The World Wellbeing Panel

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Basic philosophy

- Major decision makers should base their decisions on the highest wellbeing of their population.
  - Normative.
  - Empirically based on proxies for what individuals themselves think about their wellbeing.
  - Explorative.
  - Despite 50 years of research, solid evidence on actual policies is scarce.
  - We don’t even know what the opinions of the experts is.
How do we wish to contribute?

To discuss policies and major events against the aim of maximising wellbeing.

- Just as it is normal to discuss decisions in terms of money or security. We are about wellbeing.
- A community of wellbeing researchers.
- We discuss a relevant question each month and disseminate into the media.
- A coalition of the willing. On each question, each month.
- Minimal effort for any panel member.
- It starts out by invitation. If it goes well, we professionalise.
Dear Paul
Thank you for agreeing to respond to this month's World Wellbeing Panel survey. The survey closes at midnight (GMT) on Friday the 16th December 2016.

To complete the Survey click: December_2016_WWP_Survey

Very Important: Please do not share the above hyperlink with anyone else: it is your personal connection to this month's survey, and; it is how we attribute your response to you.

You can change your responses later on if you so wish, but only until the survey closing date.

The results will be disseminated to the media around the 20th of December and will be available on the LSE website http://cep.lse.ac.uk/wwp/ . At the same time, the results will go to the media. We will send you an email with a link to the results and the website, which then goes live to the public.

Any questions, concerns or comments related to this survey, please email: cep.wwp@lse.ac.uk

http://lse.ac.uk/cep/wwp
Who is the panel. What do they do.

- Screen shots of email, survey page, results page, panel list.

- The panel is currently Anglo-heavy. That is an advantage in the short run in terms of getting it going. In the longer-run, we want to be more spread-out.
What the panel will not do.

- Deliberate endlessly about the meaning of wellbeing. Or the question of just what the ‘population’ is. Or who the decision maker is.

- It is up to individual panel members to interpret wellbeing and decide which population they care about.

- Consensus will emerge organically, or not.
Timeline

- Questions get posed around the 10th of each month.
- Panel members have 1 or 2 weeks to answer.
- The answers get written up into a summary and posted (with the full answers) on a website and to journalists.
- The cycle starts anew.
Governance

The WWP is overseen by a 7-person steering group that ultimately gets to make the decisions and evaluates the endeavour:

Richard Layard, Ruut Veenhoven, John Helliwell, Paul Dolan, Nick Powdthavee, Paul Frijters, Andrew Clark.

The day-to-day running is in the hands of a trio of academics (Paul Frijters, Nick Powdthavee, and Tony Beatton). An LSE support team.
How can you help?

- Provide useful questions to pose.
- Disseminate results for your own region.
- Follow us and tweet the results on.
- Set up a copy-cat just for your country. Or for PhD students?
Contacts

cep.wwp@lse.ac.uk
http://lse.ac.uk/cep/wwp