

Press Update July & August 2007

GENERAL

1. Paul Barker: *GB: Gordon Brown's Great Britain* The Independent

The swelling of the 'underclass' is giving rise to a new phenomenon in British society: downward social mobility. Will the accession of a Prime Minister with old allegiances reverse this trend?
<http://comment.independent.co.uk/commentators/article2725645.ece>

2. A report '*The Power of Information*' that was prepared by Ed Mayo (Young Foundation trustee) and Tom Steinberg (Young Foundation Fellow). The report sets out how government should respond to the growing importance of citizen-created and state-created information on the web.

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news_releases/2007/stories/070607_power_information.asp

3. Sadly, Peter Marris passed away. He was a member of the influential set of post-war British sociologists, who came together at the Institute of Community Studies in the East End of London. The institute was set up initially in 1954 by Michael Young (later Lord Young of Dartington) and other members of the group included Peter Willmott and Peter Townsend.

<http://news.independent.co.uk/people/obituaries/article2733222.ece>

4. Money talks, but are we listening?

The dominance of commercial models must give way to a more subtle approach in government policy making. At the launch of the IPPR report Geoff Mulgan, former head of the prime minister's strategy unit now director of the Young Foundation, coined the phrase "soft paternalism." Much of what government does isn't supplying services as if it were Marks & Spencer. Instead it remedies needs and reprimands, as if it were a parent.

http://commentisfree.guardian.co.uk/david_walker/2007/07/money_talks_but_are_we_listening.html

HOUSING

Councils and Housing Associations 'Collaborate'- Local Government Chronicle

Most housing associations are unclear about how to work with councils and many are cynical about local strategic partnerships, a think tank has found.

The Young Foundation said the associations - which now own more social housing than do councils - were "ill-equipped to understand and take advantage of" the shift towards localism launched in last year's local government white paper. The event was also reported in Inside Housing, the Guardian, Housing News and ROOF

'Eyes on the East'. Rushanara Ali was featured in an article for 'Inside Housing'.

Ms Ali.....works at the Young Foundation, which made the controversial suggestion that housing policy may have unwittingly undermined race relations in the area.

'Let the people decide' , Public Finance online

Last year, the Young Foundation named PB, along with Fair Trade and Wikipedia, as one of the ten most profound innovations in the world.
http://www.cipfa.org.uk/publicfinance/opinion_details.cfm?News_id=30971

Paul Barker wrote in the Evening Standard (16 July) about why we must to think again about tenancies-for-life in social housing: '*Housing price trap needs radical solutions*'

EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

The Independent wrote a feature piece titled *The pioneering technique that's helping to combat depression in the classroom*

Geoff Mulgan, the director of the Young Foundation, says of it: "Over the last few years there has been a huge amount of emphasis on exams, and a huge amount of money going into school buildings, but almost no emphasis on children's wellbeing. We're not claiming this is a magic solution, but Penn is one of the most verified projects of its kind."

<http://education.independent.co.uk/schools/article2780457.ece>

Young Foundation fellow Paul Barker reviewed Rachel Lichtenstein's new book, *On Brick Lane*, in the Arts & Books Review section of the 24 August Independent, under the headline, '*In search of Eden in E1*'.

<http://arts.independent.co.uk/books/reviews/article2889299.ece>

Young Foundation fellow Peter Hall wrote in The Guardian on London Voices London Lives. '*The inside story*' reveals what they {Londoners} really feel about their and their lives

<http://books.guardian.co.uk/departments/politicsphilosophyandsociety/story/0,,2157680,00.html>

