

POPULATION STUDIES CENTER NEWSLETTER

PSC Colloquium: Craig Hadley

This week the PSC hosted [Craig Hadley](#), Associate Professor at Emory University, whose research centers on the social and cultural production of health and is at the intersection of anthropological demography, population studies, public health nutrition, and population health. This weeks talk, titled "[Exploring Competing Ideas About The Relationship Between Body Shape & Health: Evidence From A Global Sample Of Women And Children](#)", is available on the [PSC YouTube channel](#).

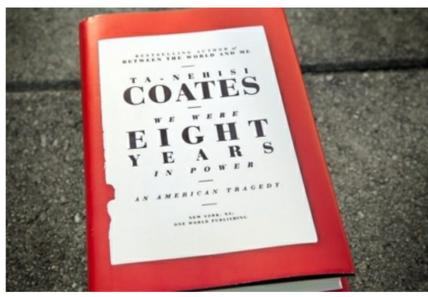


What does social media say about our health?

Every day people leave behind their "digital footprint," posting on an array of social media outlets like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and others. But what do these posts, taken together, say about our health? Further, how do posts on social media inform researchers about risk for certain diseases? The Center for Public Health Initiatives is hosting [Raina Merchant](#) next **Thursday February 15th** from 12-1 pm in the Bodek Lounge in Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street). [Register for this event here!](#)

Morgan Hoke writes about Baby Fat in Sapiens and Slate

Many scholars, like many moms, believe that baby fat exists to keep infants warm. But the conventional wisdom, explained in [Sapiens](#) and [Slate](#) by Morgan Hoke of the School of Arts and Sciences, is not true. It turns out that the excess fat acts as an energy reserve for the brain, aiding its development while also warding off diseases.



Penn Alumni Reading Club: Tukufu Zuberi

Join Professor [Tukufu Zuberi](#) for an interactive discussion of Ta-Nehisi Coates's *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*. This program, free and open to all Penn alumni, is co-sponsored by Penn Spectrum Programs. [Register for this event here: March 13th](#) at the Sweeten Alumni House!

New PSC Working Paper

This week a new paper was added to the PSC/PARC Working Paper Series on Scholarly Commons. [Global Family Change: Persistent Diversity with Development](#), authored by [Luca Maria Pesando](#), [Andrés Castro](#), [Liliana Andriano](#), [Julia Behrman](#), [Francesco Billari](#), [Christiaan Monden](#), [Frank Furstenberg](#), and [Hans-Peter Kohler](#), looks at family change and socio-economic development using Demographic and Health survey data. [Read and download the paper here!](#)

Figure 2 Map of countries included in the analysis



Religion, Resistance, and Competing Stories of America in 2016 and Beyond

In this talk Ruth Braunstein seeks to deepen our understanding of why this was the case and why it mattered, by calling for greater attention to the role these kinds of narratives play in American political life; to their religious roots and resonances; and to religious actors' roles as "carriers" of these stories. This event is next **Thursday February 15th** from 12-1:30pm in Annenberg 300. More details about the event and speaker [here](#).

Perry World House Event

Rangita de Silva de Alwis

The World Today presents "Attacks on Women's Education as a Marker of Violent Extremism: The Need for a Break-through Security Council Resolution and Feminist Foreign Policy" with [Rangita de Silva de Alwis](#), Associate Dean of International Affairs at Penn Law. This event is on **Tuesday February 13th** from 4:30-5:30pm at the Perry World House. Details about the speaker and event [here](#).



Next PSC Colloquium: Fabian T. Pfeffer

Fabian T. Pfeffer, Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, will present about [Multigenerational Cycles of Poverty](#) next **Monday February 12th** from 12-1pm.

Census Stats for Stories: Valentines Day 2018

On February 14th, Americans celebrate love and friendship by exchanging cards, flowers, and candy. Curious how many chocolates were bought this year? Check out the complete statistics report from the [Census about all things Valentines Day!](#)

Go Birds !

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