

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN ECONOMISTS DISCUSSION PAPERS

December 2009

From the Editor:

Christmas this year heralds the inaugural issue of the ACE Discussion Paper series. The motivation for switching from a journal to a discussion paper format is to facilitate the submission of contributions from authors who may also wish to publish their articles elsewhere.

The first two discussion papers are supplied by new contributors to ACE. The first paper, by David Clough, Richard Higginson and Michael Parsons, is timely. It addresses the topic of sub-prime lending in the context of Jewish and Christian ethical teaching on usury. The second paper by Elissaios Papyrakis and Geetha Selvaretnam investigates the impact of growing life expectancy on church attendance and draws some interesting conclusions for church leaders. The third paper by Paul Oslington revives the roundtable debate (ACE Journal No.36, November 2006) on the state and future of Christian Economics. It includes a welcome report on a recent conference in Canada on Economics and Theology organised by Paul.

Pope Benedict's recent encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* addresses questions of human development and has attracted praise from across the Christian spectrum. It has been endorsed by the Center for Public Justice and some members of ACE are signatories to this endorsement. For further information, look at the following web page <http://www.cpjustice.org/doingthetruth>.

Please note the usual advertisement overleaf for our annual small research grant competition.

Do feel free to send shorter reflection pieces as well as regular length submissions and constructive replies or comments on previously published discussion papers. A set of preferred style and formatting guidelines for contributions is published on page iv.

It remains to wish you a contented Christmas, full of stimulating reflections on Christian Economics to be written up and disseminated in the New Year.

Ian Smith
(Contact details overleaf)

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The ACE web pages can be found at:

<http://www.christian-economists.org.uk/>

ACE Small Research Grant Fund

2009-10 Call for Proposals

The Association of Christian Economists UK (ACE) aims to promote discussion and research on economics and related topics from a distinctively Christian perspective. With this aim in mind, we are holding an annual competition for one or more awards of up to £1000 to support research consistent with the aims of ACE. Proposals would be expected to support a small research project or facilitate a research network leading to a submission worthy of publication in ACE Discussion Papers. It is envisaged that grants might be requested in order to pay for direct research expenses incurred such as the hire of a student research assistant, travel or information costs. Applicants should be current members of ACE UK. Applications are considered throughout the year and decisions on funding will be taken collectively by the officers of the society.

To apply, contact Michael Pollitt (m.pollitt@jims.cam.ac.uk) with a one page proposal.

THE ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN ECONOMISTS
DISCUSSION PAPERS

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001. David Clough, Richard Higginson and Michael Parsons,

Usury, Investment and the Sub-Prime Sector

002. Elissaios Papyrakis and Geethanjali Selvaretnam,

**The Greying Church: the impact of life expectancy on
religiosity**

003. Paul Oslington,

**Wither Christian Economics? Further reflections in the light
of a conference, “The Future of Economics and Theology as
an Interdisciplinary Research Field”**

Guidelines for submissions to the Association of Christian Economists Discussion Papers

Submissions should not normally exceed 25 pages in length.

The line spacing for paragraphs is single. The font is Times New Roman 12 point for all text, including footnotes, to facilitate readability. Select A4 for the paper size. Margins should be 1 inch at the top and bottom and 1.25 inches at the left and right.

All paragraphs should be fully justified.

The first line of a new paragraph should be indented, with the exception of paragraphs that follow a heading, sub-heading or table or figure where there is no indentation required. There should be one blank line between paragraphs and two blank lines before a main heading or a sub-heading.

Main headings should be in bold and consecutively numbered using arabic numerals (1., 2., 3. etc). Sub-headings should be in italics and numbered consecutively and differentiated from the main heading by the use of a decimal point (e.g. 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 etc).

Footnotes should be used in preference to endnotes, but kept to a minimum.

Page numbers should be at the top of the page and aligned on the 'outside'.

Headings for tables and titles for figures should be above the relevant text, centred and in bold. Tables and figures should have their own separate (arabic) numerical sequences.

Citations in the main text and footnotes should be given as follows:

Viner (1978), Iannaccone (1988, p.23), Hay (1989, pp.45-50), Becker (1981a) or (Viner, 1978; Iannaccone, 1988, p.23) as appropriate.

A list of references should be collected at the end of the discussion paper with full bibliographic details. This is preferable to including such details in footnotes. Examples of formatting for the list of references are given below:

References

Cheyne, A. (1999), *Studies in Scottish Church History*, Edinburgh: T & T Clark.

Stark, R. (2006), An Economics of Religion, in Segal, R. (ed.) *The Blackwell Companion to the Study of Religion*, Oxford: Blackwell.

Voas, D. Olson, D and Crockett, A. (2002), Religious pluralism and participation: why previous research is wrong, *American Sociological Review*, 67(2), 212-230.

Please leave a blank line between each of your references.