

# The Third Sector in Transition: The distribution of voluntary resources

20 March 2013

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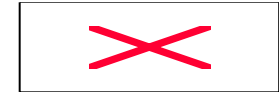


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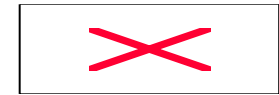
# Context of the research

Professor John Mohan

Deputy director of the Third Sector Research  
Centre

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# Schedule for the day



**2.00 Welcome and introduction-** Ceridwen Roberts SRA Chair

**2.10 Context of the research-** John Mohan Deputy Director, TSRC

**2.15 Volunteering** - Sarah Bulloch & Matthew Bennett Research Fellows TSRC,  
University of Southampton

**2.45 Q & A**

**3.15 Tea& coffee**

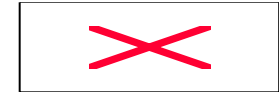
**3.35 Introduction** - Chair

**3.40 Community capacity and distribution of voluntary organisations** - Rose Lindsey  
& David Clifford Research Fellows, TSRC, University of Southampton

**4.10 Reflections on challenges for the future** - John Mohan

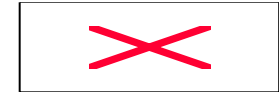
**4.15 Q & A**

**4.45pm close**



## Volunteering – sources of information

- Importance of evidence base
- Sources
  - Population surveys
  - bespoke qualitative sources (e.g. Pathways through Participation)
  - data from organisations (e.g. Charity commission reporting)



# Comparing estimates

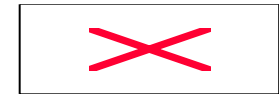
(Staetsky & Mohan, TSRC Working Paper 6)

- Focus on the individual not the organisation
- Consistency of estimates *within* surveys (trends over time)
- Significant differences between surveys (also Tarling 2000) 20-50% annual, 10-30% in last month
- ‘Topical’ surveys provide higher estimates relative to the ‘general purpose’ surveys.



# Survey evidence on volunteering

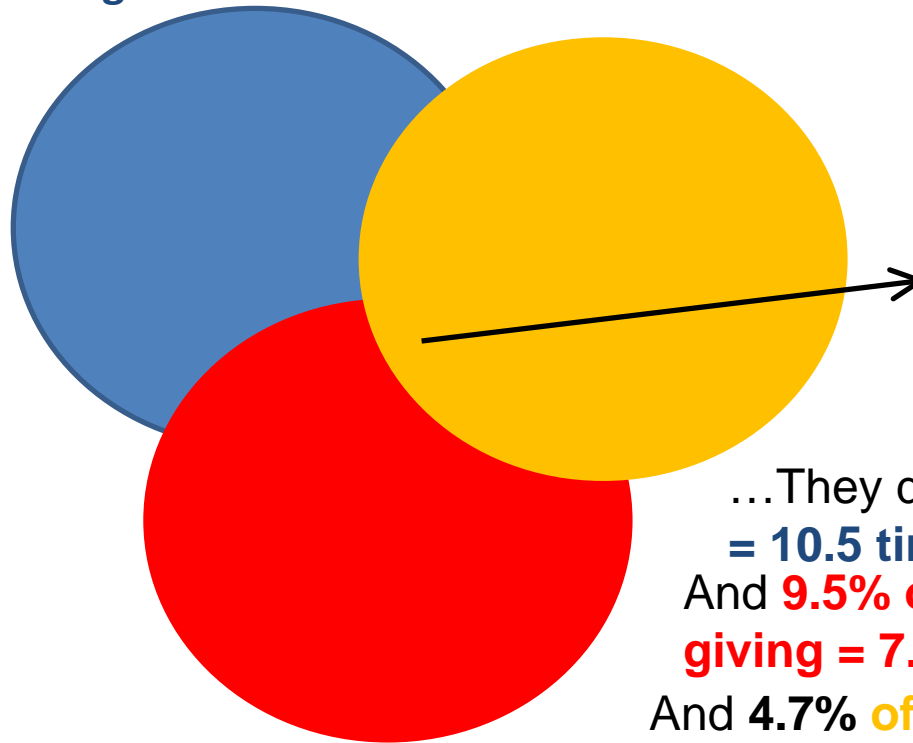
- Seeking consistency
- Reality of diversity across surveys
  - Diversity of definition: Voluntary? Reward? Context (formal/ informal)? Beneficiaries?
  - Rates vs. levels
  - Diversity of time frames
  - Diversity of wording
  - Implications? 'True' estimates? Best practice.



# Beyond rates: Levels of engagement and the formal civic core

Volunteering

Civic associations



= 1.3% of the population....

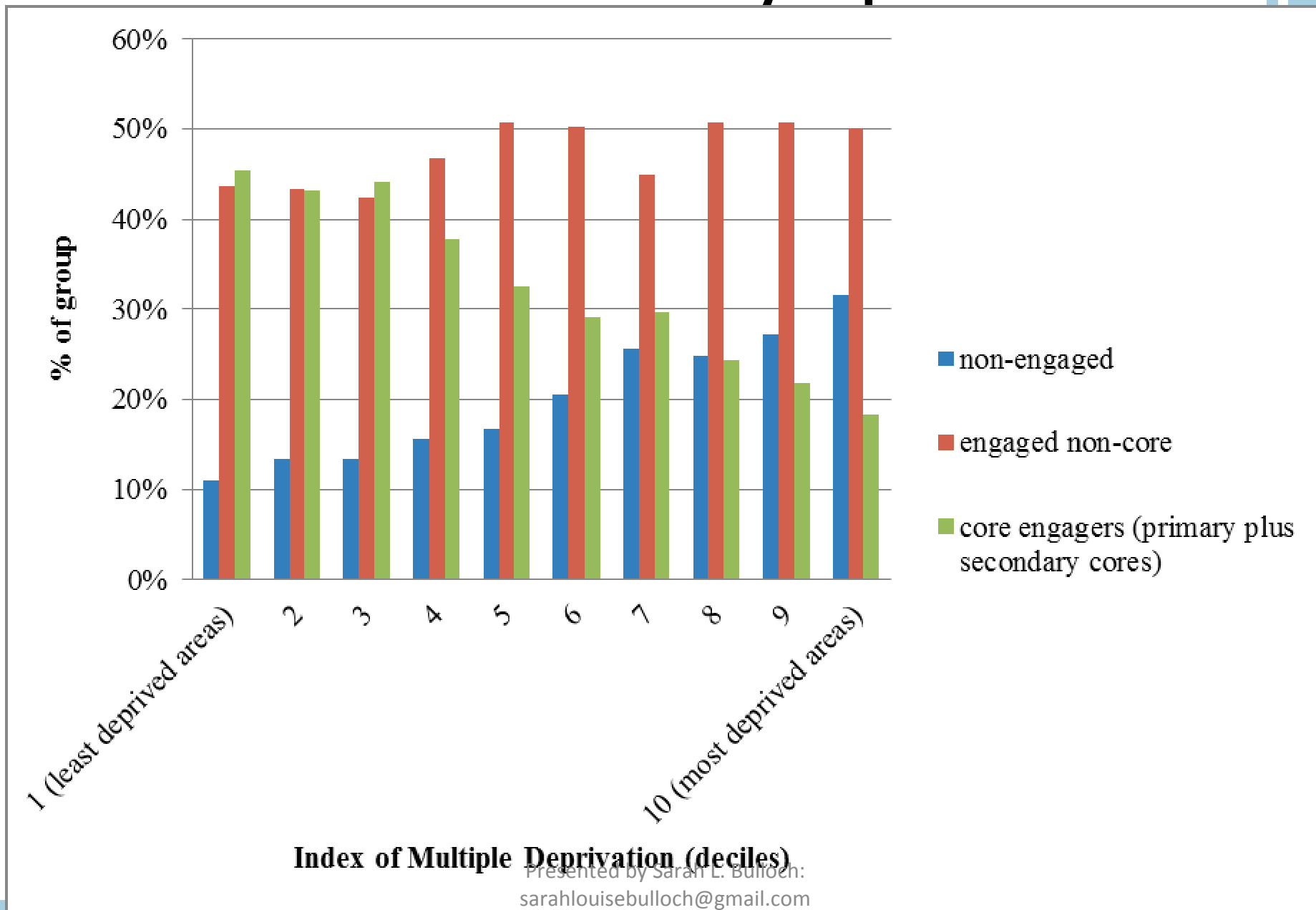
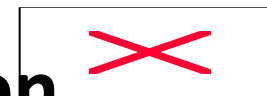
...They do **13.7% of all volunteering**  
**= 10.5 times 'their share'**  
And **9.5% of all charitable giving = 7.3 times 'their share'**  
And **4.7% of participation in different civic associations = 3.6 times 'their share'**

Charitable giving

Citizenship Survey 2009-10

Presented by Sarah L. Bulloch:  
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# Distribution of the civic core by deprivation







# References

- Brodie E., Hughes T., Jochum V., Miller S., Ockenden N. and Warburton D., 2011. *Pathways through participation: What creates and sustains active citizenship?*. London: NCVO, IVR, and Involve
- Cnaan, R. A., Handy, F., & Wadsworth, M. (1996). Defining who is a volunteer: Conceptual and empirical considerations. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 25, 364.
- Mohan J. and Bulloch S. 2012. 'The idea of a 'civic core': what are the overlaps between charitable giving, volunteering, and civic participation in England and Wales?' *TSCR Working Paper 73*. Southampton: TSRC
- Staetsky & Mohan, 'Individual voluntary participation in the United Kingdom: an overview of survey information' TSRC Working Paper 6
- Tarling, R. 2000. Statistics on the voluntary sector in the UK, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series A (Statistics in Society)*, 163: 255-261.