

Media Update February 2009

GEOFF MULGAN

Citation of Prospect article in Times article – 4th February 2009

Writing in Prospect magazine, Geoff Mulgan, of the Young Foundation, a centre for social innovation, points out that Murray's case flies in the face of evidence showing that IQ rates across the social spectrum are rising; Mulgan argues that in countries such as Finland, where education is genuinely comprehensive, there are higher performances overall and a smaller gap between top and bottom.

'Don't try to teach pupils who can't learn' – Magnus Linklater. The Times
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/magnus_linklater/article5654285.ece

Geoff Mulgan on innovation, the recession and 'Fixing the Future' – The Today Programme, BBC R4. 16th February 2009

According to one of Tony Blair's former top policy advisors, Geoff Mulgan, the way governments around the world are responding to the recession shows they still think they owe special favours to old industries like the motor manufacturing sector. Mr Mulgan explains the implications of bias.

Former advisor to Tony Blair says recovery packages are biased towards big businesses not innovative businesses. BBC R4 – Interview.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/the_westminster_hour/7848141.stm

Health Inequalities Review Commissioners announced – including Geoff Mulgan. Health Service Journal.

http://www.hsj.co.uk/news/2009/02/health_inequalities_review_commissioners_announced.html

Social Innovation in New Zealand – scoop.co.nz. 26th February 2009.

"Social innovation is a movement that has taken hold in the UK and enjoyed notable successes in areas like peer-to-peer therapy, adult apprenticeships and the celebrated schoolofeverything.com... ..The former Director of Policy at 10 Downing Street and an advisor to the Obama Administration, Geoff Mulgan, is also actively supporting the work in New Zealand, and will be meeting with key leaders here in April."

More Canny And Less Nanny
<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU0902/S00504.htm>

Geoff Mulgan on seven key lessons for Obama 'The Art of Public Strategy: How Obama can be a strategic success and not a strategic failure'

OUP USA Blog. 26th February 2009
http://blog.oup.com/2009/02/public_strategy/

SOCIAL INNOVATION

Social Innovation in Europe and the USA under Barroso and Obama – YF mentioned in French research round up. 6th February 2009.

'Innovation sociale: The Young Foundation : L'innovation sociale a le soutien des président Obama et Barroso (angl.) Le président de la commission européenne José Barroso a décidé de donner plus de place à l'innovation sociale en Europe : "la crise financière et économique a encore accru l'importance de la créativité et de l'innovation en général, et de l'innovation sociale en particulier (...). La conception et la mise en oeuvre de réponses créatives aux besoins sociaux devrait également être l'un des fer de lance du président américain qui a annoncé la création d'un bureau de l'innovation social au sein de son gouvernement. Pour Geoff Mulgan, directeur de la fondation pour la jeunesse britannique, la crise économique va aider à rendre l'innovation sociale grand public !'

A Lire Ailleurs – Herbert Guillaud
<http://www.internetactu.net/2009/02/06/a-lire-ailleurs-du-1er-au-6-fevrier-2009/>



Social Innovation as a means to 'rescue us from this crisis'? (13th February 2009)

'Sous l'appellation un peu fourre-tout d'"innovation sociale", se rencontrent depuis longtemps des mouvements issus de traditions très différentes. Leur point commun: prôner l'innovation "par les gens, pour les gens". On y croise pêle-mêle des mouvements philanthropiques et des entrepreneurs sociaux à l'anglo-saxonne, comme Ashoka, des acteurs du développement local qui promeuvent une démarche participative, telle Adels (Association pour la démocratie et l'éducation locale et sociale) en France, des associations qui restaurent un lien direct entre les producteurs et les consommateurs, comme les Amap (Associations pour le maintien d'une agriculture paysanne), mais aussi des sociétés et des think-tanks qui mobilisent l'innovation comme technique d'ingénierie sociale, à l'image de la Young Foundation au Royaume-Uni. Ces mouvements, qui trouvent parfois dans l'Internet un formidable champ d'expérimentation et de déploiement, constituent une dynamique qui, sortant des schémas d'action et de pensée traditionnels, pourraient apporter des réponses valables à la crise et constituer des solutions pragmatiques aux problèmes quotidiens des citoyens.'

*L'innovation sociale pour nous sortir de la crise! - Marjorie Jouen et Stéphane Vincent InternetActu.net
http://www.prospect-magazine.co.uk/article_details.php?id=10540*

LEARNING LAUNCHPAD

National Body for Youth Leadership consortium announced, including the Young Foundation – 18th February 2009.

*NYA heads young people's leadership consortium - Charlotte Goddard.
<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/ByDiscipline/Youth-Work/login/882042/>*

'Apprentice' winner backs Learning Launchpad's education fund' – The Press Association

"The first winner of BBC's The Apprentice is backing a new fund offering grants of up to £100,000 to support projects that provide young people with alternatives to traditional education. Tim Campbell is supporting an investment fund, designed to change the lives of young people from disadvantaged communities across Britain, launched by the Young Foundation."

*'Apprentice' backs education fund' - The Press Association
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5j_noCm_zh5MeIjDtnq9Hz2MPuYhA*

RESEARCH

The challenge of the recession for London – London Collaborative (&YF).

"The challenges posed by the recession can only be overcome if boroughs and the voluntary sector work closely together to support Londoners through the downturn. That's the key message from a speech delivered by London Councils' Chairman Councillor Merrick Cockell to representatives from the voluntary sector, government and community organisations at an event held in Mercers' Hall, London."

*Boroughs and voluntary sector must work together to support Londoners in the recession -Chris Hogwood. Black UK Online
http://www.blackukonline.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=766&Itemid=39*

Revaluing 'soft-skills' – the importance of non-cognitive attributes in educating people for life – Resilience project. 25th February 2009.

"The government is aware of the challenge. Verbally, at least, it endorses creativity and innovation and the importance of the soft skills - non-cognitive attributes such as attitudes, values and beliefs, self-confidence, enterprise, creativity, determination and persistence. These skills are much loved by the right as the ingredients of "character". It is these soft skills that the allegedly dumb Jade Goody has developed in public over the past several years. In its actions, however, Labour still sticks to the past: IQ, exams and rigidly unimaginative didactic teaching rules...

...Flexibility, teamwork, problem-solving and determination are what's required - and while Trimble might have almost singlehandedly won it for Corpus Christi, as a society we can no longer afford to leave the thinking to an academic elite. Or endorse an education system that does not sufficiently invest in developing the non-cognitive skills and character that allow a child to achieve his or her full potential.

Or to put it another way, we may have as much to learn from the unorthodox adult "education" of Jade Goody, as we do from the intellectual brilliance and application of Gail Trimble."

*Soft skills and starters for 10. For all Gail Trimble's great intellect, we may have as much to learn from Jade Goody's educational path. - Yvonne Roberts - The Guardian.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/feb/25/education-policy-academia-iq-tests/print>*

Young Foundation commissioned to look into new ways of improving community cohesion - Third Sector Online

The Young Foundation has been commissioned to research third sector involvement in community cohesion projects. The foundation, which funds social enterprises and local projects and carries out social research, will ask a selection of charities and councils to take part in surveys and telephone interviews

*Research will promote 'harmony' - John Plummer. 26th February 2009
<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/Channels/Policy/login/884436/>*