



Reciprocate to Accumulate! – May 2010

(Going out to 387 international subscribers)

- 1-. Social Mirror Theory
- 2-. Life in the UK Becoming Lonelier
- 3-. Making Good Society
- 4-. A New Vision of Active Citizenship
- 5-. Social Capital Formation and Diversity in Canadian Cities
- 6-. The Amazing Power of Social Networks and How They Shape Our Lives
- 7-. Events
- 8-. Interesting Links

1-. Social Mirror Theory

Society is currently experiencing a lack in social cohesion and human relationships. Why is this? Is it due to this lack of confidence? Do people feel that they are not valued by their communities? Social capital is built through meaningful interactions between people which facilitates the learning and use of skills and knowledge. Unlike other forms of capital, using social capital increases it, so investing in social capital builds social capital itself, making it a renewable asset!
<http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=138>

2-. Life in the UK becoming Lonelier

A study commissioned by the BBC found community life in Britain has weakened substantially over the past 30 years. The research shows 97% neighbourhoods in every part of the UK have become more socially fragmented. Researchers created "loneliness indices", to identify anomie, where people had a "feeling of not belonging". Their conclusion is that an increase in anomie weakens the "social glue" of communities, resulting in neighbourhoods likely to be less trusting and more fearful. <http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=139>

3-. Making Good Society

A recent report by the Carnegie UK Trust into the state of the UK and Irelands Civil Society activities discovered that while thriving in terms of numbers of organisations there is a need to promote conditions that strengthen and foster healthy civil society. The report advocates building greater diversity of economic organisations rooted in civil society, including co-operatives, social enterprises, charities and trusts, and increasing the influence of civil society on decision-makers. <http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=141>

4-. A New Vision of Active Citizenship

The Citizen Power: Peterborough programme is a two-year programme exploring different ways of cultivating active citizenship at a local level. The 'Citizen Power in Peterborough' report argues for a civic rather than a consumerist approach to public services and tackling social challenges. More power should be redistributed and decision-making more decentralised. The programme will include working with drug users to design drug services; developing and evaluating behaviour change strategies to promote environmentally-friendly behaviours. <http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=140>

5- Social Capital Formation and Diversity in Canadian Cities

A report by the Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Diversity suggests that despite suggestions that minority status can have a negative impact on social capital, in Canada this is not the case. Somehow, they are able to manage diversity. Ravi Pendakur, an associate professor at the University of Ottawa and co-author of the study says "It doesn't mean we don't have to be careful in the future, but it means up until this point, things are not bad." .

<http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=142>

6- The Amazing Power of Social Networks and How They Shape Our Lives

A talk at the RSA in London by Nicholas Christakis, Professor of Medical Sociology in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. His work focuses on the relationship between social networks and health. People are inter-connected, so their health is inter-connected. <http://www.tinyurls.co.uk/K3253>

7- Events

Coping, Resilience & Hope Building, 9–11th July 2010, Brisbane, Australia

The conference aims to advance evidence-based practices in resilience promotion and hope building. It will look at interplay of individual, family, community and social responsibility factors in resilience and provide directions for future practice and research. <http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=135>

Java World Congress 2010, 26-28th November, Colombo, Sri Lanka

The World Congress on Integrating Open Source Java Technologies to Build Social Capital in Achieving United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will bring the knowledge and experience of international, national and grassroots leaders in diverse fields to show case the true potential of Technology Integration for the betterment of our peoples' lives. <http://www.social-capital.net/showart.php?articleid=143>

8- Interesting Links

Resilience Alliance was established in 1999 and is supported by an international network of member institutions that includes universities, government, and non-government agencies. <http://www.resalliance.org/1.php>

Graph.me: a social benchmarking platform where you can start your own poll to find out which piece of the pie chart you belong – and who's "on your side". <http://graph.me/#/Poll>

SocialPulse.com: a platform for individuals and businesses to capture their web footprint, edit, enhance and brand it and nurture their valuable activities in one place and build social capital. <http://www.socialpulse.com>

For further information visit our website at www.social-capital.net

Assist Social Capital
Registered Office: 54 Manor Place, Edinburgh, EH3 7EH
Registered in Scotland
Company Registration No. 270426
Scottish Charity No. SC 035728

If you would like to unsubscribe from this e-bulletin send an email to unsubscribe@social-capital.net