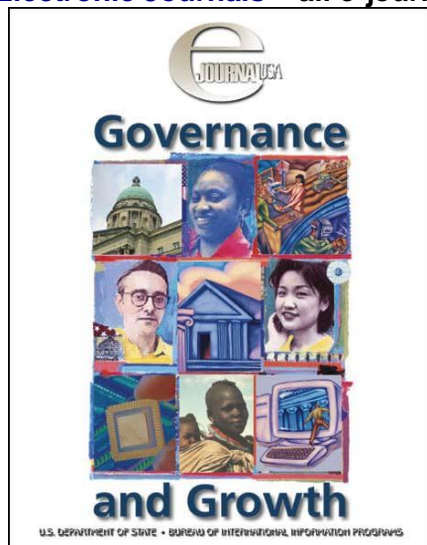




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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

EDUCATION AND OBESITY IN FOUR OECD COUNTRIES. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. Franco Sassi et al. December 10, 2009.

Existing evidence provides strong suggestions that obesity has affected certain social groups more than others. In particular, education appears to be associated with a lower likelihood of obesity, especially among women. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000088F2/\\$FILE/JT03276055.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000088F2/$FILE/JT03276055.PDF) [PDF format, 48 pages].

EMERGING LEADERS: HOW THE DEVELOPING WORLD IS STARTING A NEW ERA OF CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP. World Wildlife Fund. Mark Lutes. Web posted December 10, 2009.

There is a widespread belief that developing countries do not take climate change seriously, are not taking steps to reduce emissions and will be an obstacle to reaching a new global agreement to stop climate change. In reality, these countries are not only taking action to reduce their own emissions, but many of them are also playing a constructive role in the international climate negotiations, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_emerging_leaders_paper_web.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

IT SHOULD BE A BREEZE: HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF OPEN TRADE INVESTMENT FLOWS IN THE WIND ENERGY INDUSTRY. World Resources Institute. Jacob Fund Kirkegaard et al. December 2009.

The working paper maps out the structure and value chains of the wind power industry, analyzes its increasing globalization via cross-border trade and investment flows, and

formulates recommendations for policymakers for the design of investment and trade policies to help realize wind energy's potential. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://pdf.wri.org/working_papers/it_should_be_a_breeze.pdf [PDF format, 45 pages].

CHINA IS USING MORE CORN FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. U.S. Department of Agriculture. H. Frederick Gale et al. December 12, 2009.

China's corn imports are minimal, even though it is using a growing proportion of its corn to produce starch, ethanol, and other industrial products. The corn-processing industry's growth was encouraged by Chinese government policy, but the industry now has excess capacity. Many of the corn-based industrial products are exported. China's price support for corn during 2008/09 increased raw material costs for the industry and slowed its growth.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/FDS/2009/12Dec/FDS09K01/FDS09k01.pdf> [PDF format, 21 pages].

IMPROVING THE POLICY FRAMEWORK IN JAPAN TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. Randall S. Jones and Byungseo Yoo. Web posted December 10, 2009.

Japan, a relatively energy-efficient country, has been active in combating climate change. Under the Kyoto Protocol, Japan is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 6% relative to 1990 over the period 2008-12. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000088B6/\\$FILE/JT03275815.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000088B6/$FILE/JT03275815.PDF) [PDF format, 31 pages].

LAOS STEPS INTO THE GLOBALIZED WORLD. YaleGlobal. Bertil Lintner. December 15, 2009.

Laos' hosting of the Southeast Asian Games is in some way a metaphor for the country's entrance into the globalized world. And Laos has crossed that threshold holding China's hand, according to journalist Bertil Lintner. As a land-locked country, Laos decided to become "land-linked" to China. In other words, the constraints of geo-politics meant Vientiane had two choices: wallow in isolation or depend on a powerful ally to break into the world. And depending on China has had its benefits. Laos has received significant investment from Beijing both for infrastructure and to link the country to its neighbors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/laos-steps-globalized-world> [HTML format, various paging].

TAIWAN'S GAMBLE: THE CROSS-STRAIT RAPPROCHEMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY. Center for a New American Security. Abraham M. Denmark and Richard Fontaine. December 2009.

President Obama's recent visit to Beijing highlighted several issues of mutual interest and concern for the U.S.-China relationship, and the fact that Taiwan was not a major issue of

contention highlights the rapidly changing dynamics of the cross-Strait environment. The policy brief details the risks and rewards associated with this evolving cross-Strait environment and lays out several policy recommendations for the United States.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/press/Taiwan_Denmark_Dec2009_USTaiwan.pdf
[PDF format, 8 pages].

A NEW TRANSATLANTIC COMPACT. Atlantic Council. Kurt Volker. December 14, 2009.

The brief describes the challenges facing NATO and calls for unity to the divergent goals and ambitions of member states.

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/65/SAGIssueBrief-TransatlanticCompact.pdf
[PDF format, 4 pages].

CENTRAL ASIA: ISLAMISTS IN PRISON. International Crisis Group. December 15, 2009.

Prisons in Central Asia are becoming hothouses for the growth of militant Islamism, threatening long-term stability in the region. There is a rising number and political significance of Islamists in state detention. It argues that the governments' tough policy on political Islam only increases the risk of violent militancy. The failure to differentiate between armed Islamist groups and those who oppose the state by political means will deepen the divide between the observant Muslim population and central governments, a particularly dangerous development at a time when the risk of armed Islamic insurgency is growing. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/central_asia/b97_central_asia___islamists_in_prison.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

IN THE NAME OF UNITY: THE YEMENI GOVERNMENT'S BRUTAL RESPONSE TO SOUTHERN MOVEMENT PROTESTS. Human Rights Watch. December 15, 2009.

The report documents attacks by security forces on supporters of the so-called Southern Movement as well as on journalists, academics, and other opinion-makers. Based on over 80 interviews with victims in the southern Yemeni cities of Aden and Mukalla, the report finds that security forces used lethal force against unarmed demonstrators on at least six occasions. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/southyemen1209webwcover.pdf> [PDF format, 77 pages].

IRAN SANCTIONS: OPTIONS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND CONSEQUENCES. Testimony, RAND Corporation. James Dobbins. December 15, 2009.

This is the testimony presented before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs on December 15, 2009. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT337.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

LETHAL FORCE: POLICE VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SECURITY IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAULO. Human Rights Watch. December 8, 2009.

The report examines 51 cases in which police appeared to have executed alleged criminal suspects and then reported the victims had died in shootouts while resisting arrest. Rio and São Paulo police together kill more than 1,000 people every year in such alleged confrontations. While some of these "resistance" killings by police are legitimate acts of self-defense, many others are extrajudicial executions, the report finds. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/brazil1209webwcover.pdf> [PDF format, 128 pages].

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING: IMPROVED COMMUNICATION COULD ENHANCE THE SUPPORT FINCEN PROVIDES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT. U.S. Government Accountability Office. December 2009.

The majority of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) GAO surveyed reported finding FinCEN's support useful in their efforts to investigate and prosecute financial crimes, but FinCEN could enhance its support by better informing LEAs about its services and products and actively soliciting their input.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10141.pdf> [PDF format, 44 pages].

DO ASSETS HELP FAMILIES COPE WITH ADVERSE EVENTS? Urban Institute. Signe-Mary McKernan et al. Web posted December 14, 2009.

Family events, such as a job loss, the onset of health limitations, and a change in family structure, can adversely affect family well-being. The impact of these events may be mitigated if the family holds assets that can be used to maintain consumption. The study examines the role of assets in families' economic stability. It finds that families in all parts of the income distribution experience material hardship after a negative event. Further, in the aftermath of a negative event, asset-poor families experience more hardship than non-asset-poor families, with assets helping most for low- and middle-income families. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411994_help_family_cope.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

THE GREAT AMERICAN MIGRATION SLOWDOWN: REGIONAL AND METROPOLITAN DIMENSIONS. Brookings Institution. William H. Frey. December 9, 2009.

Mired in housing debt and struggling through the Great Recession, more Americans are choosing to stay put rather than uproot themselves and their families. In a new report, William Frey uses Census and IRS data to analyze recent migration trends across the United States showing significant shifts in how frequently, and to where, Americans are moving. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/1209_migration_frey/1209_migration_frey.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

INTENTIONS AND RESULTS: A LOOK BACK AT THE ADOPTION AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT. Urban Institute. Olivia Golden et al. December 10, 2009.

The Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA), signed into law on November 19, 1997, was the most significant piece of legislation dealing with child welfare in almost twenty years. The new law aimed to reaffirm the focus on child safety in case decision making and to ensure that children did not grow up in foster care but instead were connected with permanent families. Twelve years after the law was enacted, the series of papers examine effects of the ASFA law and its implementation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001351_safe_families_act.pdf [PDF format, 138 pages].

MANY AMERICANS MIX MULTIPLE FAITHS. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. December 2009.

The religious beliefs and practices of Americans do not fit neatly into conventional categories. A new poll by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life finds that large numbers of Americans engage in multiple religious practices, mixing elements of diverse traditions. Many say they attend worship services of more than one faith or denomination, even when they are not traveling or going to special events like weddings and funerals. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://pewforum.org/newassets/images/reports/multiplefaiths/multiplefaiths.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

A PATH TO BALANCE: A STRATEGY FOR REALIGNING THE FEDERAL BUDGET. Center for American Progress. Michael Etinger et al. December 2009.

The authors outline a strategy for realigning the federal budget. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/12/pdf/path_to_balance.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

READY OR NOT?: PROTECTING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH FROM DISEASES, DISASTERS, AND BIOTERRORISM. Trust for America's Health. December 15, 2009. The report finds that the H1N1 flu outbreak has exposed serious underlying gaps in the nation's ability to respond to public health emergencies and that the economic crisis is straining an already fragile public health system. It contains state-by-state health preparedness scores based on 10 key indicators. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/bioterror09/pdf/TFAHReadyorNot200906.pdf> [PDF format, 96 pages].

REAL PROSPECT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE UNITED STATES. National Research Council. December 2009.

America's economy and lifestyles have been shaped by the low prices and availability of energy. In the last decade, however, the prices of oil, natural gas, and coal have increased dramatically, leaving consumers and the industrial and service sectors looking for ways to reduce energy use. To achieve greater energy efficiency, the report says that there is a need for technology, more informed consumers and producers, and investments in more energy-efficient industrial processes, businesses, residences, and transportation.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12621 [HTML format with links].

A REAL-TIME LOOK AT THE IMPACT OF THE RECESSION ON PUBLICLY FUNDED FAMILY PLANNING CENTERS. Guttmacher Institute. December 2009.

Publicly funded family planning providers are struggling to meet a growing need for subsidized contraceptive care, which is being driven by more women wanting to postpone childbearing during tough economic times. This surge in demand is straining already-limited resources, and is exacerbated by rising unemployment that has resulted in more women losing employer-based insurance coverage, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/RecessionFPC.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].

SENATE HEALTH BILL SCORES BIG FOR SMALL BUSINESS: BILL WOULD HELP PROVIDE AFFORDABLE, STABLE HEALTH COVERAGE. Economic Policy Institute. Elise Gould and Alexander Hertel-Fernandez. December 15, 2009.

Skyrocketing health care costs in recent years have posed challenges for all businesses, but small firms and their workers are at a particular disadvantage. Declines in insurance coverage among workers in small businesses have driven much of the drop in employer-sponsored health insurance coverage nationwide. It is no surprise then that the effect of health reform on small business has become a flashpoint in the ongoing health reform debate. The brief highlights the challenges faced by small businesses and the positive effect of Senate Majority Leader Reid's health reform bill on the ability of small firms to provide quality, affordable insurance coverage to their workers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://epi.3cdn.net/e9d610ad38a8ea2266_7hm6bhdcs.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

TAMING THE DEFICIT: SAVING OUR CHILDREN FROM THEMSELVES. Center for Economic and Policy Research. David Rosnick and Dean Baker. December 2009.

Many proponents of conservative fiscal policies talk of the budget deficit as being a matter of intergenerational equality. However, the paper shows the younger generations will contribute more to the deficit than older generations. The analysis uses data from the CBO Long-Term Budget Outlook and the authors' calculations to show that the driving force behind the deficit is our broken health care system and that this should be the focus of the debate. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/taming-the-deficit-2009-12.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

UNDERSTANDING TERRORIST MOTIVATIONS. Testimony, RAND Corporation. Kim Cragin. December 15, 2009.

Testimony presented before the House Homeland Security Committee, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment on December 15, 2009. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2009/RAND_CT338.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

WHY HAVE COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES DECLINED? AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGING STUDENT PREPARATION AND COLLEGIATE RESOURCES. National Bureau of Economic Research. John Bound et al. December 2009.

Partly as a consequence of the substantial increase in the college wage premium since 1980, a much higher fraction of high school graduates enter college today than they did a quarter century ago. However, the rise in the fraction of high school graduates attending college has not been met by a proportional increase in the fraction who finish. Comparing two cohorts from the high school classes of 1972 and 1992, the report shows eight- year college completion rates declined nationally, and this decline is most pronounced amongst men beginning college at less-selective public 4-year schools and amongst students starting at community colleges. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://papers.nber.org/papers/w15566.pdf> [PDF format, 65 pages].

WITH THEIR WHOLE LIVES AHEAD OF THEM. Public Agenda. Jean Johnson et al. December 9, 2009.

Most young adults who started college but didn't finish left because they needed to work more to make ends meet, according to the survey designed to compare students who started, but didn't finish, their college education with those who received a degree. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.publicagenda.org/files/pdf/theirwholelivesaheadofthem.pdf> [PDF format, 52 pages].

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