



WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE?

WENDY A. NAUS

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS



Association of American
Law Schools



Population Association of America

MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
African Studies Association
American Association of Geographers
American Council of Learned Societies
American Evaluation Association
American Historical Association
American Psychosomatic Society
Association for Asian Studies
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations
Association of Research Libraries
Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences
Council on Social Work Education
Economic History Association
History of Science Society
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
National Council on Family Relations
North American Regional Science Council
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
Florida State University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Howard University
Indiana University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
The George Washington University
The Ohio State University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Chicago
University of Georgia

University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Tech
West Virginia University
Yale University

CENTERS & INSTITUTES

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Social Science Research, University of
Massachusetts, Amherst
NORC at the University of Chicago
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of
Georgia
RTI International
Social Science Research Council

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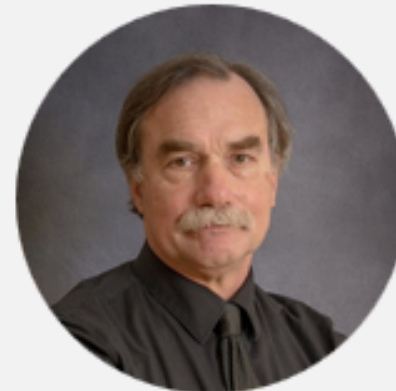
The U.S. federal government's modest annual investment in social and behavioral science research yields significant benefits for the American people. New findings continue to increase the efficiency of our industries, improve the quality of K-12 education, help us understand crime patterns and evaluate prevention strategies, help manage our natural resources, keep our troops safe, help us to be informed as consumers, and even allow paralyzed individuals to communicate.

Among the countless innovations enabled by federal support





Because Social Science Informs Effective, Efficient, and Equitable Education Policies



Because Social Science Makes Sense of the Institutions That Shape Our Lives



Because Social Science Drives Smart Investments in Public Safety

JUNE 20, 2017

When I make a new acquaintance and am asked the inevitable question, "What do you do for a living?," I'm often tempted to fib and reply that I'm a middle school teacher, a real estate agent, or an accountant – professions that most every member of the public knows and understands with little need for additional explanation. Not so when I answer honestly that I'm a criminologist. That response is often met with, "Oh, so you're a lawyer?" or "You mean like on CSI?" My reply depends on how much time I have – usually not



Because Multilingualism Is an Asset and a Goal Worth Pursuing

MAY 24, 2017

In late 2014, the [American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#) received two letters from Congress, one from a bipartisan group of U.S. Senators and one from a bipartisan group of Representatives, requesting a new study of the state of language learning in America. The letters framed the request as a follow-up to the work of the Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences, which published its influential [Heart of the](#)

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Because Small Tweaks to Behavior Can Be the Difference Between Life and Death

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

As a psychologist specializing in habits, decision-making, and behavior change, David Neal works with health organizations and private companies. As Founder and Managing Director of Behavioral Sciences, LLC and Executive-in-Residence at Duke University's Center for the Study of Behavioral Science, he uses behavioral science to help people improve their lives by changing their habits. He describes behavioral science as "the science of understanding nonobvious pathways to help people achieve their goals." He believes that being then help them to stick with those healthier, happier choices and behaviors.



Because Information Without Meaning Lacks Purpose

JUNE 06, 2017



Because It Makes the World Safe for Cultural Differences

FEBRUARY 14, 2017



Because It Makes Computing Work for People

SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

Two years ago, the leadership of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee looked to an organization, a number of key research funding programs, and a flat by bolstering the role of the social, behavioral, and economic sciences (SBESE) CRA, which includes a variety of approaches, including computational approaches, giving us a new perspective on the challenges we have to our nation.



Because We Need to Understand What Will Motivate People to Take Action

MARCH 14, 2017



Because All Fields of Science Are Drivers of Freedom and Prosperity

APRIL 11, 2017

Why Social Science Is Marching for Science

Why Social Science? is a space to talk about the unique contributions the social and behavioral sciences have made to making our society better and improving the lives of people around the world. However, this week, we're broadening our core question as the upcoming March for Science brings the opportunity for us to join with fellow scientists, researchers, and supporters from across fields, disciplines, professions, and industries to focus on **Why Science**—all science—is such a fundamental driver of human progress around the world.



Because Social and Behavioral Research Improves Health and Quality of Life

SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

Medical research empowers the development of new interventions to prevent, diagnose and treat disease, but it is not the only scientific discipline crucial to advancing health. By fostering understanding of human behavior, preferences, and motivations, social and behavioral research provides new strategies for achieving optimal health outcomes. Social and behavioral research provides the world context needed to ensure the products of medical research—prescription drugs, medical surgical procedures, and more—benefit patients efficiently and effectively. And social and behavioral research is nothing less than crucial to achieving more progress in prevention. Underinvesting in research squanders countless opportunities to improve the health of our nation.



Because Social Science Is the Fundamental Bedrock of Just Societies

OCTOBER 10, 2017

I am writing this blog informed by multiple perspectives—as a publisher of social science for over 50 years; as a social activist for over 60 years; and as a philanthropist for nearly 30 years.



Because Social Science Is Necessary to Achieve Health Equity

APRIL 25, 2017

Living in an America in which all populations have an equal opportunity to live long, healthy, and productive lives is the vision of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. As we bring National Minority Health Month to a close, it is important to remember that not all groups have obtained health equity. Racial and ethnic minorities, rural residents, people with disadvantaged socioeconomic resources and sexual and gender minorities carry a disproportionate burden of illness and disease. The search to determine the best way to reduce health disparities and to achieve health equity remains challenging for all of us.



Because the Social and Behavioral Sciences Contribute to Improving the Health of the Population

JANUARY 31, 2017

While waiting in line for a Broadway play, the couple behind us asked why we were in New York, and I told them I was at a meeting on medication adherence. "Oh, you're a doctor?" they asked. "Technically, yes, but I'm a psychologist" I said. They responded, "What does psychology have to do with medication adherence?" It was at that moment that most people do not understand that social and behavioral factors are the primary contributors to health and illness, and that when ill, these factors also play a significant role in disease management and health care delivery, including the relatively simple behavior of taking a pill.



Because It Is in the National Interest, Both in Interdisciplinary Work and on Its Own

MARCH 28, 2017

As a scientist, it is easy to become absorbed in the field or even subfield you are studying and simply focus on the value of your own research within that area of study. Looking back at my time as a political scientist, I understand how easy it is to have that narrow focus and not look at the broader impacts. But today, as the value of federal funding for scientific research is being challenged in Congress, scientists can no longer afford to do this. This is especially true for social scientists.

HILL BRIEFING SERIES

WHY?
SOCIAL
SCIENCE

- Launched this year, 2-3/year
- 1st event: April 18 with Alvin Roth discussing matching markets and kidney exchanges
- 2nd event: October 4 featuring NIH, computer science, criminology, Rep Lipinski
- Not intended as one-off events – looking to produce evergreen content.
- Videos available at <http://www.cossa.org/resources>



#WHYSOCIALSCIENCE

SBM Health Policy
@SBMHealthPolicy

Follow

@BehavioralMed leaders are visiting with #healthpolicy aides on Capitol Hill today! #Stand4Science #WhySocialScience #FundNIH



Amber Tompsett @atmpstt · Oct 18
Social science at the Supreme Court @DocCamiRyan

Vox @voxdotcom

Read the surprisingly scathing letter leading sociologists sent to Chief Justice John Roberts: bit.ly/2yJ5I3a

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Cami Ryan
@DocCamiRyan

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Replying to @atmpstt

There's nothing soft about the social sciences.
#NotGobbledygook #whysocialscience

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Golden Goose Award
@GoldenGooseAward

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Silly sounding #science is helping more people get kidney transplants. #WhySocialScience #ScienceServes

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Kerth O'Brien
@kerthobrien

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In Portland, lots of support for science today @sciencemarchpdx #whysocialscience #marchforscience @spssi @apascience @SocialPsych



Tobin L. Smith
@SciPolGuy

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.@wendynaus from @COSSADC speaks on social sci funding & advocacy in the U.S. & why it matters at #ImpactSSH #WhySocialScience @AesisNet



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COSSA
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Excited to be representing COSSA at #CCAS2017 in Denver! @CCAS_Deans #whysocialscience



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BlackPhysicists @BlackPhysicists
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9:29 AM - 14 Oct 2017

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Web: www.cosssa.org and www.whysocialscience.com

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