



סמינר מחקרי המכון האקדמי לרפורמות מבניות

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מרצה:

שגית אזרי-ויזל

The Class Structure of the Israeli Society: Going Beyond Income Distributions

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Abstract

The recognition of the significance of the middle class for the makeup, strength and prosperity of societies goes back to the writings of Aristotle. We develop a theory as to why the middle class may play such a central role in the welfare of societies. We move on to articulate what we believe to be a more adequate definition of what it means to belong to the middle class, compared to currently used definitions in the literature. We operationalize this definition and articulate the use of Latent Class Analysis as a useful methodology that we apply to examine a rich data set provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics in Israel. In the end, we offer a rather rich and informative picture of the stratification of the Israeli Society into socio-economic classes with insights that help make sense of the Israeli, current, socio-economic divides, in a way never articulated before.