



ADAM SMITH INSTITUTE

Independent Seminar on the Open Society 2nd February 2017

Timetable

10.20 – 10.30	Introductions and welcomes
10.30 -11.00	Sam Bowman – <i>Why immigrants make us richer</i>
11.00- 11.30	Sam Dumitriu - <i>The economics of Uber</i>
11.30 – 12.00	Break
12.00 – 12.30	Ben Southwood - <i>The economics of discrimination</i>
12.30 – 1.00	Flora Laven-Morris – <i>Decriminalising prostitution</i>
1.00 – 2.00	Lunch
2.00 – 2.30	Eamonn Butler – <i>The 1970s: Why things had to change</i>
2.30 – 3.00	Dr Stuart Ritchie – <i>Does IQ matter?</i>
3.00	Finish

About the Adam Smith Institute

The Adam Smith Institute is one of the world's leading think tanks. Independent, non-profit, and non-partisan, it promotes neoliberal ideas through research, publishing, media commentary and educational programmes. Famous for its trail-blazing work on tax, privatization, and public service reform, the Institute at the forefront of making the case for free markets and a free society in the United Kingdom.

Visit www.adamsmith.org to view our publications, read our blog and find out about future student events. You can also find us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter @ASI

Speaker Biographies

Sam Bowman:

Sam Bowman is Deputy Director of the Adam Smith Institute, Britain's leading libertarian think tank, where he has worked since 2010. He is responsible for managing the Institute's team on a daily basis, working on the ASI's overall strategy, acting as a media spokesman for the Institute and writing and researching in his spare time.

His current research agenda is the political economy of "Bleeding Heart Libertarianism", a school of thought that tries to use free market policies to improve the welfare of the poor. His key policy areas are immigration and planning, which he sees as the two major areas where states hurt the poor globally and in the UK respectively. He is also interested in market monetarism, the epistemic challenges facing social democracy, and the case for wealth redistribution within free markets. He likes food, beer and pop music.

He tweets as @s8mb

Sam Dumitriu:

Sam Dumitriu is Head of Projects at the Adam Smith Institute. He is responsible for planning the Institute's events programme, managing donor relations, and handling special projects.

He is interested in the case against capital taxation, and is currently researching a paper making the case for a revenue-neutral move from taxing capital to taxing consumption.

Sam graduated from the University of Manchester in 2015 with a Masters Degree in Philosophy. Before coming to the Adam Smith Institute he worked for WAG TV and the liberal conservative think tank Bright Blue.

He tweets as @Sam_Dumitriu

Ben Southwood:

Ben is Head of Research at the Adam Smith Institute, overseeing the ASI's research papers and strategy. His intellectual interests include monetary regimes, nature vs. nurture in individual differences, sport economics, prediction markets, and quantitative approaches to social phenomena in general.

At the ASI, he wrote a 2014 paper on the effect of foreign footballers on the English side, a 2016 paper on safe standing in football stadia, and his review of scholarly research on the economic burden of corporation tax was published in 2013. His paper on stamp duty will be released in 2017. He has also had a book review published in the academic journal *Intelligence* and wrote the entry on

business cycles in the forthcoming *Encyclopaedia of Social Theory*. He writes regularly on the ASI blog.

In his personal life he is obsessed with music and restaurants.

He tweets as @bswud

Flora Laven-Morris:

Flora Laven-Morris is Head of Communications at the Adam Smith Institute. Following on from a politics degree at Queen Mary University of London, Flora began her career in the world of consumer PR where she worked for three years across a number of accounts including American Express, Barclays, Airbnb, O2 and Sony.

Flora looks after all the ASI's communications and PR and is currently writing a paper on best policy in sex work.

She tweets as @FloraLaven

Dr Eamonn Butler:

Dr Eamonn Butler is Director of the Adam Smith Institute. He has degrees in economics, philosophy and psychology, and gained a PhD from the University of St Andrews in 1978.

During the 1970s he worked on pensions and welfare issues for the US House of Representatives, and taught philosophy in Hillsdale College, Michigan, before returning to the UK to help found the Adam Smith Institute.

Eamonn is author of books on the pioneering economists Milton Friedman, F A Hayek, Ludwig von Mises and Adam Smith, and co-author of *Forty Centuries of Wage and Price Controls* and books on intelligence testing.

He contributes to the leading UK print and broadcast media on current issues, and his recent popular publications *The Best Book on the Market*, *The Rotten State of Britain* and *The Alternative Manifesto* have attracted considerable attention.

He tweets as @eamonnbutler

Dr Stuart Ritchie:

Dr. Stuart J. Ritchie is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology in the University of Edinburgh's Department of Psychology. His research focuses on how intelligence develops and changes across the lifespan, what might influence it in childhood, and how we might prevent it from declining in later life. His studies of intelligence have been published in journals such as *Psychological Science*, *Current Biology*, *Child Development*, and *Intelligence*.

He tweets as @StuartJRitchie