

Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH)

Third Professor John Caldwell Memorial Lecture



Professor John Charles (Jack) Caldwell died on 12th March 2016 at the age of 87 in Canberra. Caldwell's seminal work included documentation of the role of mother's education in fertility limitation and child mortality decline and the role of circumcision in inhibiting the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa. He is known for his "wealth flows" theory, which relates demographic transition theory to changes in intergenerational transfers within the family. A 2009 survey of nearly 1000 demographers worldwide, named Jack Caldwell the most influential researcher of all time in the field of demography. In 1985, the Population Association of America (PAA) presented him with its highest prize, the Irene B. Taeuber Award for excellence in demographic research. In 1994, he began an elected four-year term as President of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), and, in 2004, he was presented with the prestigious United Nations Population Award. These are the three highest international honours in the field of demography and no other person has won all three of these awards. He has encouraged and mentored many young scholars from India, and good number of them received their Ph.Ds from Department of Demography of Australian National University (ANU) under his able guidance. His anthropological demographic work on south India, particularly on marriage and fertility, received lot of research attention.

Upon request from his students, colleagues and friends, the Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) instituted a memorial lecture in his honour. The First Prof. John Caldwell Memorial Lecture was held in 2016 at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune. The Second Memorial Lecture was held in 2017 at National Institute for Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad. Well known Demographer **Professor Christophe Z Guilmoto** delivered the Third Prof. John Caldwell Memorial Lecture on the theme-"Cesarean deliveries in India: too many yet too few". The lecture was held at JNU Convention Center, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 10th December 2018 on the occasion of the 16th Annual Conference of IASSH jointly organized with CSRD, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Dr. Guilmoto is a senior fellow in Demography at the French Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) based at CEPED in Paris and teaches at Université Paris Descartes. He received Ph.D. in Demography at Paris University in 1989. His recent research has mostly focused on sex selection from East Asia to Southeast Europe. He is the author of the UN report on sex imbalances at birth (UNFPA 2012) and has recently co-edited the book- Demographic Transformation in China, India and Indonesia- with Gavin Jones (Springer 2016). His work since 2017 has been published in Population Studies, Population and Development Review and the Lancet Global Health.





Prof. K.N.M. Raju, Prof. S.Siva Raju, Prof. Christophe Guilmoto, Dr. Rinku Sengupta, Prof. T.V.Sekher and Dr. Srinivas Goli

Dr. Rinku Sengupta of Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research, New Delhi, chaired the session and was co-chaired by Prof. S. Siva Raju, Deputy Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad. Dr. Srinivas Goli (JNU) welcomed the gathering and Prof. Siva Raju spoke about the contributions of Prof. Caldwell to Demography as a discipline and also his research work on India. Prof. T.V. Sekher, President of IASSH, introduced the guest speaker Prof. Christophe Guilmoto to the audience. Prof. Guilmoto in his address discussed about the trends in cesarean delivery across the world and also highlighted its implications for India with considerable regional variations. Prof. Guilmoto's lecture generated lot of discussion among the participants.

