

CEPDISC explores the nature of discrimination from the perspective of experimental philosophy. The primary research questions are: 1) What is discrimination? 2) What are the main grounds for objecting to discrimination and how do these relate? 3) What can and should be done to counteract discrimination? CEPDISC integrates highly diverse fields and methods, ranging from social and political psychology to philosophy and political theory. More info is available on the centre's website: www.ps.au.dk/cepdisc/.

Can minorities discriminate majorities? There are numerous definitions of discrimination across different disciplines. In a study published in *Philosophical Psychology*, Degn examines whether discrimination is symmetric (multi-directional) or asymmetric (uni-directional). Degn consults definitions of discrimination across disciplines and concludes that both perspectives are present in the literature. Degn thereafter examines ordinary citizens' views in an experimental study among US participants and shows that people see discrimination as symmetric across various contexts (Hiring: Gender, Clubbing: Sexuality, Dating: Race, Parental: Gender). This means that the US citizens folk concept of discrimination makes discrimination of minority against majority individuals possible.

Example from the survey of a vignette with a minority on majority scenario that includes an agent who treats another agent in a negative, potentially discriminatory manner:

Hiring: A female (male) manager works in a medium-sized store. The manager quietly prefers not to work with men (women) as she (he) generally finds them less effective. The occasional application from a man (woman) is not read, and they are never invited for an interview at the store.

Urban design strategies can be discriminatory and wrongful: In collaboration with Carl Knight (University of Glasgow), Albertsen explores the nature and wrongfulness of discrimination in anti-homeless hostile design of public spaces in an article forthcoming in *British Journal of Political Science*. They find that, given standard accounts of the wrongfulness of discrimination, all forms of such design that make public spaces unwelcoming to homeless people are discriminatory. The article contends that directly discriminatory designs are generally wrongful due to their harmful or disrespectful nature, and that indirectly discriminatory designs may also be wrongful, given the severe disadvantages they cause to the homeless. This result is surprising since hostile design is rarely seen as discriminatory.



Exposure to out-groups and solidarity: Do the rich become more or less supportive of redistribution when exposed to poor people in their local surroundings? Based on existing studies, the answer is in the affirmative. However, several methodological shortcomings question the validity of this conclusion. Using detailed registry data combined with longitudinal survey data, Sønderskov and colleagues circumvents these problems and find, in opposition to the majority view, that exposure to poor people reduces support for redistribution benefiting the poor among the rich. Although not specifically designed to test the highly acclaimed contact theory, the study gives reason to question, if contact with out-groups is a viable strategy to reduce discrimination and increase solidarity between groups.

Awards: For the second time in a row a CEPDISC fellow was awarded the prestigious Roberta Sigel Early Career Scholar Paper Award by the International Society of Political Psychology. Claire Gothreau received the award for a paper co-authored with Lasse Laustsen which explores voters' attitudes towards female (and male) political candidates based on experiments conducted in no fewer than 20 countries. This work also earned the *Politica* article of the year award, for a paper presenting results from the Danish part of the survey. Wilson Merrell and coauthors was awarded the Otto Klineberg Intercultural and International Relations Award by the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues for their paper "Looking White but Feeling Asian: The Role of Perceived Physical Permeability and Perceived Discrimination in Multiracial-Monoracial Alliances". Claire Gothreau and Nicholas Hass won the TESS Special Competition on Replications.

Special issues: Degn and Midtgaard have edited a special issue in *Theoria* on dating and discrimination, and Midtgaard & Lippert-Rasmussen have contributed to a special issue about methodology in political philosophy in *Res Publica*.

Invited visits and workshops: CEPDISC researchers presented their work at major conferences across Europe and the US. Highlights include Lippert-Rasmussen's keynote at the 98th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association - the UK's top philosophy event and Wilson Merrell's talk at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Members of the Centre were also invited to speak at prestigious institutions like Oxford, Birmingham, Amsterdam, CalPolyPomona, WZB Berlin etc. CEPDISC hosted several international workshops and co-organized workshops e.g. with Desirée Lim, and Essex University. In 2024 CEPDISC also held its fourth conference on discrimination, attracting over 60 researchers from diverse fields.



In the picture: Keynote speaker Ryan Enos (University of Harvard), CEPDISC'24. Photo by CEPDISC.