

Seminar*

Administrative Burden: Policymaking by Other Means

Thursday 11 April 2019

12.30 - 2.30 pm

Sciences Po, Room Goguel
27 rue Saint-Guillaume, 75007 Paris

Bureaucracy, confusing paperwork, and complex regulations—or what public policy scholars Pamela Herd and Donald Moynihan call administrative burdens—often introduce delay and frustration into our experiences with government agencies. Administrative burdens diminish the effectiveness of public programs and can even block individuals from fundamental rights like voting. In *Administrative Burden*, Herd and Moynihan document that the administrative burdens citizens regularly encounter in their interactions with the state are not simply unintended byproducts of governance, but the result of deliberate policy choices. Because burdens affect people's perceptions of government and often perpetuate long-standing inequalities, understanding why administrative burdens exist and how they can be reduced is essential for maintaining a healthy public sector.



Speakers



Pamela Herd is a Professor at the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown and a visiting fellow at Nuffield College at Oxford University. Her interests are in social policies, health and aging, and the intersection of genetics and social science. She is also the Principal Investigator on the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study. Her publications include *Market Friendly or Family Friendly?: The State and Gender Inequality in Old Age* (2007, with M.H. Meyer) as well as many articles in journals such as *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *The Journals of Gerontology*, *The American Review of Public Administration*, *Administration & Society* or *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.



Donald Moynihan is the McCourt Chair at the McCourt School of Public Policy, and a visiting fellow at Oxford University. His research examines public sector performance, employee behavior, and the administrative burdens citizens encounter in their interactions with government. His publications include *The Dynamics of Performance Management. Constructing Information and Reform* (2008) as well as many articles in journals such as *American Journal of Political Science*, *Public Administration Review*, *Public Administration*, *Academy of Management*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *The American Review of Public Administration* or *Administration & Society*.

Discussants

Philippe Bezes, Sciences Po, CEE, CNRS

Blandine Mesnel, Sciences Po, CEE

Collective Discussion

*Key Theme: *The state as a producer of public policies*

Compulsory registration on the link above

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