

AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

WELCOME

- **Type** your name and affiliation in your zoom display
- Type a message in zoom chat to **Alyssa Andersen** if you have any troubleshooting questions
- Please stay **muted**.



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AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

IFTF Briefing
January 13, 2021

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AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- **Build** futures thinking practice in civic sector by introducing basic vocabulary, tools, and framework
- **Share** post-pandemic scenarios and toolkit
- **Solicit** input on how to use the materials to help civic sector imagine and build a transformative future

AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

AGENDA

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 11:00–11:30 AM | Welcome About Futures Thinking |
| 11:30–12:00 PM | Overview of Post-Pandemic Work and Alternative Scenarios |
| 12:00–12:30 PM | Experiment with Futures Tools |
| 12:30–12:50 PM | Deep Dive Into Transformation Scenario:
What would it take to bring this scenario to life? |
| 12:50–1:15 PM | Catalyzing Civic Futures: How to create inclusive futures? |
| 1:15–1:30 PM | Wrap Up & Close |

Wondering
about and
planning for
the future are
core to being
human



Source: <https://unsplash.com/photos/ppE5mjUS8t0>



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**Everyone
needs to
participate in
conversations
and decisions
about the
future.**



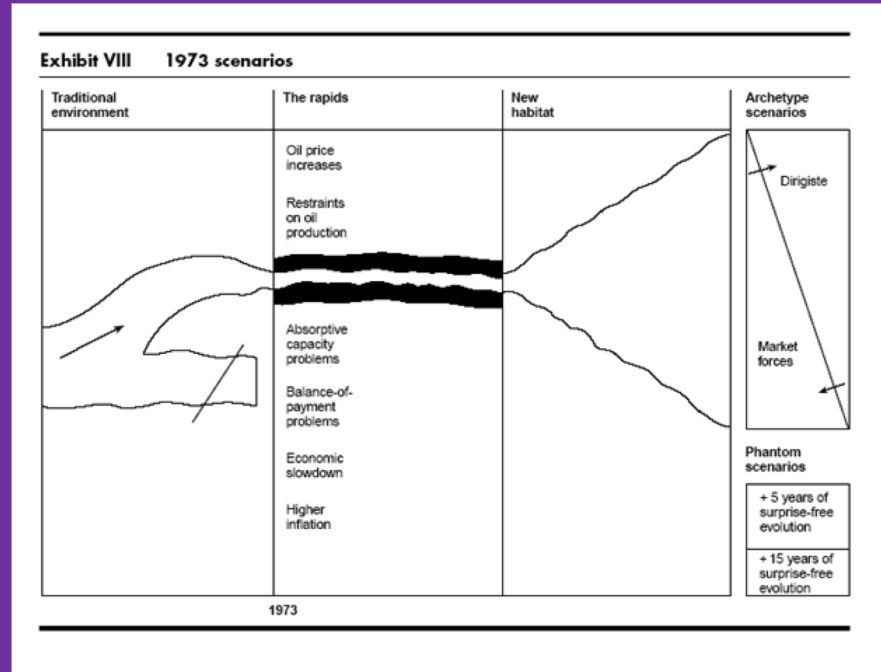
“We need to begin by creating a strong future-consciousness on the part of the public ... what is needed is a concentrated focus on the social and personal implications of the future, not merely on its technological characteristics.”

-Alvin Toffler, *The Future As a Way of Life*

“Envisioning and making the future must be a massively public endeavor.”

-Marina Gorbis, *The Future As a Way of Life: Alvin Toffler's Unfinished Business*

**Futures thinking
is a tool for
making decisions
under conditions
of uncertainty...
and yet it has
not been evenly
distributed**



Futures thinking
is a powerful
intervention for
individuals,
families and
communities.



TJE Futurecasts: Transforming Education through Restorative Justice

“If I’m not imagined in your future,
do I exist in it?”

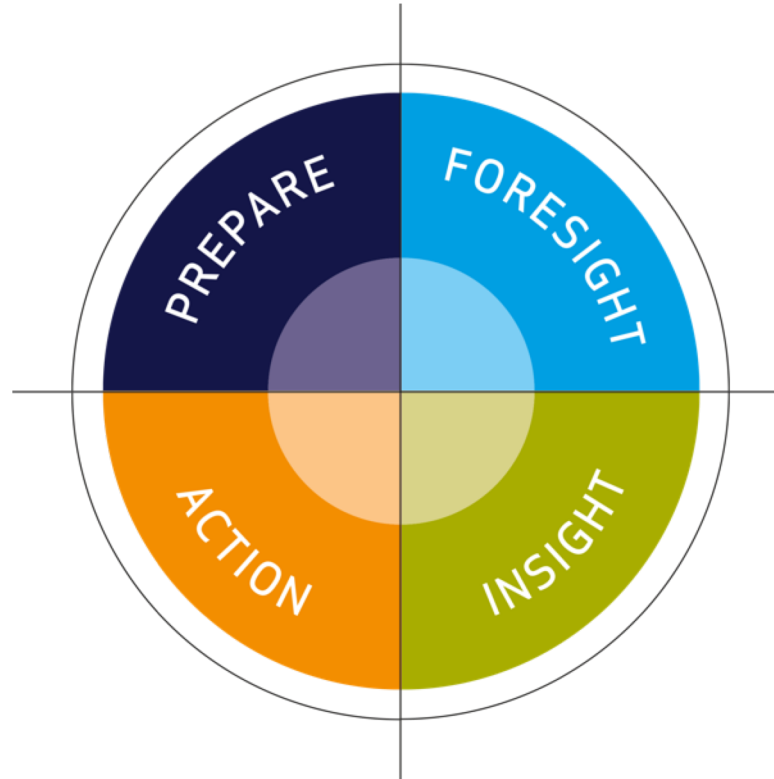
—Hodari Davis
Educator, artist, activist, futurist

Futures thinking is different from strategic planning.

- Longer-term horizon
- “Future-back” perspective
- Systems focus
- Integrates multiple voices and sources of expertise

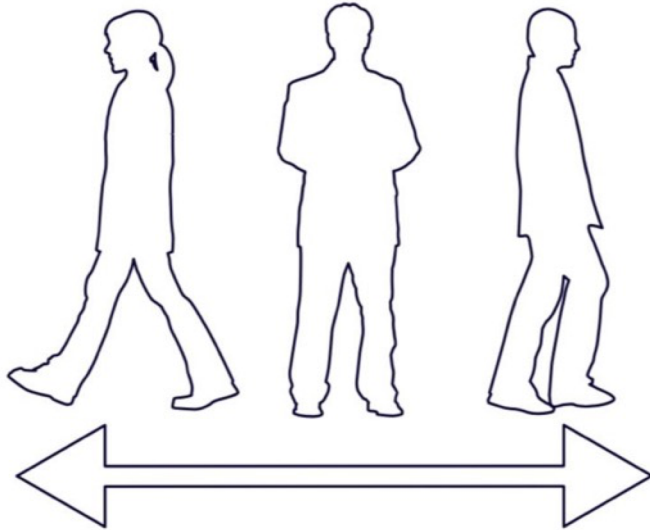


Futures thinking is a cycle





Orient to the Future



Many factors influence perspectives on the future: political orientation, socioeconomic status, age, health—even current levels of happiness day-to-day.

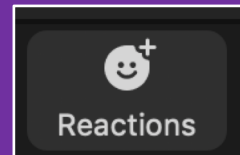


Orient to the Future

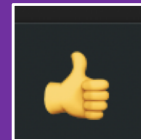
In the next 10 years,
we will see
economic and racial
disparities lessen in
the US.

YOUR TURN!

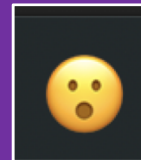
Find “Reactions” in the
bottom right of Zoom.



If you AGREE with the
statement, **click on this:**



If you DO NOT agree with
the statement, **click on this:**



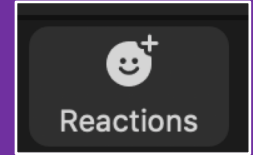


Orient to the Future

In the next ten years,
today's political
polarization will
deepen.

YOUR TURN!

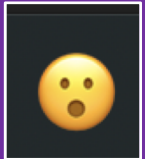
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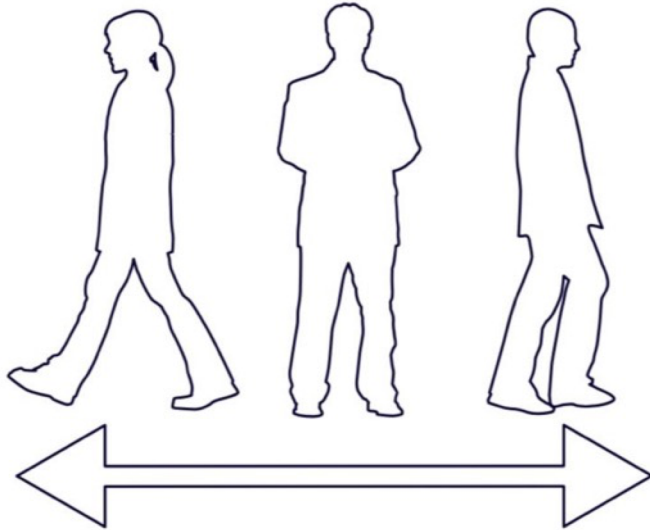


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the statement, **click on this:**





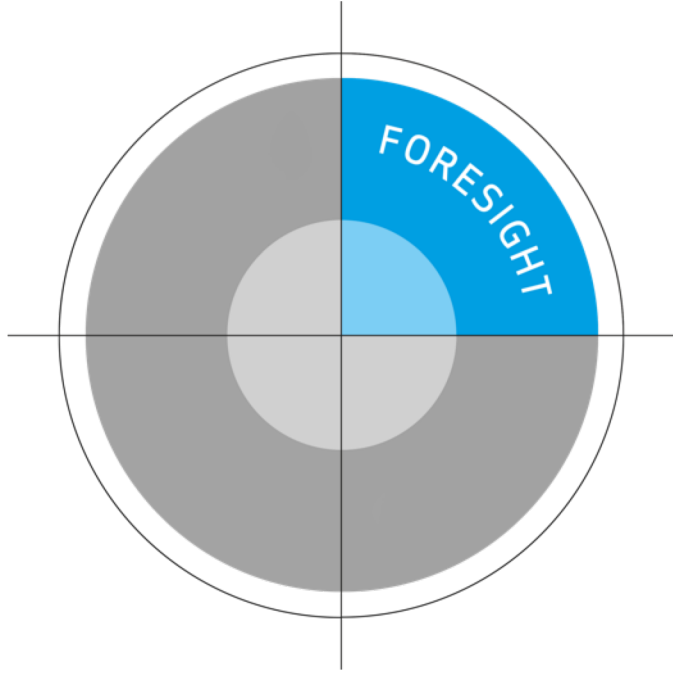
Orient to the Future



Help participants explore how different attitudes towards the future might generate different insights and possible actions.

Provoke meaningful, respectful discussion about differences.

Futures thinking is a cycle

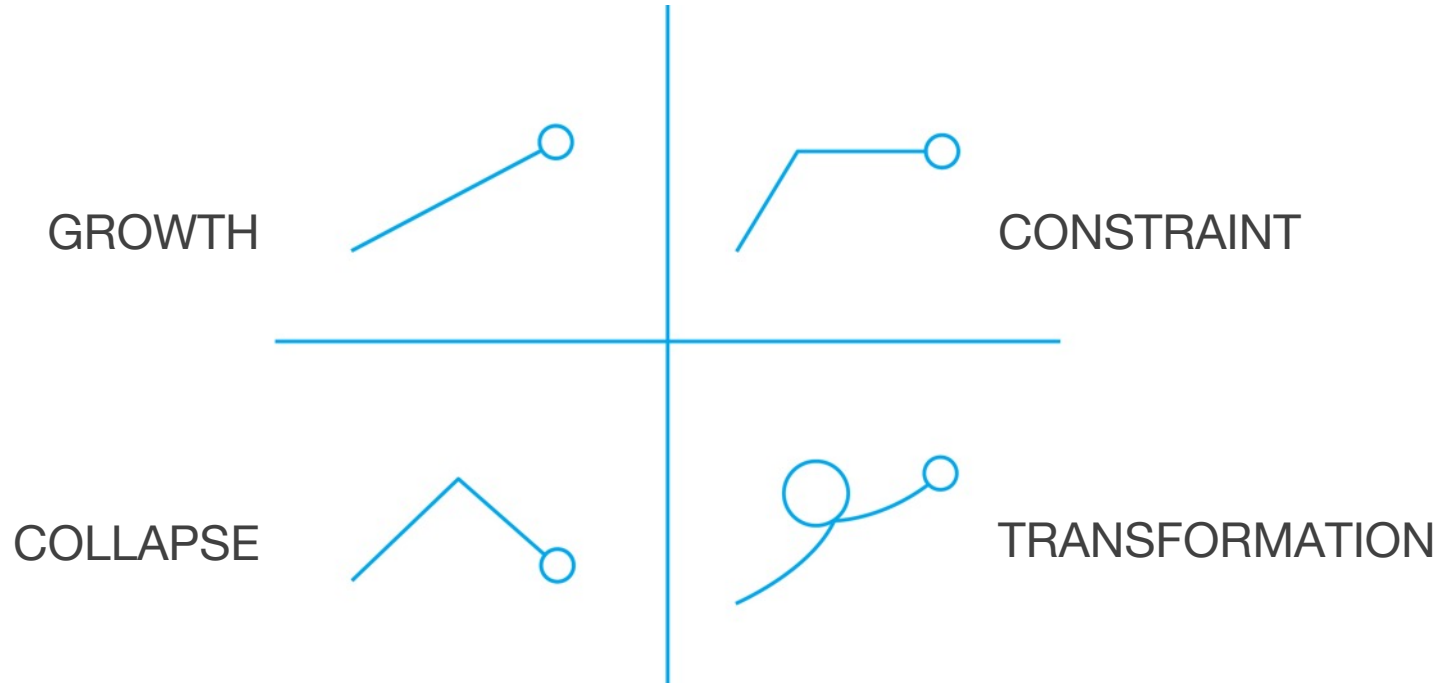


FORESIGHT: plausible, compelling, provocative narratives and visions of multiple futures.

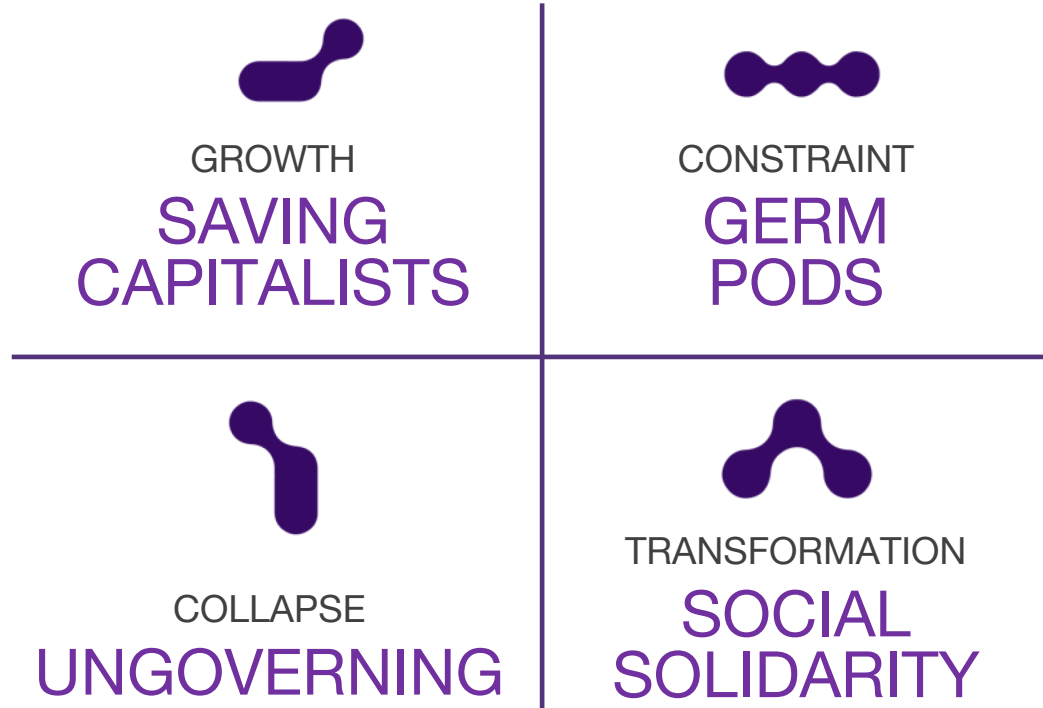
Built from evidence and a healthy dose of imagination and creativity



Envision Alternative Futures



AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



Overview of Post-Pandemic: process and deliverables



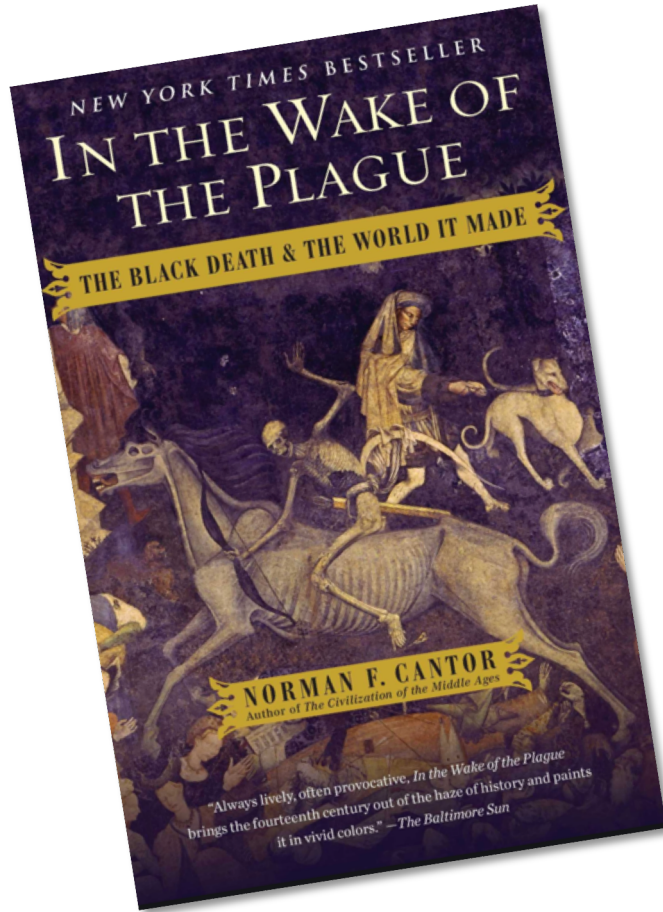
Project Overview

- In March 2020 with the support of Irvine, BSCF and CalWellness, Cal Endowment, IFTF launched a project called ***After the Pandemic: Writing the Stories of the Future***
- We identified **seven system collapses** from health care, racial justice, and economic inequality to political corruption and our frayed social fabric.
- We worked with visionaries from academic experts to frontline workers, to envision **four alternative scenarios** of the post-pandemic future (growth, constraint, collapse, and transformation).
- The result of this work is a package of materials designed to engage civic society foresight and building a transformative future



1

historical patterns



Major pandemics start as health crises but turn into social, economic, and political upheavals



ANTI-MASK MEETING

TONIGHT (Saturday) JAN. 25

DREAMLAND RINK

To Protest Against the Unhealthy Mask Ordinance

Extracts will be read from State Board of Health
Bulletin showing compulsory mask wearing to be a failure.

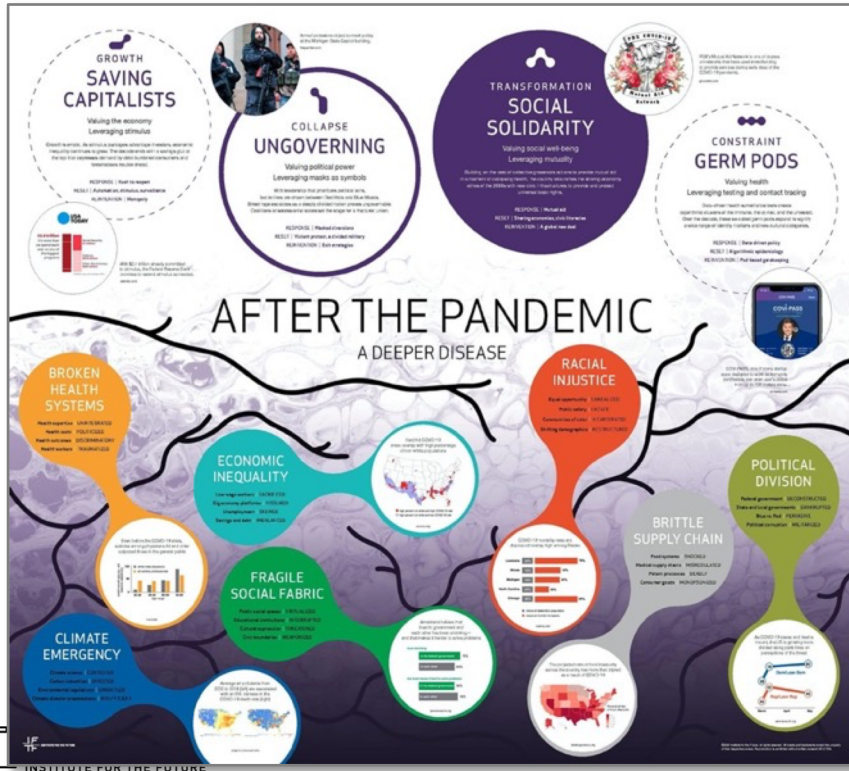
Eugene E. Schmitz and other interesting speakers.

Admission Free.

1918 Anti-mask league
in San Francisco



today's crisis is a result of multiple system failures



1. Broken Health Systems
2. Economic Inequality
3. Racial Injustice
4. Brittle Supply Chains
5. Political Divisions
6. Climate Emergencies
7. Fragile Social Fabric

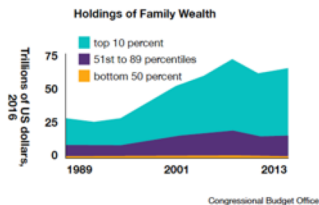
PATTERNS FROM THE PAST

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

PATTERNS FROM THE PAST

9

The bottom 50% own just 1% of the wealth



BRITTLE SUPPLY CHAIN

PATTERNS FROM THE PAST

25

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated automation in many of the leading industrial sectors, with 60% to 90% reporting that they have plans or programs already in place to increase automation. These plans will likely continue the four-decade trend that more than doubled productivity while keeping hourly compensation nearly flat.

Q What new kinds of labor will automation demand—for example, low-paid backroom monitoring of automated physical and digital systems, such as so-called “digital janitors”?

Q How will we absorb the shock of high unemployment likely to persist as companies rush to substitute automation for human labor in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis?

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2020/03/24/the-robots-are-ready-as-the-covid-19-recession-spreads/>

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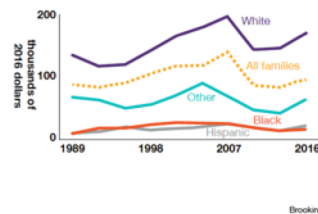
RACIAL INJUSTICE

PATTERNS FROM THE PAST

15

Racial wealth inequality is large

Median net worth by race/ethnicity



RACIAL INJUSTICE

PATTERNS FROM THE PAST

In times of economic crisis—like the Great Recession or the COVID-19 pandemic—the unemployment gap grows between whites and Asians on one hand and Blacks and Hispanics on the other. Hispanic workers have been hardest hit by the COVID-19 unemployment, as of May 2020.

Q What are the underlying drivers of unemployment for people of color, particularly in times of crisis—and how can we alter those drivers?

Q What levers could we use to assure more equal employment as the pandemic recovery unfolds?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/05/09/jobs-report-demographics/>

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17



2

future signals

SIGNALS TO WATCH

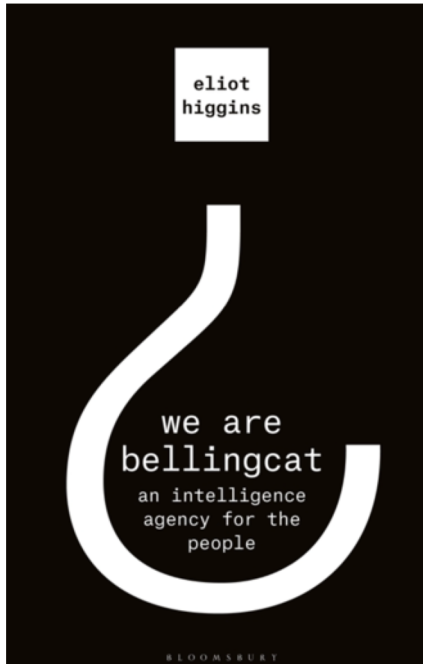


In Santa Cruz, CA, the Center for Farmworkers Families organizes stealth food distribution network for immigrant workers

Source: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/aep.13100>
<https://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2019/1220/Inside-the-secret-food-bank-that-keeps-farmworkers-from-going-hungry>



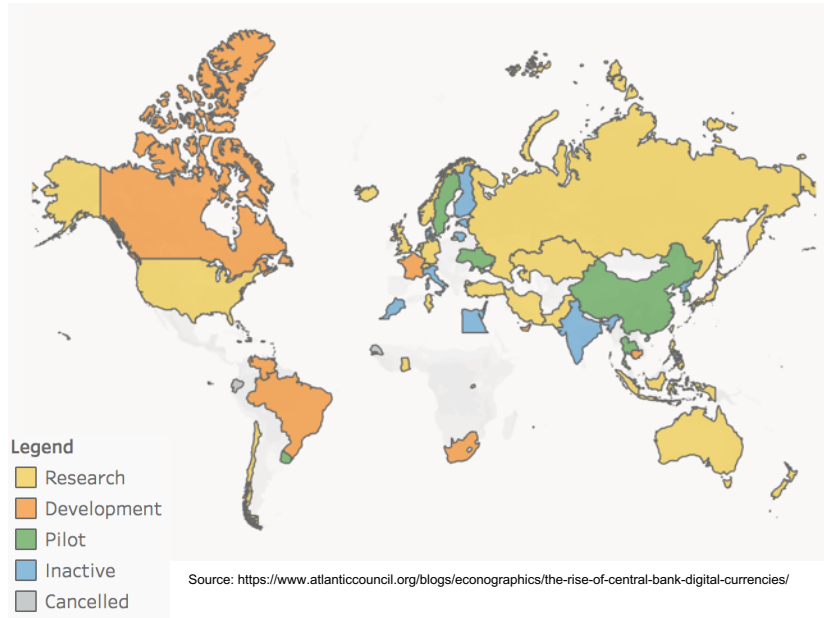
SIGNALS TO WATCH



Source: <https://www.bellingcat.com/>

Bellingcat named itself the “open intelligence agency for the people.” It uses open source data and social media to investigate war crimes and human rights abuses.

SIGNALS TO WATCH



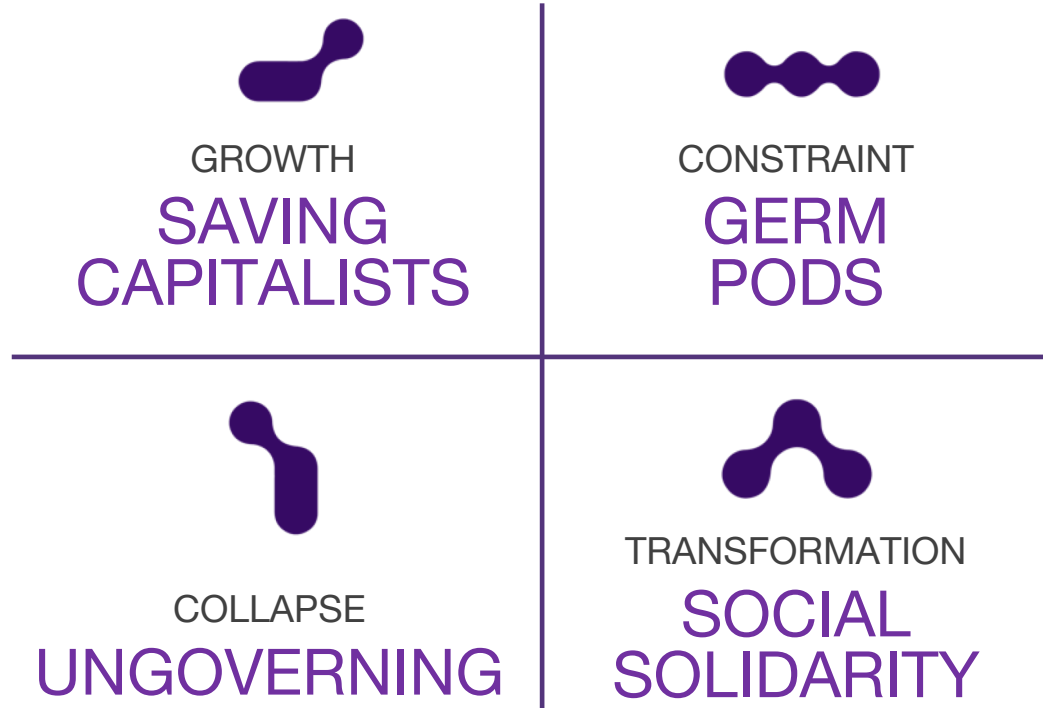
Countries around the world are experimenting with Central Digital Bank Currencies (CDBC's) that could facilitate a global digital currency



3

compelling visions

AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?





GROWTH SAVING CAPITALISTS

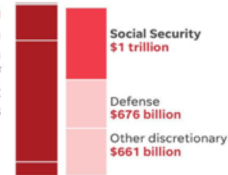
Valuing the economy
Leveraging stimulus

Growth is erratic. As stimulus packages advantage investors, economic inequality continues to grow. The decade ends with a savings glut at the top that depresses demand by debt-burdened consumers and foreshadows trouble ahead.

RESPONSE | **Rush to reopen**
RESET | **Automation, stimulus, surveillance**
REINVENTION | **Monopoly**



\$2.4 trillion
it's more than
we spend each
year on any of
the biggest
programs



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office

With \$2.4 trillion already committed to stimulus, the Federal Reserve Bank promises to extend stimulus as needed.

[usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com)



CONSTRAINT GERM PODS

Valuing health Leveraging testing and contact tracing

Data-driven health surveillance tools create algorithmic clusters of the immune, the at-risk, and the untested. Over the decade, these so-called germ pods expand to signify a wide range of identity markers and new cultural categories.

RESPONSE | **Data-driven policy**
RESET | **Algorithmic epidemiology**
REINVENTION | **Pod-based gatekeeping**



COVI-PASS, one of many startup apps designed to work as immunity certificates, can scan users' status at up to 100 meters away.

covipass.com





COLLAPSE UNGOVERNING

Valuing political power
Leveraging masks as symbols

With leadership that prioritizes political wins,
battle lines are drawn between Red Hats and Blue Masks.
Street rage escalates as a deeply divided nation proves ungovernable.
Coalitions of secessionist states set the stage for a fractured union.

RESPONSE | **Masked diversions**

RESET | **Violent protest, a divided military**

REINVENTION | **Exit strategies**



Armed protestors object
to mask policy at the
Michigan State Capitol
building.

theguardian.com



Experiment with Futures Thinking Tools

Jake Dunagan
jdunagan@iftf.org



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100 Ways

100 Ways ANYTHING
could be DIFFERENT in
the FUTURE



rules

1. Pick a topic.
2. List 100 things that are true* about it today
3. Now, “flip” these true facts for the future: Rewrite each fact to be the opposite of what it is today, or offer a new alternative.

A street scene with a cafe in the foreground and modern buildings in the background. The cafe has a round table and black chairs. A silver SUV is parked on the street. The background shows a mix of older and newer architecture under an overcast sky.

Any useful statement
about the **future**
should at first seem
ridiculous.

JIM DATOR



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tips

Let the possibilities simmer for awhile. Leave your 100 flipped facts on the wall, or in a spreadsheet, and see what comes up. (This can be a slow-burn activity, done by a team over a week or longer.)

If you're stumped, trying doing a Google search for the new "fact" about the future. You may discover examples of the seemingly impossible future already happening today, that can inspire your story.

Different people may come up with different explanations for the same future – that's fine and useful!



Your turn 3 minutes

What are statements about philanthropy today that are generally held to be true?



Your turn
3 minutes

“Flip” these truths and explain how we got from here to there.



discussion

What are your “flipped” truths?

Things that are true about philanthropy	Flipped "truths"	Explanation
philanthropy supports good causes	Philanthropy doesn't support good causes -	What is GOOD? Everyone has their own definition of good - in the future we support decline of democracy, civil unrest. Is it needed anymore? Cancels itself out -
philanthropy is supported by donations or endowments	Philanthropy is not supported by donations and endowments and government. Philanthropy is a tax that is imposed on the people.	Catholic church puts a tithe on every member. Government does percent levy on every household that has a certain income.
philanthropy helps the needy or less fortunate	Philanthropy hurts the needy or less fortunate	Philanthropy continues growth trajectory of funding own self interest and less equitable; 1% focus on their interests to the harm of all others and the government doesn't step in to change this and continues to incentivize it
philanthropy can be place based	Most philanthropy is global	Nonprofits operate in cyberspace
it is perceived as being helpful or worthy		
philanthropy can be individually driven or institution driven	philanthropy can be driven by the public or community	Institutions and individual realize the importance of engaging community. Call for social justice related to philanthropy that make it no longer possible for institutions to make decisions. Community demands accountability on the part of institutions and individuals.
philanthropy requires the production, exchange and tracking of detailed data	Philanthropic data collection is automatically gathered	There's a common application for all nonprofit data, and everyone has access to it. A cataclysmic event occurs, resulting in the survival fewer organizations, and the need to create efficiencies for the field.
philanthropy relies on experience and insights of staff, many who have worked in the fields being funded	Philanthropy relies on experience and insights of those being funded.	
philanthropy is often top-down, with foundation boards often holding the most power	Philanthropy is often bottom up with community members holding the most power	Break down barriers to philanthropy and making sure philanthropy reflects communities it serves. Board turnover and growth in next 9-10 years. Democratic decisionmaking beyond a small board.
philanthropy uses a fraction of its total assets when investing in community	philanthropy uses the majority of its total assets when investing in community	People making decisions have changed, so philanthropy embraces need to spend to address critical issues now; government could require higher spend rates in response to a catastrophic event
philanthropy supports nonprofit organizations	Philanthropy supports anyone	"Gig philanthropy" - individualistic society without organizations; people come directly to philanthropy with individual asks
philanthropy cannot adequately replace the government's role in alleviating social problems	Philanthropy adequately replace the government's role in social justice	Government imploded (Covid non response lead to many local mutual aid networks)
philanthropy is often a way for people with money to feel less guilty about having that money when others do not	giving money away makes people feel bad	(1) No one needs money. People are taken care of. (2) Culture of shame. People feel bad who receive money. Bad to receive charity. (3) People feel bad/guilty giving money because they don't know enough about where to give support.
philanthropy is not as diverse or equitable as it could be	Philanthropy becomes the most diverse industry	There is a mass movement revolt against the field, to start over institutions. There good be a tax structure requirement that their staff confirm to the census track of their catchment area.
philanthropy is one way to bring communities together	Philanthropy divides/separates communities	
philanthropy can be nimble, flexible, and responsive during a crisis	Philanthropy is nimble, flexible, responsive.	People maintained practices used in FY20, continued to use the ones that worked well, and made it a regular part of their business. Barriers and bureaucracy reduced. Use of technology and crowdsourcing have become second nature thus increasing participation in philanthropy and setting priorities. Democratic process and fast.



philanthropy uses a fraction of its total assets when investing in community

philanthropy supports nonprofit organizations

philanthropy cannot adequately replace the government's role in alleviating social problems

philanthropy uses the majority of its total assets when investing in community

Philanthropy supports anyone

Philanthropy adequately replace the governments role in social justice

People making decisions have changed, so philanthropy embraces need to spend to address critical issues now; government could require higher spend rates in response to a catastrophic event

"Gig philanthropy" - individualistic society without organizations; people come directly to philanthropy with individual asks

Government imploded (Covid non response lead to many local mutual aid networks)





discussion

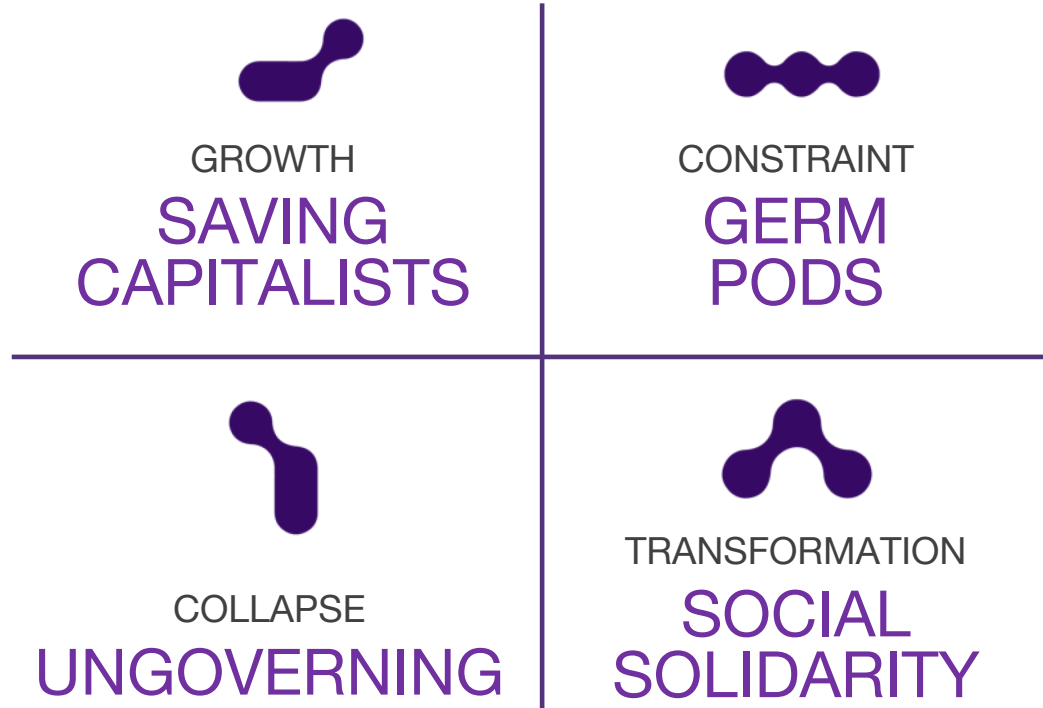
Here are some questions to consider:

What **assumptions did you uncover** (true facts about today) that you now would say are most important to be challenged or questioned as you design for the future?

What **reasons for change** were most compelling, or came up most frequently, as you crafted your stories about how anything could be different in the future?

Which of the possible futures would you **most want to wake up in**? Why?
Which of the possible futures would you **most want to avoid**? Why?

AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?





TRANSFORMATION SOCIAL SOLIDARITY

Valuing social well-being
Leveraging mutuality

Building on the best of collective grassroots actions to provide mutual aid in a moment of collapsing health, the country relaunched the sharing economy ethos of the 2000s with new civic infrastructures to provide and protect universal basic rights.

RESPONSE | Mutual aid

RESET | Sharing economies, civic literacies

REINVENTION | A global new deal



PDX's Mutual Aid Network is one of dozens of networks that have used crowdfunding to provide services during early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com)



principles of mutualism



- **Interdependence**, not rugged individualism
- **Stewardship**, not exploitation
- **Rights**, not commodities
- **Resilience**, not scale

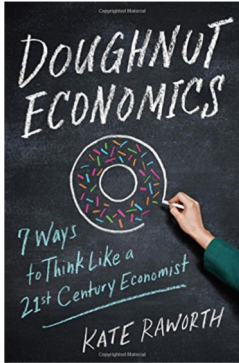




“Only a crisis – actual or perceived – produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around. That, I believe, is our basic function: to develop alternatives to existing policies, to keep them alive and available until the politically impossible becomes the politically inevitable.”

— Milton Friedman

new ideas lying around



Source: <https://www.penguin.com.au/books/doughnut-economics-9781847941208>

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
the
DEFICIT MYTH



Modern Monetary Theory
and the Birth of the People's Economy
STEPHANIE KELTON

Source: <https://www.publicaffairsbooks.com/files/stephanie-kelton-the-deficit-myth/9781541726191>



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MAKING and TAKING in the
GLOBAL ECONOMY

THE
VALUE
of
EVERY-THING

MARIANA
MAZZUCATO

Source: <https://www.marianamazzucato.com/publications/books/value-of-everything/>



Platform
Cooperativism
Consortium

Source: <https://platform.coop/>



**MAYORS FOR A
GUARANTEED
INCOME**

Source: <https://www.mayorsmgi.org/>



Source: <https://www.iff.org/uba/>

There's a growing movement where startup founders look to exit to community

Megan Rose Dickey @meganrosedickey / 10:30 AM PDT • August 31, 2020

Comment

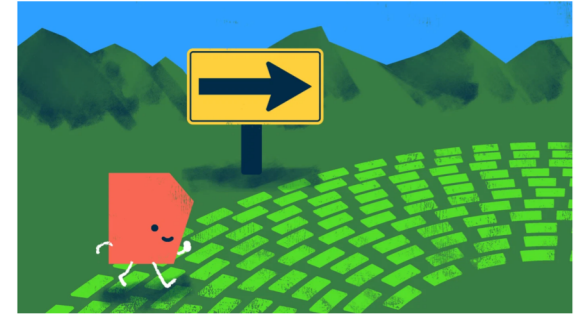
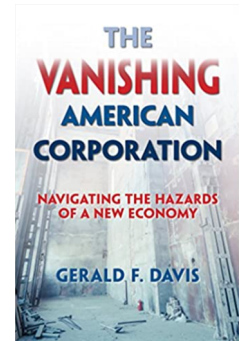


Image Credits: Bryce Durbin

Source: <https://techcrunch.com/2020/08/31/exit-to-community/>



Source: <https://www.amazon.com/Bullshit-Jobs-Theory-David-Graeber/dp/102114321X>



Source: <https://www.amazon.com/Vanishing-American-Corporation-Navigating-Hazards/dp/1620502750>

4

action plans

HOW to engage civic society foresight
and build a transformative future

scenarios build capacity for foresight and futures thinking



- **Use** scenarios as a first step to to engage team in futures work
- **Change** who participates in conversations about the future
- **Embed** futures thinking into civic society

the toolkit inspires action



What is it:

- A set of tools for a **call-to-action to build a new global agenda**—from small conversations to a movement for action
- A practical interactive set of **toolkit cards** for use with groups to explore, inspire and catalyze a reimagining of the future to create tangible actions

How to use:

- Detailed guidelines for planning a group conversation, preparing the materials, and leading conversations
- Three-step process is designed to start with small community groups to develop other visions and **create their own scenarios**





discussion

HOW might you use these scenarios and future thinking tools and processes within your organizations and communities?

AFTER THE PANDEMIC: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- **Share** post-pandemic scenarios and toolkit with your communities
- **Build** futures thinking as a practice in civic sector
- **Participate** in an IFTF training

IFTF Scenario Building ... our newest offering

March 22, 24,
26, 2021, Live-
Online



Up-skill your foresight with scenario thinking

Frame and develop robust
alternative futures scenarios

Build an action agenda from
futures scenarios

Map potential impacts of the
pandemic

Format: 9 hours of class + 3 hours
of homework, over 1 week

Contact register@iftf.org to save
your spot or inquire further.

For
individuals



Spring 2021 Dates
Live-Online

**Foresight is a skill.
Learn it with the experts.**

Visit iftf.org/foresightessentials

register@iftf.org

**IFTF Scenario
Building**

March 22, 24, 26

**IFTF Foresight
Essentials**

(6 sessions spread
over dates)

- February 9-23
- April 7-May 7
- May 25-June 17

IFTF Design Futures

May 11, 18, 25