissions from 35 different countries. Travel grants have allowed researchers from 20 countries to participate in person. Due to health and/or travel restrictions, some participants will be joining us via Zoom.

The World Society Foundation, now in its fortieth year of activity as a “world observatory” on global change has supported social sciences scholars and scientific research all over the world to reinforce the investigation into the various processes of global integration, disintegration, (re)structuring, and (re)configuration. In doing so, the Foundation established in 2007 on the occasion of its 25th anniversary its conference sponsoring program. This conference is the 16th international conference on world society topics sponsored by the World Society Foundation.

The organization of an international two-day scientific conference is always a challenge and needs support of many people and institutions. We would like to thank the hardworking staff of the local conference office at the Melbourne Graduate School of Education for the organizational support, the reviewers who assisted in the reviewing and selection process of abstract and paper submissions, our colleagues, mostly from the RC55 board, for chairing sessions and discussing papers, the University of Melbourne for providing the conference venue and the necessary infrastructure, as well as the sponsors and partners of this conference for their generous financial support.

We are very much looking forward to meeting you in Melbourne and welcoming you to what promises to become a very inspiring conference.

Jenny Chesters, Sandra Fachelli, and Christian Suter

[the organising committee]

Conference Program

Thursday, June 22, 2023	
18:00	Welcome Reception (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
Friday, June 23, 2023	
08:45-09:30	Breakfast/Coffee/Tea and Registration (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
09:30-10:00	Opening and Welcome (Q227, level 2, 234 Queensberry St) Jenny Chesters (Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne) Jim Watterston (Dean, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne) Christian Suter (President RC55, University of Neuchâtel)
10:00-11:00	Keynote: Managing Crisis After Financialisation: Reflecting on ‘Novel’ Responses to Covid-19 and the 2008 Financial Crisis <i>Chair:</i> Jenny Chesters (University of Melbourne) <i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Ben Spies-Butcher (Macquarie University, Sydney)
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
11:30-12:30	Session 1: The Pandemic, Crisis Management and Policies, and their Impact (part 1) <i>Chair:</i> Sandra Fachelli (Pablo de Olavide University) <i>Speakers:</i> Sooahn Meier (University of Bremen): In the Eye of the Storm? OECD’s Crisis Leadership During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Health Governance Frank-Borge Wietzke (Barcelona Institute of International Studies/IBEI) and Diane Zovighian (IBEI and Sciences Po, Paris): Political Trust, Institutions and Insider-Outsider Perspectives Within Social Protection Systems During the Covid-19 Pandemic: The Case of Morocco <i>Discussant:</i> Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)
12:30-13:30	Lunch (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
13:30-15:30	Session 2: The Pandemic and its Impact on Subjective Well-Being and Life Satisfaction <i>Chair:</i> Masayuki Kanai (Senshu University) <i>Speakers:</i> Marc Callens and Dries Verlet (Ghent University, Belgium): The Impact of COVID-19 on Life Satisfaction: A Cross-National, Long Term Perspective Dabesaki Mac-Ikemenjima (University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, and Ford Foundation, Lagos): How Do You Feel About Your Life These Days? The Effects of COVID-19 Lockdown on Subjective Well-Being in Nigeria Catherine White Berheide (Skidmore College), Megan A. Carpenter (St. Lawrence University), and David A. Cotter (Union College Schenectady): The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Faculty Well-being: A Study of Academic Staff at Three Colleges in New York Lei Jin and Tony Tam (Chinese University of Hong Kong): The COVID-19 Pandemic, Institutional Context and Socioeconomic Disparities in Well-being <i>Discussant:</i> Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)

15:30-16:00	Coffee Break (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
16:00-17:30	Session 3: The Pandemic, Mental Health, and Social Cohesion <i>Chair:</i> Pedro López-Roldán (Autonomous University of Barcelona) <i>Speakers:</i> Maria Angelika Tolentino Balungay (De La Salle University and University of Southern Mindanao) and Melissa Lopez Reyes (De La Salle University): In the Wake of the 2019 Earthquakes in Cotabato, Philippines: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Survivor-Evacuees' Mental Health Ephraim Shapiro, Alean Al-Krenawi, Gil Zukerman, and Liat Korn (Ariel University): Mental Health and Care Utilization in Israel During the Period of COVID-19 (virtual presentation) Madga Borkowska (University of Essex), Renee Luthra (University of Essex), and James Laurence (Dublin Economic and Social Research Institute): Love My Neighbour When I Feel Good: Testing Reciprocal Relationship Between Perceived Neighbourhood Social Cohesion and Mental Health During Covid-19 Pandemic 19 (virtual presentation) <i>Discussant:</i> Monica Budowski (University of Fribourg)
17:30-18:00	Coffee Break (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
18:00-19:30	Session 4: The Pandemic, Crisis Management and Policies, and their Impact (part 2) <i>Chair:</i> Jenny Chesters (University of Melbourne) <i>Speakers:</i> Dolgion Aldar (Independent Research Institute of Mongolia and UNDP Timor-Leste) and Manlaibaatar Zagdbazar (Economic Research Institute Mongolia): Comparative Assessment of the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic Policy Measures on Small Business in Mongolia and Timor-Leste Ilán Bizberg (El Colegio de México): Political Control, Authority and the Pandemic (virtual presentation) Zhan Zhang (Universita della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano): Steering Into the Void? Understanding China's Changing COVID-19 Policy and the Reasoning Mechanism (virtual presentation) <i>Discussant:</i> Sandra Fachelli (Pablo de Olavide University)
20:00	Conference Dinner (University House)
Saturday, June 24, 2023	
08:45-09:30	Breakfast/Coffee/Tea (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
09:30-11:00	Session 5: Impact of the Pandemic on Children and Youth <i>Chair:</i> Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel) <i>Speakers:</i> Oliver Nahkur (University of Tartu) and Karoline Zarina (Freelance Researcher, Estonia): Children's Profiles of Subjective Well-Being Change During the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Correlates: A Multi-National Study Gonzalo A. Saraví (Ciesas, Mexico): The Pandemic Effects on Sociability and Wellbeing of Low-Income Adolescents in Mexico Titik Harsanti (Politeknik Statistika STIS, Indonesia): Social Stressors Experienced by Students in the Online Learning Process During the COVID-19 Pandemic <i>Discussant:</i> Jenny Chesters (University of Melbourne)

11:00-11:30	Coffee Break (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
11:30-13:00	Session 6: The Impact of the Pandemic on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups <i>Chair:</i> Monica Budowski (University of Fribourg) <i>Speakers:</i> Indera Ratna Irawati Pattinasarany (Universitas Indonesia): Has the COVID-19 Pandemic Reversed the Decline in NEET Youth Prevalence in Indonesia? Evidence from the 2018 and 2021 National Survey Data Shireen AlAzzawi (Santa Clara University, Santa Clara CA, US) and Vladimir Hlasny (UN ESCWA, Beirut): Youths' Employment Vulnerability amidst a Lingering Crisis: Evidence from the Middle East Fakhru Alam (Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh): COVID-19 and Community-based Volunteerism: How the Rohingya Volunteers Acted for Community Engagement to Fight against the Pandemic in Rohingya Refugee Camps of Bangladesh <i>Discussant:</i> Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)
13:00-14:00	Lunch (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
14:00-15:30	Session 7: The Pandemic and Social Inequalities: Class, Race, Ethnicity, and Gender <i>Chair:</i> Masayuki Kanai (Senshu University) <i>Speakers:</i> Corey D. Fields (Georgetown University), Raahsan Mahadeo (Providence College), Lisa Hummel (Stanford University), and Sara Moore (Stanford University): Inconvenience for Some and Disruption for Others: Race, Ethnicity, and US Talk of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Summer 2020 Chungse Jung (SUNY Cortland): Ethnonationalism or Asian Panethnicity: Korean Americans Responses to Anti-Asian Violence During the COVID-19 Pandemic María Cristina Bayón (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México): Widening the Gaps in Times of Pandemic. Confinement, Public Space and Experiences of Inequality in Mexico City <i>Discussant:</i> Sandra Fachelli (Pablo de Olavide University)
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St)
16:00-17:30	Session 8: The Pandemic, Health, Shift Work, and Addiction <i>Chair:</i> Jenny Chesters (University of Melbourne) <i>Speakers:</i> Teke Johnson Takwa (Central Bureau for Censuses and Population Studies Yaoundé): Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic on Access and Utilization of Reproductive Health Services in Some Health Units in Cameroon's Capital City, Yaoundé Regina Skiba (Jagiellonian University, Poland): Associations Between Work-related Changes Implemented in the Polish Garment Factory During Covid-19 Pandemic and Shift Worker's Health and Well-being Enrico di Bello (University of Genoa), Davide Valenzona (University of Genoa), Sonia Salvini (ALISA, Regione Liguria), Simona Tirasso (University of Genoa), and Luca Gandullia (University of Genoa): The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Pathological Gambling in Italy <i>Discussant:</i> Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)
18:00	Conference Dinner (Stovetop 108 Leicester St Carlton)

Conference Venue

Conference Location: University of Melbourne, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, 234 Queensberry St [Corner of Leicester St] Carlton – Kwong Lee Dow Building. Level 2 lecture theatre Q227. Universal access is available at the Leicester St entrance.

Accommodation: Essence Hotel Carlton, 609 Swanston St., Carlton VIC 3053 [22/6, 23/6, 24/6] (<https://www.essencehotels.com.au/carlton>)

Welcome Reception (Thursday, June 22, 2023, 18:00): Conference venue (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St).

Breakfast: Coffee, tea, fruit platters and pastries is served at the conference venue (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St).

Lunch: Lunch is served at the conference venue (Foyer, level 2, 234 Queensberry St).

Conference Dinners: Friday (June 23, 2023): University House, University of Melbourne.
Saturday (June 24, 2023): Stovetop, 108 Leicester St, Carlton.

Conference Organization

Organizing Conference Committee

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Conference Sponsorship

The conference is supported by the World Society Foundation (Zurich, Switzerland), the ISA Research Committee 55 on Social Indicators, and the Melbourne Graduate School of Education (University of Melbourne). For more information on the conference and for updates, please check at: <http://www.worldsociety.ch/>.



Conference Keynote Speaker



Ben Spies-Butcher is an Associate Professor of Economy and Society at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. His research interests focus on the political economy of the welfare state. Ben has published in the fields of Social Policy, Sociology and Political Economy. His most recent book is *The Politics of the Australian Welfare State After Liberalisation* (forthcoming, Anthem Press, London). His peer-reviewed journal articles include ‘Between universalism and targeting: exploring policy pathways for an Australian Basic Income’ in the *Economic and Labour Relations Review* and ‘Advancing universalism in neoliberal times? Basic income, workfare and the politics of conditionality’, *Critical Sociology*.

Managing Crisis After Financialisation: Reflecting on ‘Novel’ Responses to Covid-19 and the 2008

The COVID-19 pandemic saw governments deploy apparently novel policy tools to manage the unique demands of maintaining incomes while suspending much economic activity. Across the world, governments rapidly expanded cash payments and central banks facilitated a flood of liquidity. The scale and design of these measures not only reflected the distinct challenges created by a public health emergency, but also built on the policy experience of the 2008 Financial Crisis. This paper aims to explore the impacts of financialisation on social policy and economic management. Drawing on recent research in critical social science, social policy and economic history, it argues financial liberalisation and austerity have inspired novel policy responses, which incorporate financial logics into social policy and focus on managing liquidity and asset valuations, as much as demand. It explores the implications of these changes by assessing how social risks are realised during moments of economic crisis. By comparing the impacts the Financial Crisis on different national housing markets and welfare states, it identifies how changes in economic context saw old policy settings play new social and economic roles, which then informed new responses to subsequent crisis. The paper explores the use of cash payments, asset withdrawals and regulation of credit and insurance during the pandemic to assess how financial logics are shaping policy thinking. The paper ends by reflecting on the implications of this shift in governance.

Conference Abstracts

Session 1

The Pandemic, Crisis Management and Policies, and their Impact (part 1)

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In the Eye of the Storm? OECD's Crisis Leadership During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Health Governance

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has triggered turbulent times across the globe, reminding us of the highly multidimensional and interdependent nature of today's world. Next to diverging national attempts to constrain the spread of the virus, many international organisations (IOs) worked to minimise the impacts of the disease on a regional or global scale. Albeit not considered a conventional agency responsible for global infectious diseases, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has surprisingly been one of the most proactive IOs in the pandemic response. In this context, this paper examines to what extent the OECD's COVID-19 pandemic response pertains to the role of a global crisis manager. We explore the sense-making, decision-making, and learning of the OECD's COVID-19 pandemic management by adapting the theoretical concepts of crisis leadership tasks framed by Boin et al. (2016) to examine the organisation's position-making. Based on expert interviews and document analysis, the paper shows that the OECD perceives the pandemic as an exogenous shock that spilled over across broad socioeconomic sectors and severely affected its member states. This sense-making enabled prompt multilayered top-down and bottom-up decision-making to advise member states with policy options through a whole-of-OECD approach, channeling coherent messages. Drawing on the analysis, we argue that the OECD's role during the COVID-19 pandemic was not a global crisis manager; instead, its crisis leadership, in turn, consolidated the OECD's position-making as a policy advisor for member states.

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IBEI and Sciences Po, Paris

Political Trust, Institutions and Insider-Outsider Perspectives Within Social Protection Systems During the Covid-19 Pandemic: The Case of Morocco

How can countries strengthen their resilience and social cohesion in times of large aggregate crises like the Covid-19 pandemic? Many governments turn to social protection programs like cash transfers and social insurance instruments. We study the relatively little explored *political* effects of these interventions, using novel survey data about the Covid 19-related social protection response in Morocco. Our results suggest that emergency social protection interventions can help slow the erosion of political trust and increase support for crisis-related public mitigation measures. However, we also find clear differences along class lines and safety net categories: While poorer informal sector workers benefited predominantly from relatively modest social assistance payouts, middle classes employed in the formal sector drew mostly on social insurance programs. This system prevented the erosion of political trust among both poor and middle class respondents. However, the effects were relatively stronger among the middle classes, and driven in large part by social insurance schemes, which tend to be regressive. We conclude by discussing the implications of our results for future social protection reforms in Morocco and other middle income countries

Session 2

The Pandemic and its Impact on Subjective Well-Being and Life Satisfaction

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The Impact of COVID-19 on Life Satisfaction: A Cross-National, Long Term Perspective

Early 2020, a novel corona virus, COVID-19, took the world in surprise. It disrupted the daily lives of billions of people, and confronted societies with an unprecedented health crisis that provoked economic turmoil worldwide.

Meanwhile, several studies, based on survey or social media data, have documented extensively the immediate negative impact of the COVID-crisis on several domains, including individual well-being. However, being pressed to deliver insights very timely, most research designs used tend to bypass somehow sound methodological rigor. Some studies use non-probability samples and hence findings might be impacted by selectivity issues; other studies lack a sound comparative and/or longitudinal perspective: they are confined to a single country, or they are cross-sectional in nature.

The central theme in this paper is the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on subjective well-being, more specifically “happiness” in the form of general life satisfaction. To quantify the net impact for COVID-19 on life satisfaction adequately, it is important to take both a long-term and a comparative perspective into account. By doing so, we can put the effects of the present crisis into perspective by comparing with previous (economic) crisis, such as the unemployment/inflation crisis (early eighties) and among different countries.

However, in human societies, time is a complex phenomenon as three subdimensions are simultaneously at work: next to historical time (period, trend) also birth cohort (generation) and age (life cycle) play a role. With each of these 3 time dimensions, different theoretical explanations can be associated. Age effects represent age-related developmental changes through the life cycle. Period and birth cohort effects refer to exogenous contextual changes in broader social conditions. Period effects occur because of cultural and economic changes that are unique to specific time periods (e.g., a severe economic recession, a health crisis like the COVID-19 crisis) and thus apply to everyone regardless of age. Cohort effects are the essence of social change, not just determined by the time of birth as such, but also by cumulatively going through the same historical and social factors.

To find an adequate answer to our main research question - how has overall life satisfaction evolved over time and what are the drivers for this change- most earlier study designs are inadequate because they focus on only one temporal dimension and thereby thus assume that the other two temporal dimensions have no effects. One way to solve this problem is by using repeated cross-sectional surveys and applying Hierarchical Age Period Cohort Regression (HAPC-regression), thereby making possible to estimate the net trend, life cycle and generation effects.

The core idea of HAPC-regression is to consider time period and birth cohort as social contexts. Individual respondents are hierarchically clustered in a cross-classification of two social contexts, defined by birth cohort and period. In other words, all respondents are simultaneously members of exact one birth cohort and one time period. Technically, a cross-classified random intercept APC model is used to partition the variability in overall life satisfaction into three variance components (individual, cohorts and period). By comparing the size of the estimated variances with each other one can determine their relative importance (Yang & Land, 2013).

In this paper we combine Eurobarometer survey data for people 15 or older and macro-economic time series (GDP, unemployment) for the period 1973-2022 for eight European countries that were already part of the European Union in 1973: Denmark, France, former West-Germany, Great Britain (i.e., excluding Northern Ireland), Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Belgium, thereby taking a cross-national long-term perspective.

We first examine the impact of age, period, cohort and economic variables on general life satisfaction.

Next, we compare the impact on predicted life satisfaction trends for the COVID-19 crisis and for previous severe economic crisis.

The study found that period effects dominate cohort effects, except in France. Past severe economic recessions, have a significant and lasting impact on life satisfaction. The COVID-19 crisis and the early 1980s economic crisis have comparable short-term effects on life satisfaction, but the latter crisis has a deeper longer-lasting trough.

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How Do You Feel About Your Life These Days? The Effects of COVID-19 Lockdown on Subjective Well-Being in Nigeria

The emergence of the coronavirus and the World Health Organization's (WHO) pandemic declaration initially created panic among governments globally. This subsequently led to the institution of various containment measures including lockdowns, quarantines, self-isolation, mask mandates and hygiene measures, among others. In Nigeria, one of such measures was the institution of federally mandated lockdowns in a small number of 'frontline' states, along with restrictions on inter-state and international travel. Two states - Lagos and Ogun - and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, were initially locked down at the declaration of the Federal Government, while others were declared at the discretion of state governments. While intended to reduce the spread of the virus, these restrictive measures also raised concerns about livelihoods, mental health and broader concerns of psychological wellbeing. The lockdowns were also declared at a moment of escalating economic, social and political challenges in the country - a recent, and impending, recession, security challenges and high unemployment rates - which signaled potential severity of the lockdowns on people's lives. While there have been several studies on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and containment measures globally, there is still a limited understanding of such effects on specific aspects of people's lives and within specific demographics. There remains limited understanding of its impact on subjective wellbeing in Africa more broadly and Nigeria specifically. An understanding of the effects of COVID-19 in this area could offer lessons for understanding future shocks and could influence the design of policies focused on recovery. The aim of this study is therefore to explore the impact of COVID-19 lockdown on subjective wellbeing (SWB) in two out of the locations in Nigeria, Lagos and Abuja, that were subjected to federally mandated lockdowns.

A cross-sectional study using a battery of instruments composed of an adapted version of the positive and negative affect scale (PANAS - used with permission from the authors and APA), satisfaction with life scale (SWLS), two general happiness questions and demographic questions capturing respondents characteristics including age, sex, location and level of education was undertaken following the partial lifting of lockdowns in the locations under reference. An online questionnaire incorporating all items was administered using Google forms between July 28 and August 5, 2020. Respondents were invited, using Twitter, the micro-blogging social media platform, to complete the questionnaire using an open call from the author's Twitter 'handle'. Respondents retrospectively responded to the PANAS items during the total lockdown period as well as post-lockdown (at the time of the survey). All other items were only administered as relating to the time of the survey. Prior to administering the questionnaire, the items were pilot tested with a small number of respondents (31), which also elicited general feedback on the clarity of the text of the questionnaire. The data was analysed using descriptive and inferential statistical methods.

A total of 87 respondents completed the questionnaire. The demographic data of respondents shows that the majority of them are aged 40 and below. Almost half, 45% are between 21-30 years, 45% between 31-40, 10% are 40 years and above. Furthermore, 61% are female, 39% male: and all respondents have at least an undergraduate degree: 61% postgraduate and 39% undergraduate degrees respectively. The analysis shows that during lockdown the mean score for negative affect was 12.4 (range: 5 and 25), positive affect was 17 (range: 5 and 25). Post-lockdown mean score for negative affect was 10 and positive affect was 17.8. No statistically significant differences were found across age and level of education during and after lockdown using the PANAS scores. When compared to the SWLS and general happiness questions, the results show that at the time of the survey, respondents were generally satisfied with their lives. Almost half (46%) of the respondents were moderately happy with their lives, 34% were very or extremely happy, 19% a little or not happy at all happy. The proportions increased to

52% very or extremely happy and 29% a little or not happy at all when respondents compared their level of happiness to the previous year. Aggregate mean life satisfaction is 21 (range 7-35) for the sample. The results show that overall levels of SWB in the sample was not strongly affected by the lockdown in the two cities, although post-lockdown negative affect slightly declined while positive affect slightly increased, the overall mean scores do not reflect a major change in SWB during the two periods. These results are both similar to and differ from studies of SWB in the context of COVID-19 in important ways. On the one hand, the results are consistent with other studies that found that COVID-19 related stressors did not affect SWB. On the other hand, it differs from studies that suggest that pandemic related lockdowns had negative effects on psychological wellbeing and overall satisfaction with life. However, the results may be an artefact of the nature of the sample, being largely young, highly educated and urban. Furthermore, the results of the study are limited, given the sample size, sampling method, and may have been influenced by how respondents recall their experiences of lockdown in responding to the PANAS questions. Despite these limitations, the study sheds important light into the effects of COVID-19 lockdown in Nigeria and serves as the springboard for further research on this topic.

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The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Faculty Well-being: A Study of Academic Staff at Three Colleges in New York

Globally, public health measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including stay-at-home orders, masking, social distancing, and school and business closures, disrupted workers' lives, including those in higher education, and affected their well-being. This study examines how the pandemic's effects on faculty well-being differed by gender and parental status at three small private colleges in New York State, which was largely shutdown during the late spring and summer of 2020. We used three measures of well-being: satisfaction with work-life balance (WLB), depression, and quality of sleep. We expected that women and parents would be less satisfied with WLB, score higher on the depression subscale, and report more frequent sleep problems. We found that during the early stages of the pandemic, women faculty, parents of children 12 and younger, and assistant and associate professors reported the least satisfaction with WLB during the lockdown. More surprisingly, gender, race, parental status, tenure status, and rank did not predict either depression or sleep problems during this same time period. Satisfaction with WLB was correlated significantly with depression, and depression, in turn, was significantly correlated with sleep problems. We concluded, therefore, that improving WLB for academic staff had the possibility of improving their mental well-being directly and their physical well-being indirectly.

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The COVID-19 Pandemic, Institutional Context and Socioeconomic Disparities in Well-being

The COVID-19 pandemic may exacerbate existing social inequalities and disparities in well-being. Institutions play an important role during catastrophes; democracies and countries with higher-quality

institutions may be better at protecting their citizens, especially the vulnerable ones, from the harms of disaster. In this study, we examine the effects of the pandemic on socioeconomic disparities in well-being and the role of the institutional context in conditioning the pandemic effects. We hypothesize that during the pandemic, well-functioning institutions may ameliorate the harmful effects of the pandemic on individual well-being and mitigate the extent to which the pandemic exacerbates social inequalities in well-being. We combine individual-level data from 29 countries in the 2019 and 2021 waves of the Gallup World Poll. Measures of institutional quality are from the Democracy Index compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit. The analytical dataset includes 55,232 individuals. We used regression models with country-level fixed effects to account for unobserved stable country-level differences. The results show that in low-democracy societies, the wealth gaps in life satisfaction widened from 2019 to 2021; whereas in high-democracy societies, the wealth gaps in life satisfaction narrowed from 2019 to 2021. Functioning democratic institutions may have mitigated the widening socioeconomic gaps in well-being during the pandemic.

Session 3

The Pandemic, Mental Health, and Social Cohesion

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Melissa Lopez Reyes
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In the Wake of the 2019 Earthquakes in Cotabato, Philippines: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Survivor-Evacuees' Mental Health

The present study is contextualized in the overlapping traumatic experiences of earthquake survivor-evacuees: the destructive earthquakes in October 2019, the sudden and permanent evacuation from their permanent residences, and the prolonged stay in evacuation camps where material provisions are minimal. The survivor-evacuees' semi-permanent stay in evacuation camps has even become more challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, the present study investigates whether the COVID-19 impact on employment, access to essential needs, and illness predict mental health over and above what is predicted by earthquake disaster-attributed posttraumatic stress and growth, perceived as consequences of the earthquakes and evacuation. Could the COVID-19 pandemic have an effect on mental health on top of the effects of stress and growth?

A total of one-hundred twenty-one residents of Barangay Ilomavis, Kidapawan City, Cotabato who continue to live in evacuation camps nearly two years after the disaster participated in the survey interviews, with one representative from each household. The inclusion criteria are as follows: (a) 18 to 75 years old; (b) a resident of the earthquake-hit area for at least three years; and (c) stayed in evacuation camps since the earthquakes up until the time of the survey interviews. Majority of the respondents are: 26 to 35 years old (33.9%), female (79.3%), and married or cohabiting (84.3%). Interestingly, a large proportion of the respondents are women (79.3%) and belong to the Manobo indigenous peoples (90%). Instruments during the survey interviews were translated in Filipino and pilot-tested, which include the Mental Health Inventory, the Impact of Events Scale – Revised for measuring posttraumatic stress, the Posttraumatic Growth Inventory – Short Form (SF), and the COVID-19 Impact Scale. A certification essential to conduct studies among IPs was obtained from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The COVID-19 health protocol set by the Philippine government was strictly followed throughout the conduct of the present study. A distress protocol was also prepared.

The results of the hierarchical regression analysis show that posttraumatic stress and growth, predictors of the present study, account for 32% of the variance in mental health, with posttraumatic stress and growth having significant negative (-.56) and positive (.49) coefficients, respectively. The COVID-19 impact predicts a significant additional 3% of the variance in mental health over and above what posttraumatic stress and growth already predict, with a negative coefficient (-.21). Results indicate the pervasive effects of posttraumatic stress in compromising mental health, and, on the other hand, of posttraumatic growth in fostering mental health.

Alleviating stress is important for mental health and individuals should be placed in a supportive environment that provides a platform on which they themselves can address stress-related issues. In addition, what should be examined are the internal processes that lead to posttraumatic growth to determine the qualities and nature of the internal strengths that people develop in enduring or withstand adversities, and thus, design appropriate interventions to develop these internal processes.

Results also indicate the aggravating effects of the pandemic, albeit the effects are smaller than those of posttraumatic stress and growth. The COVID-19, which was declared a pandemic months into the post-disaster timeline, more recent than the earthquakes, more discussed widely in communities and on media, and foremost in the mind of survivor-evacuees, have ill consequences that have been felt by the earthquake survivors while staying in evacuation camps. Addressing the ill consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in the survivor-evacuees' living conditions is important for mental health, and thus, there should be reactive solutions, such as continuous monitoring and operations in alleviating the consequences of the pandemic; and proactive solutions, such as policy-making and strategizing to mitigate the impact of a pandemic.

In conclusion, the present study has general implications for integrated post-disaster operations programs especially in a protracted post-disaster timeline and for research on trauma and adversity as it

presents a unique context with the overlapping traumatic experience of earthquakes, evacuation, relocation, and the COVID-19 pandemic, even compounded by their long-term poverty pre-disaster.

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Mental Health and Care Utilization in Israel During the Period of COVID-19

As well as affecting physical health, COVID-19 can impact mental health. Despite this, Israelis may not be getting needed mental health care because of barriers such as stigma and lack of knowledge about mental health and appropriate care. This may be especially likely among vulnerable populations yet the topic has been understudied. This study aimed to examine to what extent COVID-19 related mental health stressors and issues are found among Israelis, the extent of mental health stigma among Israelis during the COVID-19 period, and how it may have changed as a result the pandemic. Surveys involving questions about mental health and stigma were administered to a random sample of 1038 Israelis between ages 18-55 and multivariate analyses performed. Key informant interviews were performed with 25 senior mental health professionals in the health care system, leaders of NGOs specializing in mental health, and community leaders. It was found that Israelis faced increased mental health risks since the COVID-19 outbreak and that extensive stigma was found among large numbers of them, serving as potentially important barriers to getting appropriate mental health care. Variations were found by types of stigma and mental health illness as well as by ethnic group. Stigma was reduced in later months as well as during lockdown periods COVID-19 can negatively impact mental health and appropriate mental health care utilization, although interestingly there may be positive effects as well. Interventions are needed, such as increased education about mental health from a variety of sources, which can help decrease stigma and improve mental health care utilization among this group, especially when appropriately tailored. Increased capacity and access to care is also needed.

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Love My Neighbour When I Feel Good: Testing Reciprocal Relationship Between Perceived Neighbourhood Social Cohesion and Mental Health During Covid-19 Pandemic

Evidence shows that there is substantial heterogeneity in the mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic (Prati and Mancini 2021). While there has been speculation on the role of community cohesion as a potential resilience factor, no studies to date have examined the evolution of perceived neighbourhood social cohesion (PNSC) and subjective mental wellbeing over the Covid-19 pandemic within a longitudinal framework.

Majority of existing literature suggest that greater neighbourhood cohesion is beneficial for mental wellbeing because it makes individuals feel more connected to each other and makes mutual help more likely to occur. It is also hypothesised that greater neighbourhood cohesion strengthens resilience, especially in times of crisis. The evidence from the disaster research (i.e. Cagney et al. 2016) as well as recent evidence from the Covid-19 studies (Lalot et al. 2020) confirms that perceived neighbourhood cohesion seems to be positively linked to mental well-being.

Despite theoretical assumptions suggesting the causal pathway running from social cohesion to mental well-being, it is also plausible that the direction of the relationship between mental wellbeing and social cohesion is the opposite. The evidence from psychology literature demonstrates that individuals with

higher mental wellbeing and greater life satisfaction are generally more positive about others, have higher social trust, and are also more likely to express positive evaluations of their social environment (Fusar-Poli et al. 2020) Therefore, it seems plausible that the changes in individual mental well-being might subsequently affect perceptions of social relationship in their neighbourhood.

In this study, we aim to examine the coevolution of changes in perceived neighbourhood social cohesion and subjective mental wellbeing during the Covid-19 pandemic among the general population of adults in England. Specifically, we ask:

- (1) Is there an association between perceived neighbourhood social cohesion (PNSC) and subjective mental wellbeing during the first months of the Covid-19 pandemic?
- (2) Are changes in the PNSC associated with subsequent changes in subjective mental wellbeing and/or vice versa?

We use longitudinal, nationally representative data from England (UK Household Panel Study - *Understanding Society*). *Understanding Society* includes detailed information on a representative sample of UK adults collected annually since 2010; and additional three waves of data containing PNSC and mental health measures collected at three points during the Covid-19 pandemic (June 2020, November 2020, March 2021). For the main analysis, we use 3 waves collected during the Covid-19 pandemic; and for additional robustness checks, we use a subset of PNSC measures collected at three waves prior to the pandemic (2012, 2015, 2017). Our analysis conducted on a subset of PNSC measures generate substantively similar results. We restrict our sample to individuals with valid PNSC and mental health measures at all waves collected during and prior to the pandemic (N=5,104).

To measure PNSC we construct an index (ranging from 0 to 20) based on five items. Respondents are asked to assess on a 4-point scale how strongly they agree/disagree with each of the item: (1) I regularly stop and talk with people in my neighbourhood; (2) People in this neighbourhood can be trusted; (3) People around here are willing to help their neighbours; (4) People in this neighbourhood generally don't get along with each other; (5) I think of myself as similar to the people that live in this neighbourhood.

To assess subjective mental wellbeing, we utilise one of the most commonly used instruments – General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12), which consists of twelve questions assessing somatic symptoms, anxiety, sleep, social functioning, and general happiness. Each of the 12 items is measured on a 4-point scale, and the overall GHQ scale ranges from 0 to 36.

We conduct our analysis in several steps to assess the relationship between PNSC and mental health based on different statistical assumptions. In all models, we control for key neighbourhood-level characteristics such as deprivation (measured by Index of Multiple Deprivation), demographic composition and age adjusted Covid-19 death rates. On individual level, we control for: education, employment status, partnership status, number and age of children, physical health, changes in partnership circumstances and employment circumstances, hospitalisation and/or loss of family member due to Covid-19.

First, we test the cross-sectional association between PNSC and mental health using a series of OLS regression models. Next, we use fixed effect models to test whether within individual changes in PNSC are associated with within individual changes in mental health. These models, however, rely on strict exogeneity assumption and do not allow modelling of reciprocal or autocorrelation effects. In the third step, we apply cross-lagged panel models to test whether individuals with low PNSC (relative to others) at time t , will experience a subsequent decline in mental health (or vice versa). The advantage of these models is the possibility to include reciprocal relationships (between PNSC and mental health) but the disadvantage is lack of separation of within- and between- individual effects. In the final step, we test random intercept cross-lagged panel models to test whether high/low levels of PNSC at time t (relative to individual baseline) predict subsequent high/low levels of mental health (relative to individual baseline) (or vice versa). These models allow us to test within individual effects while also accounting for cross-lagged (reciprocal) effects and autocorrelation.

The results from different statistical modelling approaches suggest a number of important findings. First, we confirm that PNSC is significantly associated with subjective mental health even after controlling for a range of individual and neighbourhood-level factors; and that this relationship is stronger during the pandemic, compared to pre-pandemic periods. This means that individuals who feel they live in cohesive communities, fare better in terms of mental health compared to those who feel they live in less cohesive communities (with otherwise similar socio-economic characteristics). Second, using fixed effects models, we show that decline in PNSC is associated with subsequent decline in mental health. However, when the path dependency (autocorrelation) and reciprocal relationship (between PNSC and mental health) are accounted for (in cross-lagged panel models), no direct effect of PNSC on GHQ (or vice versa) is detected. This finding has potentially important implications for how we use and treat

subjective measures of social cohesion, social connectedness, and other, closely related concepts when assessing their relationship with mental health using self-reported survey measures. It might be that individual subjective perceptions of the quality of social relationships (in this case, in the neighbourhood) and subjective perceptions of mental wellbeing are closely related concepts. This means that in addition to subjective perceptions, researchers should use more objective measures of social cohesion or quality of social relationships when assessing their impact on mental health. An alternative explanation might be that, during the Covid-19 crisis, both neighbourhood-level social relations and individual mental health responded similarly to external shocks such as introduction of multiple lockdowns, restrictions of movement, etc. More high quality, rich longitudinal analysis is needed to further disentangle how we can better assess the impact of different aspects of social connectedness (including neighbourhood social cohesion) on mental health.

Session 4

The Pandemic, Crisis Management and Policies, and their Impact (part 2)

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Comparative Assessment of the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic Policy Measures on Small Business in Mongolia and Timor-Leste

Upon the emergence of COVID-19 in late 2019, *Mongolia* swiftly enacted stringent measures such as suspending international flights and closing its only two borders, with China and Russia, resulting in a severe decline in international trade. Further, domestic movement restrictions and closure of businesses were enforced along with socio-economic support and recovery measures. Despite their rapid vaccination efforts, the nation recorded nearly a million cases and over two thousand deaths. Elsewhere in Asia, *Timor-Leste* declared a State of Emergency one week after its first COVID-19 case on March 21, 2020. It enforced travel restrictions, social distancing, and school closures, later launching a nationwide vaccination program in April 2021. As of November 2022, the small-island developing state had registered a fraction of Mongolia's cases and deaths.

Mongolia and Timor-Leste, while sharing similarities such as dependency on natural resources, import reliance, demographic profile, and political systems, have contrasting COVID-19 experiences. Mongolia, a landlocked country, saw high case numbers and low public satisfaction, while Timor-Leste, a small-island state, managed to contain cases and maintain higher citizen approval. This qualitative comparison will provide insight into the key factors determining the success or failure of their respective COVID-19 policies.

This paper focuses on several key aspects. Firstly, it investigates the main COVID-19 response and recovery measures implemented in two distinct contexts, assessing whether these policies and measures were broad-based or specifically targeted. Secondly, it examines the efficacy of government interventions and their role in alleviating the negative impacts of the pandemic on MSMEs. Additionally, it scrutinizes the severity of the coping strategies that these MSMEs have adopted in terms of their operations, financial circumstances, and staffing. Finally, the study considers whether a balance was struck between mitigating socio-economic repercussions and effectively containing the spread of the virus.

The study used a desk review of COVID-19 impact studies and policy measures, supplemented by secondary data analysis. Data for Mongolia was sourced from the National Statistics Office's 2021 business census, UNDP socio-economic impact assessments, and data from the Chamber of Commerce and Central Bank. For Timor-Leste, data from UNDP, the UN, the General Directorate of Statistics, and the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs informed the research.

By investigating COVID-19 impacts on MSMEs and households in developing countries, particularly contrasting landlocked and small-island contexts, this paper seeks to identify effective measures to support informal workers and lessen the vulnerabilities of households and MSMEs to future crises.

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Political Control, Authority and the Pandemic

The pandemic of coronavirus that impacted the world in the last three years has been called a Foucauldian moment by numerous analysts due to the population control mechanisms that were put in effect. The main idea of this paper is that it is also possible to call this event an Arendtian moment due to the fact that in contrast, the pandemic also exposed the importance of the central concept of this author:

authority. And, in effect, the health crisis caused by the coronavirus put governments around the world to the test and the way in which they reacted revealed the *principle* that moves them, as Montesquieu wrote, and is in many respects also defining their future; in some it revealed the centrality of control, while in others that of authority.

This article will analyze the way in which the different forms of government that can be identified in today's world have strengthened control or maintained democracy during the state of emergency. The way in which governments responded to the health crisis has revealed at least four types of political forms. On the one hand, the authoritarian/totalitarian systems, which can be exemplified by China, managed at the beginning to effectively tackle the health crisis, with extreme measures to restrict the movements of population.

There is a second form of government, the democratic, that imposed highly restrictive measures on individual liberties during the pandemic, measures that would have been impossible a few weeks earlier. These measures may reinforce others that had been applied facing the terrorist risk, and increased since the destruction of the twin towers in New York. This form of government was fragilized during the pandemic, as it was obliged to impose antidemocratic measures, that, as we discussed above, may poison their regime from the interior.

There are two alternative forms that evidenced themselves during the pandemic: the populist form, a type of democracy which nevertheless rests on a relation between the leader and the people, that does not repose on institutions but on the faith the people have on their governor, and the faith he has on the people who support him. This governmental form did not take the health emergency seriously and was not able to act efficiently due to both its posture and the lack of faith in the institutions that mediate between the population and their government. And finally, there appeared a democratic government that did not impose drastic control measures, that founded its reaction to the crisis on the basis of its authority and trust of the population on its government. This form may have not only been the most effective in managing the crisis, but also to preserve, and even deepen democracy and individual liberties. The latter, a democratic model based on truthful information, the confidence of the population on its leadership and the voluntary acceptance of all measures to preserve the population from the virus.

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Steering Into the Void? Understanding China's Changing COVID-19 Policy and the Reasoning Mechanism

Before December 2022, while different countries in the world have settled on some combination of enabling society and the economy to open up while coping with the presence of the coronavirus, China remains its zero-COVID policy by carrying out extensive lockdowns and regular mass testing when cases are detected. As the last major economy insisting on stamping out infections no matter the cost, this static Chinese approach has raised doubts domestically and internationally. On one hand, the policy has taken a heavy toll on the Chinese economy, with the second-quarter GDP growth in 2022 being the worst since the pandemic's onset. On the other hand, the policy polarizes the Chinese public since the exposed human fallout of heavy-handed lockdown measures questions the distinct lack of an exit strategy from the top, puzzling internal understanding of social, economic, and even political benefits and costs of applying the same policy without possible alternatives.

However, the abrupt shift of the COVID policy in mainland China in December 2022 also resulted in various problems in the society. With almost 80% of the population in many municipalities got infected during the same weeks, the ill-prepared health facilities, the significant drug shortage, the disruption to everyday life, and circulated confusion and frustration among the citizens, posed questions not only towards the sudden change of the policy, but also to the expenses and consequences of the previous long-held strict measures and the inflexibility of the centralized political structure for its national decision making.

Drawing upon a theoretical understanding of the high level of sophistication of China's policy-making process, this paper examines the drastic COVID policy change as a unique opportunity to observe the adaptation process from top-level decision-making to local comprehension. The study aims to uncover

the multi-layered framing mechanism through official communication, media performance, social media discourse, and the public's self-policy-adoption. By doing so, it offers an internal perspective to explore the discursive formation and modification between the Dynamic Zero COVID Policy and the New Ten Measures in Chinese society to understand: 1) What are the discursive focuses of China's COVID policy-making, and what are the official reasons behind the policy change? 2) How does the multi-layered framing mechanism function or impair societal understanding during the transition of the COVID policy, and how does it reflect the Party's legitimization strategy? 3) How did Chinese citizens comprehend the formation and implementation of COVID policies, and how does the rising Chinese nationalism align with the official campaign to rationalize the country's COVID decision-making?

NOTES

Session 5

The Impact of the Pandemic on Children and Youth:

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Children's Profiles of Subjective Well-Being Change During the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Correlates: A Multi-National Study

COVID—19 pandemic impact on children's subjective well—being (SWB) are currently not well understood. By taking the 'profiles of change' approach, we aim to explore multi—nationally the change of children's overall SWB during the COVID—19 pandemic, including the role of social distancing experience, pandemic—related anxiety, and psychological needs fulfillment in this. International Children's Worlds COVID—19 Supplement Survey data collected in 2021 from up to almost 20,000 children primarily aged 9–13 years from 16 countries across four continents is used. We use descriptive statistics and binary logistic regression analysis. We found that in all countries, most commonly children's overall SWB decreased. The decrease was most notable in Turkey, but also in Germany, and Bangladesh. Among different factors, higher pandemic—related school anxiety helped most consistently, almost in all countries, to explain children's belonging to 'decliners' profile. This study offered us an opportunity to extend the evidence base of social—distancing measures impacts on children's well—being, especially on overall SWB to different national contexts.

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The Pandemic Effects on Sociability and Wellbeing of Low-Income Adolescents in Mexico

The first responses to control the COVID-19 pandemic were social. Most of the countries applied similar measures of confinement, social distancing, and the suspension of many public and private activities: educational, commercial, and recreational among others. What have been the consequences of these alterations in social life on people's socio-emotional well-being? This paper specifically explores the relationship between these changes in sociability and the socio-emotional well-being of adolescents from low-income sectors in Mexico.

On the one hand, many governments applied severe measures of confinement such as the limitation of non-essential economic activities, the closure of educational institutions, and restrictions on the use of public spaces. These measures had a superlative and direct impact on our traditional patterns of social interaction, everyday social activities, and sociability. On the other hand, several studies have reported different mental health problems in the population during this period and afterwards, such as depression or anxiety. Many case studies link them to specific consequences of the pandemic such as fear of contagion, the economic crisis, unemployment, uncertainty about the future, or the spread of fake news. But even as we are essentially social beings, the dislocation of our daily sociability and its impact on our socio-emotional well-being has received little attention.

This work contributes to fill this gap, exploring the relationship between these two variables: sociability and well-being. Firstly, it analyzes the consequences and changes in the public and private sociability patterns of adolescents as a result of the confinement measures. And second, it explores how this disruption and limitation of the sociability of young people has affected their socio-emotional well-being.

Life course studies have shown that the same event in the same society has different effects depending on the person stage of life. To date, however, few studies have drawn the attention to the impacts of the pandemic on adolescents: they have been considered one of the most medically resilient groups against the COVID 19 pandemic, and simultaneously their social and subjective experiences during this period have remained silent. Nevertheless, the relationship between sociability and mental health becomes apparent during adolescence: at this stage of the life course peer interactions and social relations outside

the inner family circle, but also physical contact and (identity) public presentations, are essential experiences of the psychosocial development of the person.

The paper focuses on three main spheres of adolescent sociability affected by the pandemic: peer interaction, family life, and urban experience. Mexico has been one of the countries with the longest school closure in the world (almost two years) which has dealt a critical blow to the social life of adolescents. The findings confirm the impacts of lockdown on adolescent socioemotional wellbeing, but they also highlight the unequal effects of the pandemic. Children and young people from low-income sectors had to face confinement in contexts of social precariousness and economic limitations that further accentuated many of its consequences. Additionally, these arguments question the capacity of ICTs to replace face-to-face sociability.

This paper is part of the results of a participatory-research on Adolescence and the COVID-19 Pandemic carried out in collaboration with a large group of low-income youth in Mexico. Following the guidelines of the Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) these young people were invited to become involved as co-researchers and thus, to co-create a research process driven by their lived experiences of the pandemic. Fieldwork was carried out between October 2020 and August 2021 in a large public school of the outskirts of the metropolitan area of Mexico City. The participants were 61 students (41% male and 59% girls) from 17 to 19 years old. As co-researcher they were involved in defining the research questions, collecting data with different techniques designed by themselves, and analyzing and disseminating their findings through products of their own authorship such as: videos, podcast, photographs, music, paintings, etcetera.

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Social Stressors Experienced by Students in the Online Learning Process During the COVID-19 Pandemic

To reduce the spread of COVID-19 which has infected 1.8 million people and caused the death of 50.7 thousand people in Indonesia, one of the efforts made by the government is to reduce mobility and community interaction, especially in areas with high transmission rates. This has an impact on student groups who during the pandemic had to carry out learning activities from their respective homes online, as part of a government program. This study aims to look at social stressors in distance learning during the Covid-19 pandemic in 1691 STIS Statistics Polytechnic students in all 34 provinces in Indonesia. The results show that most students feel more stressed when they have to do learning activities online than offline. Based on domicile area, Among the 12 provinces in Eastern Indonesia, there are only 5 provinces that have low levels of stress of students. Based on Binary Logistic Regression analysis, environmental situations, friendships and decreased parental income are problems that significantly affect student stress in online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The situation of the home environment that was not supportive during the Covid pandemic was the biggest problem that was felt during online learning. Another problem that has a big impact is the lack of a sense of togetherness with fellow students. The important role of friends for sharing and discussing that did not occur intensely during the pandemic significantly increased student stress. The decline in parental income was one of the problems that occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the long term, this adds to the financial burden on families, makes many students work to help their parents and increases student stress. In this study, limited internet signals and computer ownership as a support of online learning did not affect student stress significantly.

Session 6

The Impact of the Pandemic on Vulnerable and Marginalize Groups:

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Has the COVID-19 Pandemic Reversed the Decline in NEET Youth Prevalence in Indonesia? Evidence from the 2018 and 2021 National Survey Data

This study aims to present empirical evidence on whether the decline in the prevalence of young population aged 15-24 who are not in employment, education, or training (NEET) in Indonesia since 2015 has been reversed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The effects of social capital cultivated by the youth, the government's social assistance/social protection programs, and provincial-level contextual factors are estimated simultaneously using a multilevel mixed effects logistic model. The study uses the Socio-Cultural and Education modules from the National Socio-Economic Surveys (SUSENAS-MSBP), nationwide longitudinal data, which covers the period before (2018) and immediately after the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic (2021).

The findings suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic increases the risk of youth becoming NEET. The higher the severity of the pandemic in the province where youth live, the higher the likelihood of youth becoming NEET. Social networks owned or cultivated by youth through participation in various activities in the community in general reduce the tendency to become NEET. Likewise, adolescents whose households receive social assistance/social protection programs are also less likely to become NEET, except for female respondents.

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Youths' Employment Vulnerability amidst a Lingering Crisis: Evidence from the Middle East

This study estimates the impacts of the lingering COVID crisis on workers' employment outcomes in four Middle East and North African (MENA) countries: Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia. The pandemic is thought to have exacerbated the vulnerabilities and the rising inequality of opportunities witnessed by regional youth over the prior decade. Relying on panel microdata from ERF COVID-19 MENA Monitors (February '20–September '21), we estimate transition matrices and multinomial logistic models of workers' employment statuses. An advanced quasi fixed effects estimation approach is applied. We confirm that strict COVID regulatory regimes have negative effects on employment and labor participation of most groups of workers, but the effects cannot be consistently ranked between age cohorts and genders across the four countries. Strong state dependence in workers' status drives their outcomes. Mitigating the negative effects of COVID, higher education and work experience confer high returns on workers in terms of avoiding the loss of hours, pay or job, and remaining employed. Between late-2020 and mid-2021, men's employment prospects gradually improved, but women remained largely excluded from work opportunities. Youths trailed non-youths throughout the pandemic, perpetuating existing inequalities along sex and age dimensions, but also vis-à-vis workers' pre-pandemic socioeconomic status as represented by their education and employment type.

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COVID-19 and Community-based Volunteerism: How the Rohingya Volunteers Acted for Community Engagement to Fight against the Pandemic in Rohingya Refugee Camps of Bangladesh

COVID-19 and Community-based Volunteerism: How the Rohingya Volunteers Acted for Community Engagement to Fight against the Pandemic in Rohingya Refugee Camps of Bangladesh

Bangladesh hosts around one million Rohingya refugees who fled their homes in Myanmar. This study was conducted to elucidate agency responses to curb the spread of COVID-19 with the active involvement of the community-based Rohingya volunteers (CRVs), and how the CRVs acted for executing and facilitating COVID-19 programs and services in refugee camps. By adopting a qualitative research design, this study recruited 49 Rohingya refugees and 42 FSPs with direct experience in serving the refugees during the pandemic. In-depth interviews were conducted using two different semi-structured interview guidelines, and the data were analyzed thematically. Findings unveil that lockdown and movement restrictions in refugee camps had severe impacts on Rohingya's income, food consumption, education, and treatment opportunities. The study argues that community engagement through community-based volunteerism led by the CRVs was the key strategy of pandemic management in Rohingya refugee camps. Being trained up the CRVs and other refugees voluntarily engaged in developing community awareness and executing field-based emergency and non-emergency services. They disseminated information about COVID-19 symptoms, testing, treatment, isolation, and quarantine, made people aware of rumors and misconceptions, and counseled refugees with symptoms to go through the available health services. The study concludes that CRVs had a significant contribution to engaging the Rohingya community in COVID-19 control and prevention programs. It suggests that community engagement through community volunteers could be used as a model of a pandemic or disaster management in disadvantaged communities.

Session 7

The Pandemic and Social Inequalities: Class, Race, Ethnicity, and Gender

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Inconvenience for Some and Disruption for Others: Race, Ethnicity, and US Talk of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Summer 2020

In the United States, the Covid-19 pandemic may have affected everyone, but it has not done so equally. It is impossible to measure the magnitude of Covid-19's impact without attending to how the experiences of the pandemic varied along a range of social axes. To truly understand the pandemic, it is important to delineate the particular within the universal. To illuminate and explore these particularities, we examine how race and ethnicity shape the differences in perceptions of Covid-19's impact between white respondents and nonwhite respondents.

We draw on data from the American Voices Project (AVP) to explore how race and ethnicity are correlated with how Americans talked about their experiences of the pandemic. The AVP interviews members of U.S. households aged 18 and older. This paper uses a subset of those interviews to examine how different racial and ethnic groups talked about their experiences during summer 2020. We have a two-pronged sampling strategy. First, we use transcripts from interviews conducted between May 1 and August 31. Second, we selected all the interviews with nonwhite respondents from this period and drew a random subset of interviews with white respondents. This decision was made to ensure a robust representation of Black, Latino/a, Asian, and multiracial respondents. The final sample for this paper includes 135 interviews. Our respondents are racially, socioeconomically, and geographically diverse, but the relatively small sample size means that it is more difficult to identify systematic differences across social groups. While the racial and ethnic differences identified here are informative, readers should exercise caution in treating these differences as representative.

Race and ethnicity play important roles in shaping our routines, skills, and dispositions. Correspondingly, the social status of race and ethnicity also shape our experience of shocks to the social order. Accordingly, to fully understand the impact of the events of summer 2020, analysts must commit to a relational perspective that shows how the experiences of different groups are interconnected. Analysts should not just statistically compare differences across demographic groups, but also examine how the responses of different groups are related. The same event might bring chaos and disruption to one group, while another group experiences growth and possibility.

As we will see, the stark contrast between white and nonwhite respondents is in part a product of the cumulative advantages and disadvantages both groups experienced in relation to one another. As the Matthew Effect suggests, cumulative advantages and disadvantages do not accrue in isolation from, but rather in relation to one another. Hence, developing an accurate representation of the qualitative differences between white and nonwhite groups requires relational observations of how people live, and paying close attention to how power, privilege and inequality shape those experiences.

We find that, although all of our respondents were dealing with life in a pandemic, their worries focused on very different features of that pandemic life. For Black and Hispanic interviewees, the conversation very frequently focused on health and financial worries, suggesting these concerns loomed large in their lives. Black and Hispanic interviewees frequently talked about worries of catching Covid or having someone in their household or family catch Covid. Racial minorities also talked more about the financial strain related to the pandemic, including their fears of job loss and struggles to pay bills. Because these were conversations about big disruptions (or the potential of big disruptions in the future), it's useful to refer to the dominance in their lives of a "language of disruption."

For white respondents, the pandemic certainly re-ordered day-to-day life, and respondents foregrounded

these effects of the pandemic. They spoke of having to shift to working from home and managing online instruction as schools closed. There was also concern about the emotional and psychological impact of being limited in their ability to move freely. In emphasizing these types of concerns, white respondents are adopting the “language of inconvenience.” Although the inconveniences are often stressful, deeply felt, and deeply disturbing, they don’t typically rise to a highly disruptive level. These inconveniences were ardently discussed because, for white respondents, there was the luxury of attending to them without the distraction of big disruptions.

This difference emerged across many domains. For example, many white respondents communicated concerns about figuring out how to establish a home office to adapt to telework, while a significant number of Black and Latino/a respondents expressed worry over keeping themselves and their families safe and healthy. This difference reflects ongoing labor market segregation: Making up the majority of the essential labor workforce, Black and Latino/a employees often did not have the luxury of working from home. For many Black and Latino/a persons, the pandemic increased risks to life and livelihood. Despite the general call for greater patience as most social activity across the country was put on hold, if not entirely shut down, rent refused to wait.

Some claim that Americans are suffering from two pandemics: (1) Covid-19 and (2) systemic racism. The stories from AVP respondents forces us to consider that the two are not mutually exclusive. The disproportionate toll that the coronavirus has taken on Black, Indigenous and Latino/a communities throughout the United States suggests that these two issues are mutually constitutive. The disparate impact of the pandemic, however, is not only a consequence of pre-existing illness, but also pre-existing social conditions.

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Ethnonationalism or Asian Panethnicity:

Korean Americans Responses to Anti-Asian Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The racialization and exclusion during the COVID-19 pandemic have contributed to a sharp increase in anti-Asian violence and discrimination against Asians and Asian American communities in the U.S. This study explores the experiences and responses of Koreans and Korean Americans to anti-Asian violence and racism during the pandemic. This study analyzes 36 personal in-depth interviews from three groups (young adults, older adults, and small business owners) of Korean immigrants and Korean Americans in the metropolitan New York area. One of the most striking findings is to identify of rising ethnonationalism among Korean immigrants during the pandemic. On the one hand, Korean immigrants show a negative attitude toward coalition building with other Asian ethnic groups and racial minorities to react anti-Asian violence and hate crimes. On the other hand, younger Korean Americans insist solidarity with pan-Asian ethnic groups and other racial minorities is necessary to cope with increasing anti-Asian racism. This study argues that the *adaptivity to racism* and the *scope of collectivity* induce different views on perception and solutions to anti-Asian violence and racism in the Korean and Korean American communities. The different levels of adaptivity and collectivity lead to different behaviors against anti-Asian violence and racism: a combination of resistance in adaptivity to racism and the narrow scope of collectivity has pursued a *strategy of exclusion* such as ethnonationalism. Otherwise, a combination of resistance in adaptivity and the wider scope of collectivity has sought a *strategy of inclusion* such as Asian panethnicity. By investigating Korean immigrants and Korean Americans’ pandemic experiences, this study explains how they negotiate their ethnic identities as well as their capacity to redefine categories of racial identity.

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Widening the Gaps in Times of Pandemic. Confinement, Public Space and Experiences of Inequality in Mexico City.

The COVID 19 pandemic and the different measures implemented since the beginning of 2020 to deal with it, radically altered the daily lives of millions of people around the world. Many of these measures, prior to the availability of vaccines, were linked to harsh lockdowns that drastically disrupted our habits

in different spheres of life, such as work, education, and family life, with a direct impact on everyday urban life. Emerging measures of care, added to the generalized uncertainty in the face of an unknown virus, deeply changed forms of consumption, presentation and encounters with others, urban mobility, communication, practices of habitability and use of public space, leisure activities and free time, among many others.

However, the analysis of the socio-emotional dimensions of care and restrictive measures were relatively scarce and underestimated in the vision that initially dominated the management of the crisis. The priority was to maintain productivity over the quality of labor relations, comply with the curriculum over the socio-emotional well-being of students and teachers, preserve physical integrity over the social isolation of the elderly, or to discourage physical encounters over the mental health of adolescents and young people. Generalized measures were applied to the entire population, ignoring, among other aspects, modes of sociability, the difficulty of public institutions to reach certain sectors, the absence of public resources to provide sustained support to informal and independent workers, precarious housing, loneliness or, conversely, overcrowding in reduced spaces, and the different psychological needs of individuals. Behind these measures, a profoundly disembodied conception of individuals prevailed, assuming that the same measures could be applied in the same way everywhere, ignoring the enormous gaps in living, studying, and working conditions between the haves and have nots. In contrast, the sociological perspective we privilege here, highlights the quality of social relations, the practices of encounter with others, uses and articulation of public-private spaces, as essential dimensions of urban life and social and individual wellbeing.

Prior to the pandemic, and associated with the neoliberal turn, Latin American cities had already been experiencing a marked process of social and urban fragmentation expressed in the weakening of public space, and new forms of social coexistence (less diverse, more distant, and tense) under new patterns of sociability. Confinement, social distancing, and even isolation, occurred in a context already characterized by huge gaps that constituted *parallel lives* between privileged and disadvantaged groups. Pandemic experience was crossed by multiple inequalities linked to social class, ethnicity, place of residence, gender, age, and domestic roles, among others, that even deepen and became more visible.

Based on the case of Mexico, and in particular Mexico City and its conurbation area, this paper explores the alterations produced by the pandemic on a specific and central dimension of urban life: sociability and urban coexistence, examining how do social inequality gaps shape sociability, coexistence, and the relationship between public and private spaces, in the context of confinement. These experiences are illustrated with empirical results coming from participatory research conducted with adolescents during the pandemic.

This paper is organized in four main sections. In the first section, we discuss the concepts of sociability and urban coexistence, its main characteristics in Latin American cities, and how they have been affected by confinement in pandemic times. The second section describes some of the particularities of the Mexican management of the pandemic and the measures implemented, which were relatively lax in some areas -such as mobility and economic activity-, much less flexible in others -such as education-, and no governmental support was provided to make confinement a viable option for the most precarious segment of the working population. In general terms, despite the enormous gaps in living conditions and opportunities, the government response was insensitive to the needs and vulnerabilities of the most disadvantaged groups and their areas of residence. Therefore, socio-structural factors became strong predictors of the probability of contracting and dying from COVID-19. The third section, on methods and data, describes the youth participatory research conducted with adolescents during the pandemic in Mexico City. The last section analyzes some of the changes and tensions observed in urban coexistence, exploring the use and articulation of public and private spaces, especially in low-income groups. We focus on the narratives of adolescents from popular neighborhoods in the periphery of Mexico City who investigated their own experience of the pandemic and confinement, their homes, and neighborhoods, through diverse audiovisual and written techniques. Finally, the conclusions raise some reflections and challenges on sociability and social coexistence in future cities, and the urgent need to reduce the abysmal social gaps, promoting social and spatial justice, if we do not want to perpetuate the existence of parallel lives and cities between privileged and disadvantaged classes.

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Session 8

The Pandemic, Health, Shift Work, and Addiction

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Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic on Access and Utilization of Reproductive Health Services in Some Health Units in Cameroon's Capital City, Yaoundé

The COVID-19 pandemic has come with major challenges to the capacity of health systems to continue the delivery of essential health services including reproductive health care while, at the same time, tackling the pandemic. The purpose of this study is to assess, and document, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on sexual and reproductive health services in some health units in Cameroon's capital city, Yaoundé. This is done by comparing the recorded number of pre-COVID-19 and during COVID reproductive health service clients. Interviews of reproductive service providers were carried out in order to find out the new difficulties faced as well as the solutions provided. Using data extracted from registers of clients for reproductive health services, this study found a significant reduction in the number of clients seeking reproductive health services after March 2020, due to the pandemic, in all health units covered. Clients mentioned fear of contamination, reduction in the quality of services and fear of being tested positive as some of the reasons for this situation. This Access was reduced by demand and supply side barriers including transportation disruptions, financial hardships, limited resources and legal restrictions. Faced with this situation, some health personnel developed tele-consultation techniques using telephones and the internet, but unfortunately this did not work well. These findings call for the strengthening of health system's preparedness in Cameroon and elsewhere and resilience to safeguard access to essential sexual and reproductive health care services during the ongoing pandemic (COVID-19) and future emergencies.

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Changes Implemented in the Polish Garment Factory During Covid-19 Pandemic and Shift Worker's Health and Well-being

The SARS-CoV-2 outbreak, among others, has contributed to organizational transitions in workplaces in enterprises, it was necessary to reorganize shift guidelines to prevent and manage the risk of COVID-19 infection. Work-related changes implemented in the workplace concerned: distance assurance, limiting contact with people outside the workplace, remote work, changing work conditions (e.g. smaller teams of employees, reduction of shift groups, extension of working hours from 8 to 12-hour shifts). Most of the changes tended to reduce contact between employees, which limited social contacts. A professional group that could socialize less frequently on a daily basis are shift workers because of its specific work time schedule. Building a social life for shift workers is much more difficult when most activities are arranged according to the day-orientated rhythms of the general population. Social networks, social engagement, and stress are indicated as potential mediators of disease in shift workers. Results of the study reveal worse self-assessed general health ($\beta = 0.20$, 95% CI=0.0481, 0.846, $p=0.028$), mental health ($\beta = 0.18$, 95% CI=0.0294, 0.712, $p=0.034$) as well as lower relationship satisfaction ($\beta = -0.23$, 95% CI= -0.875, -0.003, $p=0.048$) by shift workers between 2020 and 2021. Longitudinal survey data collected from 631 garment factory workers in Poland in 2019 and followed up in 2020 and 2021 were used. The prospective associations were examined using generalized estimating equations [for continuous outcomes – standardized regression estimates, and for dichotomous outcomes – odds ratios – were reported]. All models were controlled for prior sociodemographic variables: gender, age, education, and baseline values of all outcome variables simultaneously (to limit the risk of reverse causation).

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The Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on pathological gambling in Italy

The Covid-19 pandemic had a strong impact on the way gambling was accessed. The closure of public establishments (and in particular gambling venues) and the increased free time available during the lockdown has pushed players towards online gaming channels that allow continuous and unobtrusive access to various games and betting systems. The effects of this new condition have produced complex results. On the one hand, some gamblers have increased their access to gambling by increasing the problematic nature of their addiction in the absence or strong reduction of a public support service that is also limited by the effects of the lockdown. At the same time, isolation has been a source of liberation for some. Thanks to round-the-clock contact with relatives, family members or cohabitants, some gamblers have found the possibility to detach themselves from gambling and start a new life path. Still, for others, online gambling has become the gateway to a previously unknown form of addiction. The picture is, therefore, highly complex, and this presentation summarises the main results for Italy.

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