



Why Does Inequality Matter?

Paula Casal & Andrew Williams

ASAP  Academics Stand
Against Poverty

 ICREA  upf.  Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona

Why combat inequality?

1. Because it is at an all time high
2. Because all principles of distributive justice indirectly condemn it.
3. Because of its causes
4. Because of its consequences
5. Because it is moving to town

Economic inequality is greater than ever, even as *relational* equality (women, children, minorities...) may also be better than ever.



80 people



we

= half humanity (4 billion)



JUST

8

BILLIONAIRES OWN THE SAME
WEALTH AS THE POOREST
3.6 BILLION PEOPLE



DEMAND AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS
FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST THE FEW

**EVEN
IT UP**



OXFAM

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PRINCIPLES



- Utility: greatest happiness of the **greatest number**
- Sufficiency: what matters is that all **have enough**
- Priority: benefits matter more the **worse off you are**
- Equality: it is bad if some are worse off **than others**

Diminishing marginal utility





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THE INCOMPLETE REVOLUTION

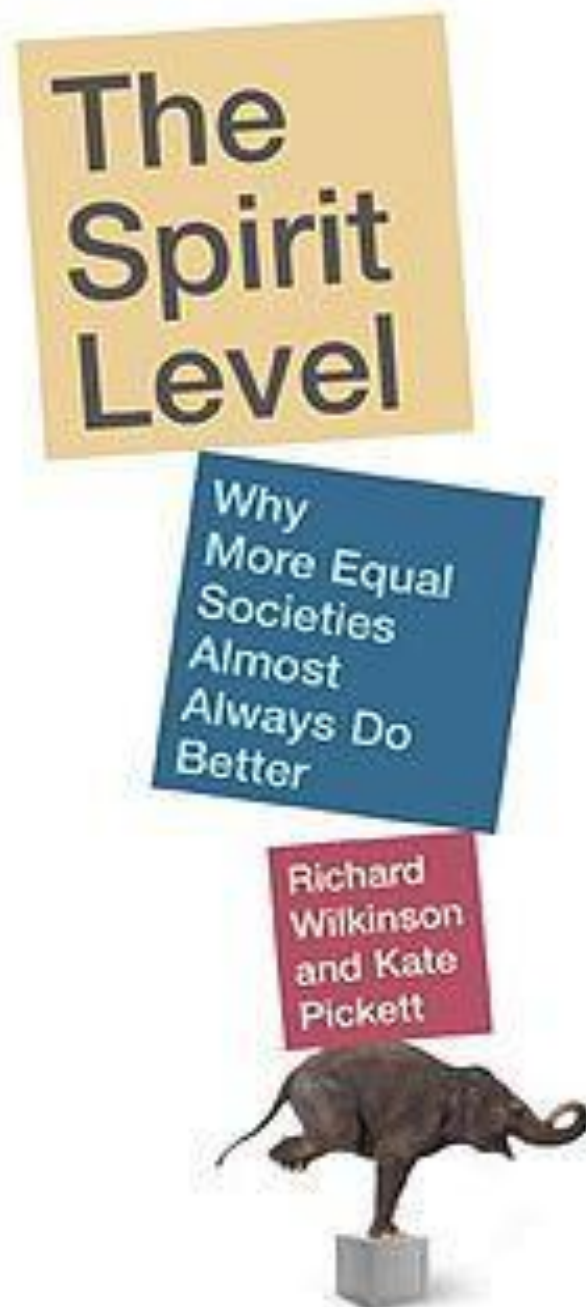
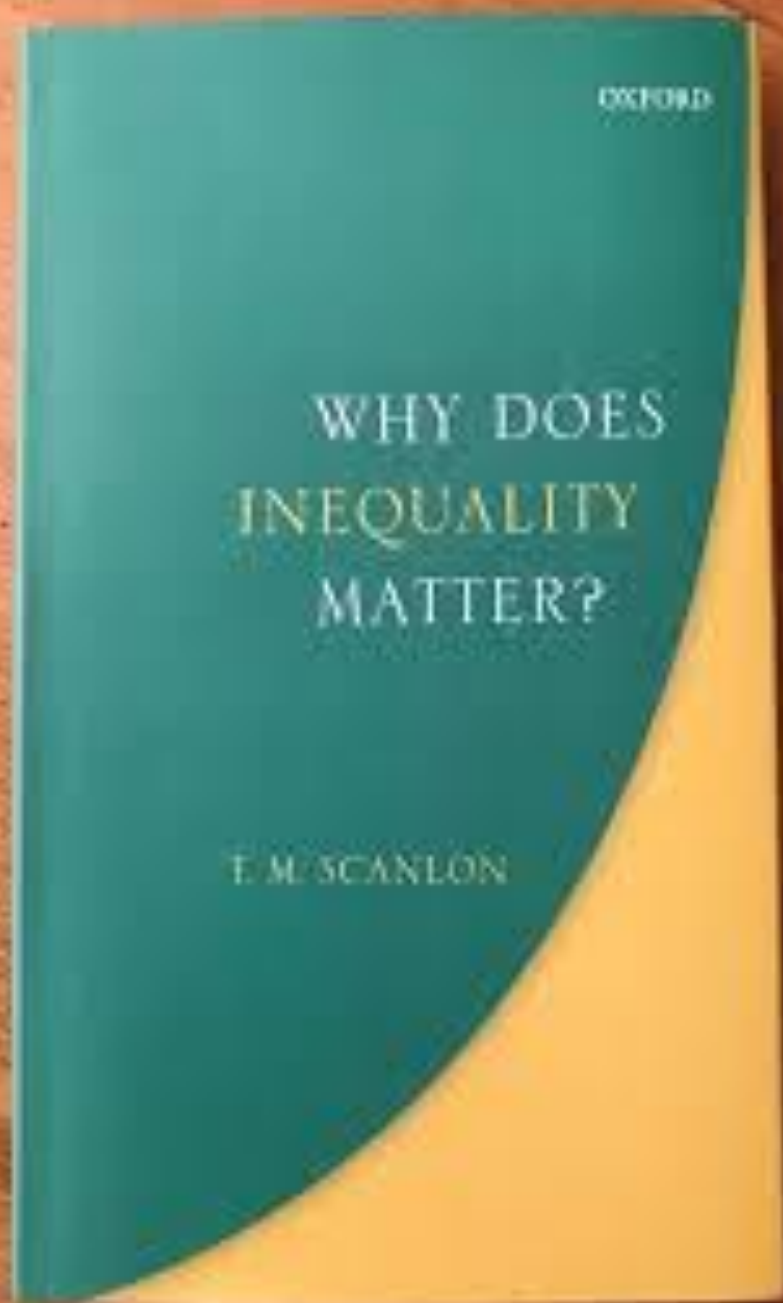
ADAPTING TO WOMEN'S NEW ROLES

GØSTA ESPING-ANDERSEN



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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

"A searing read." —Nicholas Kristof

THE PRICE OF
INEQUALITY

HOW TODAY'S DIVIDED SOCIETY
ENDANGERS OUR FUTURE

WITH A NEW PREFACE

▼
THE
ECONOMICS
OF
INEQUALITY

TRANSLATED BY ARTHUR GOLDHAMMER

THOMAS
PIKETTY



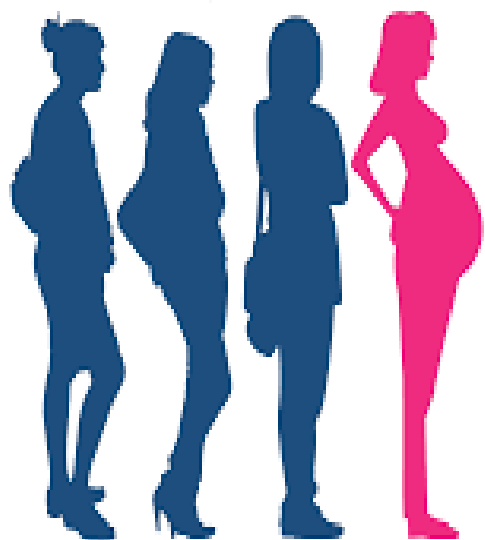
**THOMAS
PIKETTY**



**CAPITAL
ET
IDÉOLOGIE**

SEUIL





ROUGHLY
1 IN 4
TEENS GET
PREGNANT
BY AGE 20





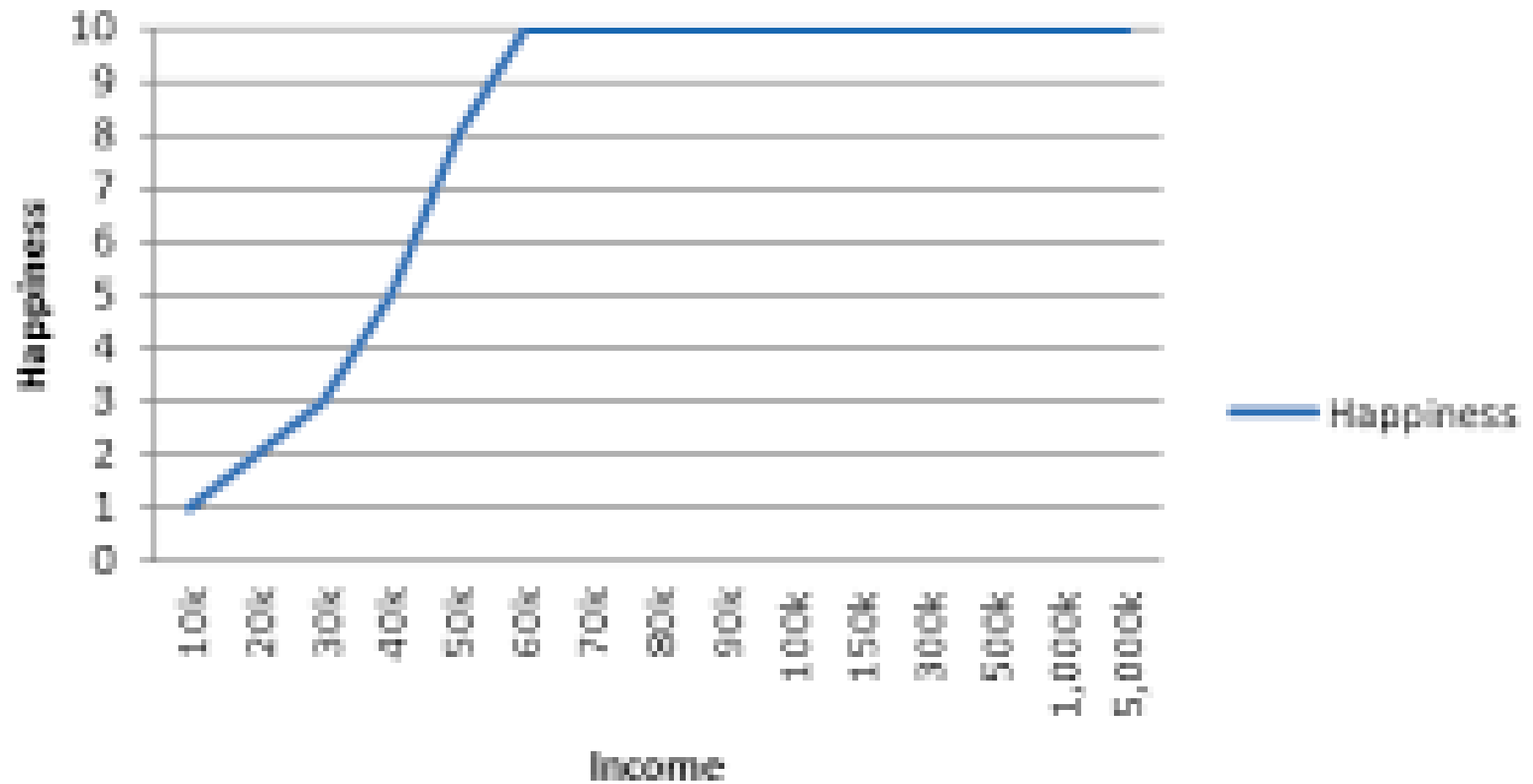


**If you think
education is
expensive, try
ignorance.**

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



Happiness vs Income



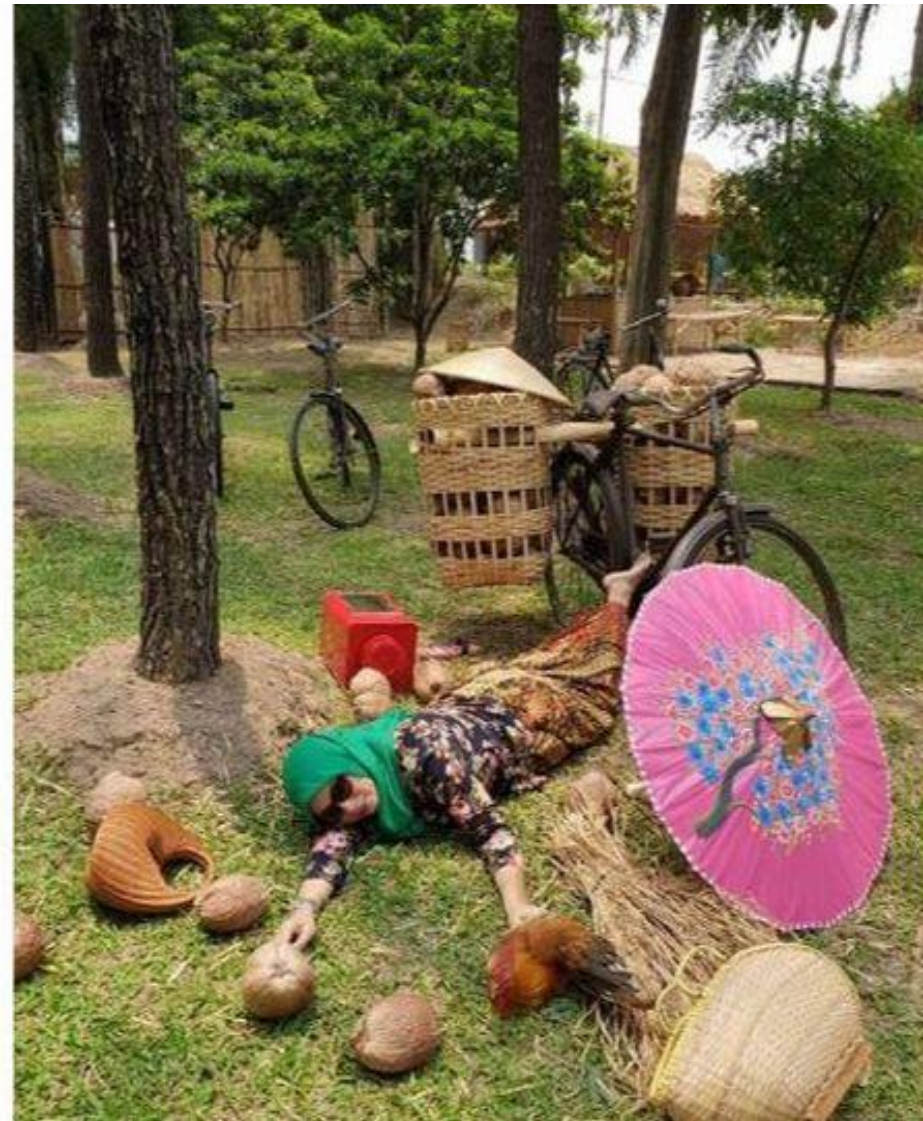
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Falling stars challenge



Explicit bias

Expressed directly

Aware of bias

Operates consciously

Example -- "I like whites more than Latinos."

Implicit bias

Expressed indirectly

Unaware of bias

Operates sub-consciously

Example -- sitting further away from a Latino than a white individual.

Source: Unconscious (Implicit) Bias and Health Disparities: Where Do We Go from Here?

African American

European American

or

or

Bad

Good



European American

or

Bad

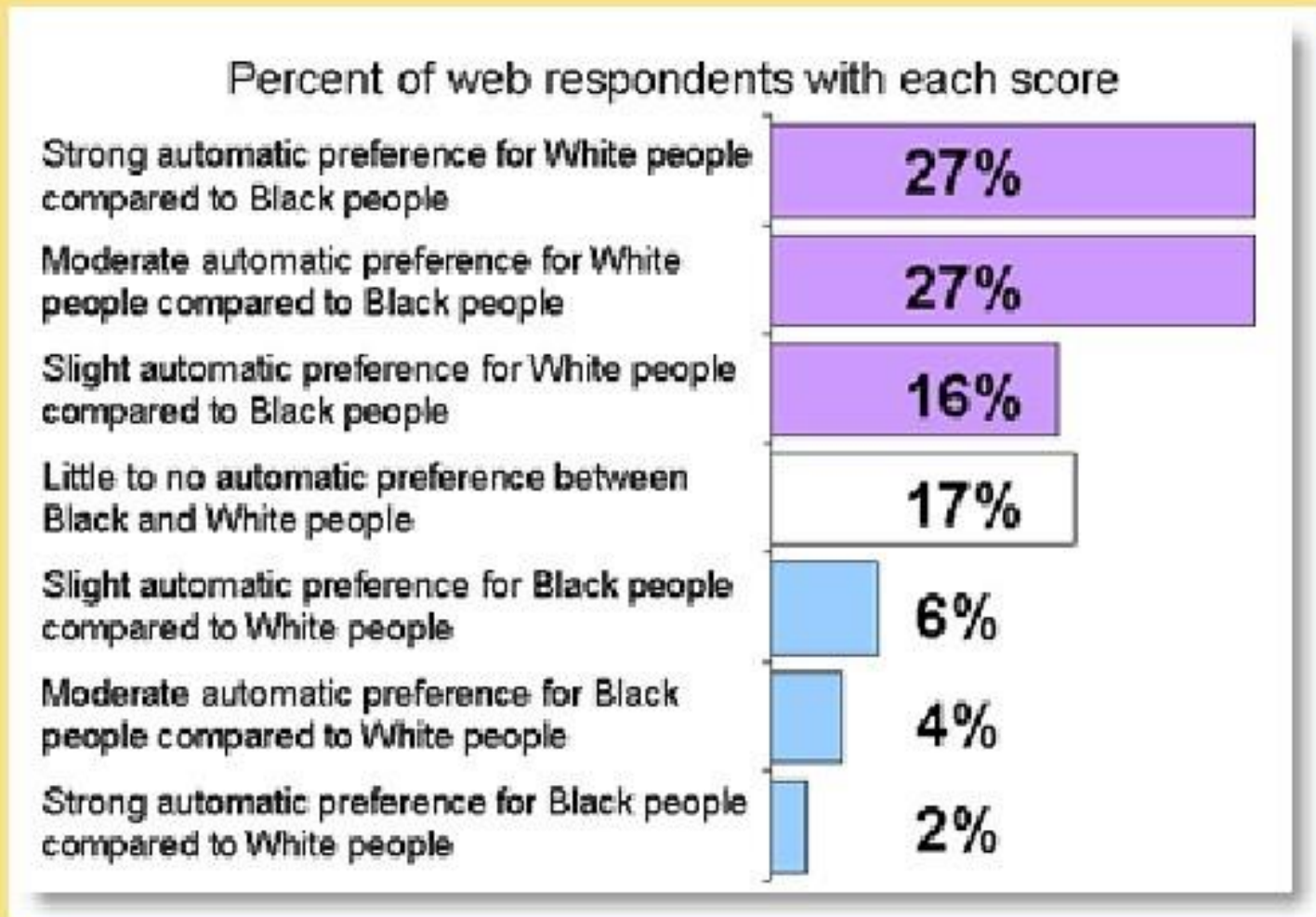
African American

or

Good



Harvard Implicit Association Test



<http://implicit.harvard.edu>



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Greater visibility of both social and natural inequalities



Public parks: social blenders?





**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**



Ecology and equality



Thank you!