

# BETTER TOGETHER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE PROSOCIAL WORLD COMMUNITY

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## WHAT'S NEW?

Prosocial World is excited to be a Co-Convening Partner of World UNITY Week and intends to host multiple presentations throughout the week. Stay tuned for the World UNITY Week schedule of events!

World UNITY Week is a Global Interactive Celebration co-produced by UNITY EARTH, Purpose Earth, SINE Network and The Hague Center. Originally convened in June 2020 by hundreds of civil society organizations together with thousands of individuals, World UNITY Week is a whole-systems field, embracing the mid-year Solstice, Indigenous wisdom, International Day of Yoga, ecological vitality, conscious activism and much, much more.



The public online Convergence is an integral part of World UNITY Week, connecting the world through diverse passion-areas using the best available technologies. The event and programming is free to the public.

Key conversations during World UNITY Week (WUW) spotlight such topics as collective climate action, partnerships for peace, interfaith harmony, interracial justice, sustainable and regenerative development, the role of business and economics, human rights, contemplative practices and activism, disarmament and other key elements of an emerging future that we choose to create together. It is an empowering experience that adds power to the agency of grassroots, collective activism.

World UNITY Week 2020 had representatives of 100+ Global organisations delivering more than 200 presentations, engaging with thousands of people to inspire unity in action. You can register to express your interest in World UNITY Week at <https://worldunityweek.org/>.



Gabelli School  
of Business

PW is partnering with [Michael Pirson](#), William J. Loschert Endowed Chair in Social Entrepreneurship at Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business, to implement the PW ARC Process in Fordham's business school curriculum. The sophomore year curriculum is already team-based, making it relatively easy to set up a randomized control trial comparing explicit training in ACT and the CDPs with Fordham's current team-based pedagogy.

Data from the fall 2020 semester is currently being analyzed. Preliminary results show a strong relationship between group performance and implementation of the CDPs in both treatments and only minor differences between treatments, suggesting that Fordham's current team-based method is already quite effective. The fact that this is a long-term research collaboration means that more refined questions can be addressed every year, based on the results of the previous year. This is precisely the kind of research partnership that we seek to establish with many schools and organizations to build compelling case studies that we can use to procure more partnerships.

If you or anyone you know might want to implement this business school curriculum including the Prosocial ARC Process, please [contact us](#).



PROSOCIAL  
WORLD

Please contact Managing Editor, [here](#) if you're interested in contributing to this publication.



## A VIEW OF THIS LIFE IN PROSOCIAL WORLD

### Optimism, Cynicism, and Realism

**Date and Time: Thursday, June 17th, 12-1pm ET (4-5pm UTC)**

**Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84329570436>**

Is realism invariably corrosive of hope? Or can realists also be optimists? Do we need delusions to maintain psychological stability? If so, delusions about what? Ourselves? Human nature? Our fate? Dark portrayals of human nature are often hailed as starkly realistic, and rosier portrayals are often assumed to stem from "rose-colored glasses." But is this right? Or is it the cynics and pessimists that suffer from "negativity bias"? What light can the science of evolution shed on the subject? What will happen when we pool our insights?

#### Care to explore a bit beforehand? Start here:

"Logicity in regard to practical matters is the most useful quality an animal can possess, and might, therefore result from the action of natural selection; but outside of these it is probably of more advantage to the animal to have his mind filled with pleasing and encouraging visions, independently of their truth; and thus, upon unpractical subjects, natural selection might occasion a fallacious tendency of thought." — Charles Sanders Peirce

#### Costs and benefits of realism and optimism

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4323577/>

#### Perspectives on depressive realism

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S005796794E0016C>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0005789406000840>

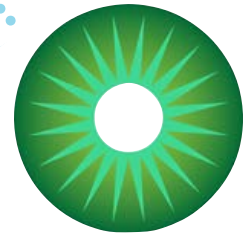
#### Mindfulness, Negativity Bias, & Optimism

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1948550610396585>

**Hope to see you Thursday, June 17th, 12-1pm ET (4-5pm UTC)**

### TVOL SPOTLIGHT

**As we continue to integrate TVOL, we will be featuring articles of interest to the Prosocial World Community**



Multilevel Selection (MLS) is a theoretical framework that originated for the study of genetic evolution but is just as useful for the study of cultural evolution. MLS theory begins with the fact that evolution takes place in a nested hierarchy of units, such as from genes to ecosystems in biological systems and from small groups to the global scale in human systems. Natural selection at the smallest scale—between individuals within socially interacting groups—tends to favor disruptive self-serving behaviors. It is only at the scale of between-group selection that cooperation within groups is favored, and cooperative groups become selfish actors in between-group competition unless selection acts at still higher scales.

With this in mind, there is added value in examining a cultural practice called Agile, which originated in the context of software development, has diversified to a number of other contexts (mostly within the business world) and is largely unknown beyond those borders. Our guide is Laurent Alt, who became part of the Agile movement early in its history and also has become literate in cultural MLS theory and its practical applications in real-world settings. Thus, not only is Laurent qualified to serve as our guide about Agile but also to comment upon the added value of thinking about Agile from an explicitly MLS perspective.

[Click Here](#) to read this and other articles on [This View of Life](#).

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN WUW WITH PROSOCIAL WORLD, BY PROVIDING CONTENT, PRESENTING, OR HAVE OTHER IDEAS FOR INCLUSION, PLEASE EMAIL [LORI.WISER@PROSOCIAL.WORLD](mailto:LORI.WISER@PROSOCIAL.WORLD)!**

