

NYU Wagner In the Media: May 2009

| Date | Media | Headline | Wagner Source | Discipline | Interview/Excerpt |
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| May 31, 2009 |  | New York: Metropolis Born of a Merger | Mitchell Moss, Faculty | Urban Planning | "The story of the last 30 years is that New York government has gotten better and more efficient, while government in the suburbs has gotten more expensive and worse." |
| May 26, 2009 |  | Hell Never Looked So Good (op-ed) | C. Nicole Mason, Faculty | Congress, Politics | "The last woman to be nominated to the Supreme Court was Harriet Miers, a Bush insider with very little experience and an almost nonexistent opinion record at the state or federal level. At the time of her nomination, many women including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had hoped a woman would win the seat but quickly backed away when Miers was announced." |
| May 26, 2009 |  | Putting the Microsavings in Microfinance | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance | "If you don't have a bank account (because you can't open one), and all your money is in a coffee can under the bed — well, you can be wiped out in an hour. In South Africa, 11 percent of the sample faced a financial emergency in any one year from theft or violent crime. In Bangladesh, 7 percent were cheated or lost cash, and 19 percent lost their home or property through fire or other means. To be poor truly is to live precariously." |
| May 21, 2009 |  | Wagner school at NYU releases new study on how nonprofits can manage the economic storm | Berman Jewish Policy Archive | Economics, Nonprofit Organizations | "Nonprofits are hurting, and are not well prepared for the fiscal crisis. I do not think we have to belabor the point. The Bridgespan Group in Boston did a survey of more than 100 nonprofits groups." |
| May 20, 2009 |  | What Obama's call to national service needs (op-ed) | Bethany Godsoe, Faculty | National Service | "AmeriCorps should partner with nonprofits and universities to provide preservice education that grounds participants' work in the socioeconomic factors and policy processes shaping the social issues they are tackling. This training, so as not to reinvent the wheel, should take advantage of the best university-based service learning programs." |
| May 19, 2009 |  | Stimulus Jobs Likely to Be Unevenly Distributed Among Races | C. Nicole Mason, Faculty | Racism, Employment, Stimulus Package | "During this time of great economic need and stress, it is important to consider the most vulnerable in our society. To ensure that everyone recovers successfully, the Obama administration will need to dedicate significant and additional resources to communities hit hardest and those with the least safety nets" |
| May 18, 2009 |  | Blacks and Latinos Barely Afloat During Recession | C. Nicole Mason, Faculty | Recession, Race | "In April 2009, the national unemployment rate hit a high of 8.9 percent, with close to 13.2 million people unemployed. While this is certainly cause for alarm, the unemployment rate for Blacks and Latinos has hovered around 7.9 percent for the last decade." |
| May 18, 2009 |  | Idea of the Day: The Poor Have Financial Discipline | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance | "The poor aren't like you or me — or at least many of us. Many of them show focus, discipline and sophistication in managing their incomes, precisely because their cash flows are not only meager but unpredictable and irregular." |

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| May 16, 2009 |  | The Housing Crisis: Getting a Ground-Level View | Furman Center | Housing | "The Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy at New York University provided residential building counts, which The Times used to compute the default rate for the city's census tracts and community districts. Because there are no public records of foreclosures involving cooperative apartments, co-ops were excluded from the analysis. The Furman Center estimates that co-ops make up one-third of the city's mortgageable residential properties." |
| May 15, 2009 |  | Minorities Affected Most as New York Foreclosures Rise | Ingrid Ellen, Faculty | Minority Rights | "There's a huge worry that this will exacerbate historic disparities between the wealth of black and white families." |
| May 14, 2009 |  | Schools of Public Affairs Benefit from Obama's Call to Service | Natalie K. Herring, Staff | Higher Education | "Clearly, we are benefiting from the national call to public service by President Obama. At the same time, the global economic downturn makes people think more about school and bettering their skills, credentials, and contacts for the inevitable upswing." |
| May 14, 2009 |  | The Poor: Smooth Operators | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance | "These features are what economists like to call "consumption smoothing"—spreading spending out in a way that ensures that what you eat one day is not determined by what you have earned that day or the day before. The subjects used a combination of loans and savings to ensure that their lives were not, literally, hostage to fortune. Hardly anyone lived utterly hand-to-mouth." |
| May 12, 2009 |  | Sharia Politics at Notre Dame (op-ed) | Robert Shrum, Senior Fellow | Politics | "The conservative Catholic assault on Kerry was hypocritical. Not a word was uttered about Catholic Republicans who disdain the Church's teachings on social justice or who vigorously supported the massive taking of life in the Iraq war, which the Pope had opposed from the outset." |
| May 11, 2009 |  | Portfolio Management for the Poor | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance, Book Release | "Meaningful financial reform will seize this moment to address the overlooked tragedy of global poverty: Not only do the poor have limited resources, they lack the tools to best leverage the resources they do have." |
| May 11, 2009 |  | Portfolios of the Poor: Financial Diaries of the Bottom Billion | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance, Book Release | "If you were to look at a chart of their weekly/monthly income it will average out to this number of \$2 per day, but with many peaks and valleys that need the help of financial services to smooth out these bumps. This is the area of the market being underserved and offers significant opportunity for improvement." |
| May 9, 2009 |  | The Electronic Cigarette | Cheryl Heaton, Alumna | Innovations, Anti-Smoking | "It's not really a cigarette, it does contain nicotine. And they have a certain regulatory authority over vapor nicotine lollipops." |
| May 8, 2009 |  | To the Hardy, Lady Liberty's Crown Beckons Anew | Mitchell Moss, Faculty | New York City, Tourism | "That's back when I could fit up that narrow staircase. The Statue of Liberty, like a lot of old icons, is pretty hot and really not made for modern tourism, which is very antiseptic." |

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| May 7, 2009 |  | MTA Chief Resigns in Management Shakeup | Elliot Sander, Faculty | Job Positions | "It has been a great honor to lead the 70,000 hard-working men and women who run the world's greatest public transportation system. I am tremendously proud of our accomplishments making the M.T.A. a leaner, more efficient and effective organization." |
| May 6, 2009 |  | World's Poor Lack Access, Not Savvy | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance, Banking | "Common misperceptions about the capacity of the poor to manage finances limit the scope and potential impact of policy and available financial tools. Microfinance demonstrates that many poor households are fundamentally bankable, and can borrow, invest, and repay loans. Our systematic research revealed unexpected insights into the realities of living on \$2 a day, and compels us to ensure financial reform is not boxed in by the original vision of microfinance." |
| May 6, 2009 |  | Bank Fees Exploit the Poor (op-ed) | Jonathon Morduch, Faculty | Microfinance, Banking | "Banks can be better public institutions by offering products that don't exclude major population groups. About 40 million Americans have no bank accounts. Banks' high fees and exclusionary rules are a big part of the reason. It's hard enough for low-income families to save—high balance requirements make it even harder." |
| May 5, 2009 |  | Is Joe Biden an amiable dunce? (op-ed) | Robert Shrum, Senior Fellow | Politics | "Biden's week should have concluded with the focus on that political tour de train. Instead, the cable chatter and YouTube hits wallowed in his tongue-tripping on the "Today" show, where he said that because of the possible flu pandemic, he was advising his family to avoid confined spaces like commercial airplanes and subways." |
| May 5, 2009 |  | E Pluribus Islam? The fragile promise of Muslim diversity | Irshad Manji, Visiting Scholar | Moral Courage | "As a reform-minded Muslim, I admit that these guys make the notion of diversity in my faith look laughable. Their track records underscore why we have to venture beyond geopolitical hotspots to fathom the future of progressive Islam." |
| May 3, 2009 |  | Economic Responsibility Passes to Obama | Paul Light, Faculty | Economy, Politics | "It is now absolutely his economy. I don't think that the public will continue to believe that this was all George W. Bush's doing. And every day that goes by, it becomes more Obama's than Bush's." |
| May 3, 2009 |  | It's all on Obama now | Paul Light, Faculty | Politics | "It is now absolutely his economy. I don't think that the public will continue to believe that this was all George W. Bush's doing. And every day that goes by, it becomes more Obama's than Bush's." |
| May 1, 2009 |  | Mayor Mike to the Rescue, Bloomberg Offers Assistance to New York City Nonprofits | Mayoral Event | Nonprofit Sector | "Almost half a million New Yorkers who make up our nonprofit workforce contribute profoundly to the heartbeat of our city by helping residents across the five boroughs - particularly during these trying times." |