Consumerism and Societal Change in the United States

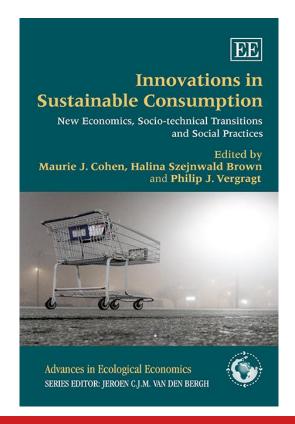
美国消费(者)社会的未来: 及与中国的比较

Maurie J. Cohen, Director Science, Technology, and Society Program New Jersey Institute of Technology University Heights Newark, NJ 07102 USA mcohen@njit.edu

Presentation at the Workshop on Sustainable Consumption Research in China, Renmin University, Beijing, November 15-16, 2014

Macroeconomics and Political Economy of Sustainable Consumption

《可持续性消费的革新》





Paradox of Our Times



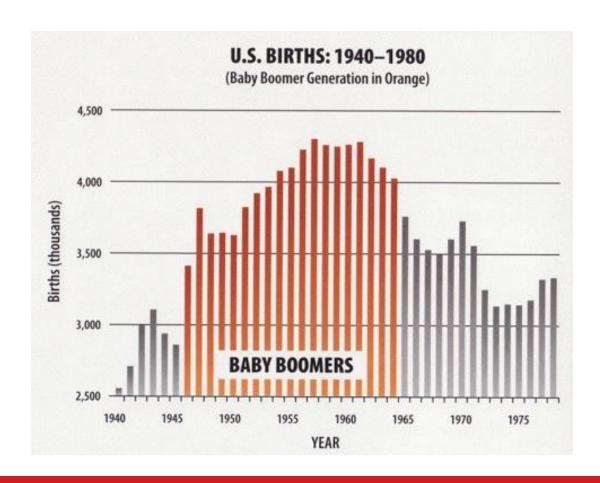


A Brief History of Consumer Society in the United States



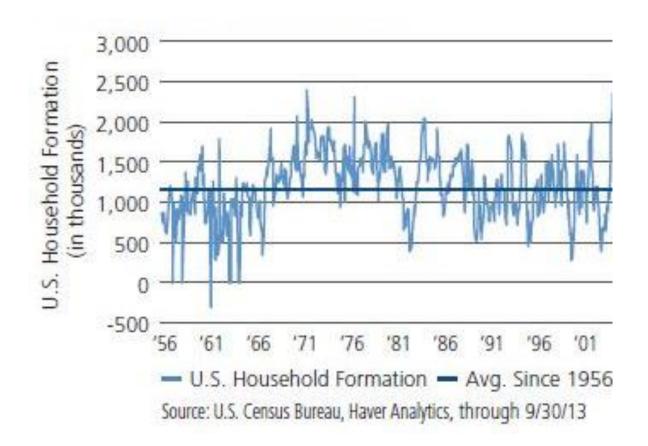
Demographic Dividend: Birth of the Baby Boomers

人口的效益:战后的婴儿潮时代



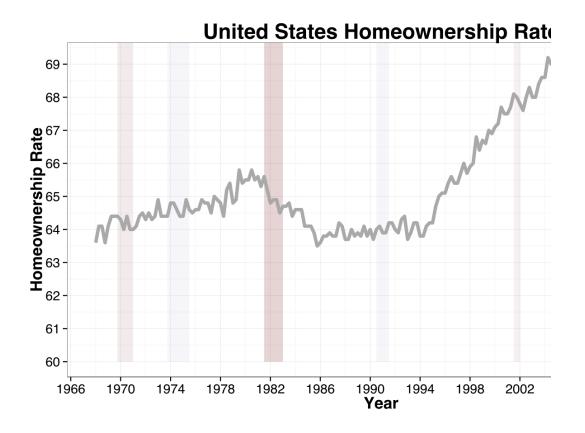
Increasing Household-Formation Rate

增长的住户形成率



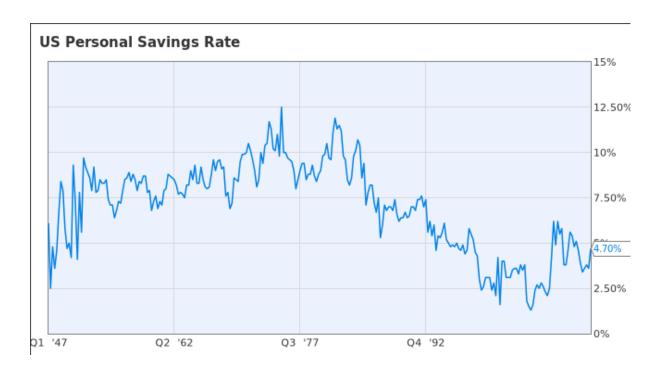
Increasing Home-Ownership Rate

自有住房率的增长



Declining Savings Rate

降低存款率



Increasing Female Labor-Force Participation

女性参与劳动的增长



Rising Median Household Income

经济学:中等家庭收入的提高

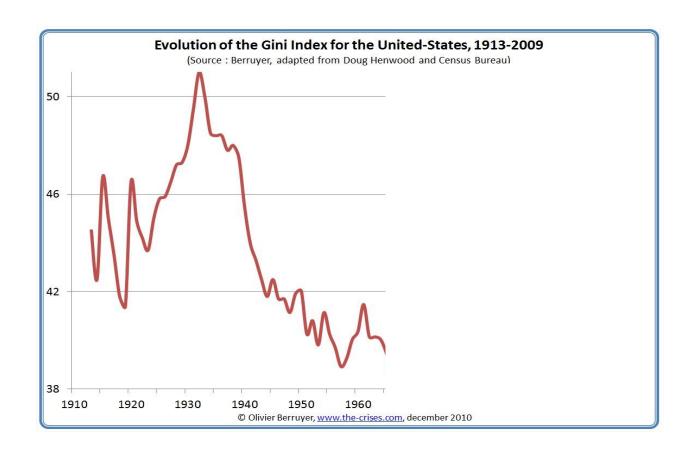
Median Household Income



SOURCE: CENSUS BUREAU

Decreasing Income Inequality

下降的收入不平等



Political Consensus on Consumption-Driven Economic Growth

消费驱动经济增长的政治共识



Ample Supplies of Natural Resources

丰富的自然资源补给



Are We Now Seeing the Demise of American Consumer Society?

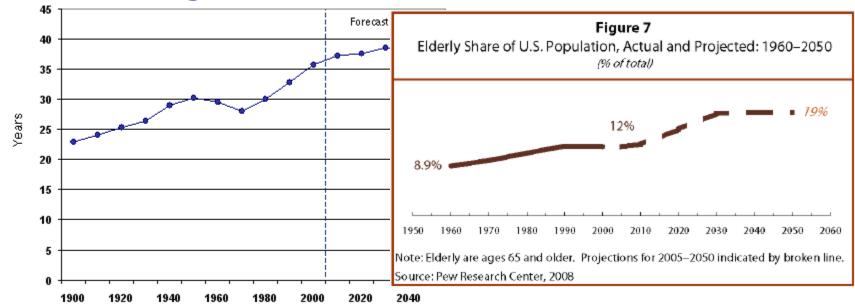
我们正在目睹美国消费社会的终结吗?



Aging Demographic Profile

老龄化人口概况

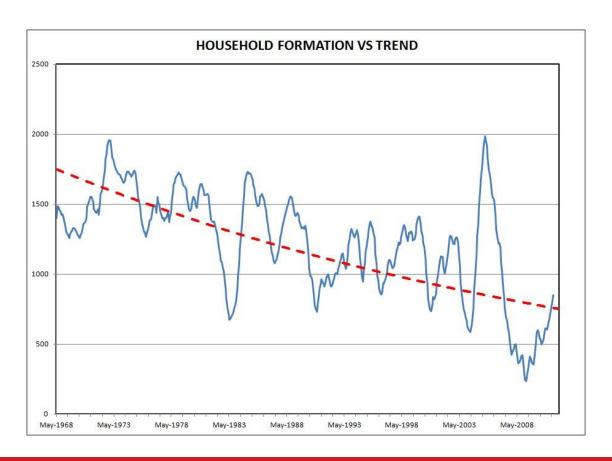
Median Age: 1900 to 2050



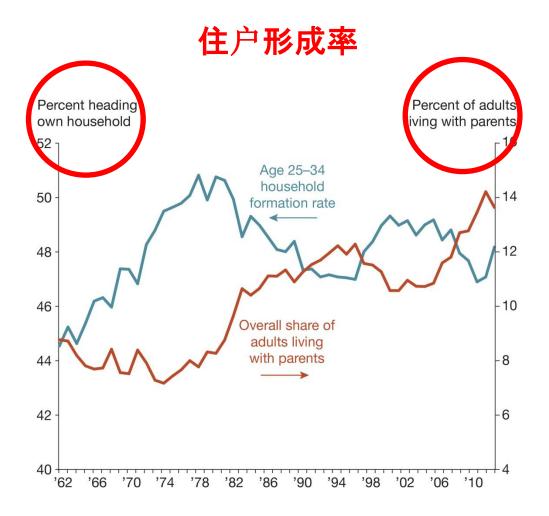
Source: US Census Bureau

Household-Formation Rate

住户形成率

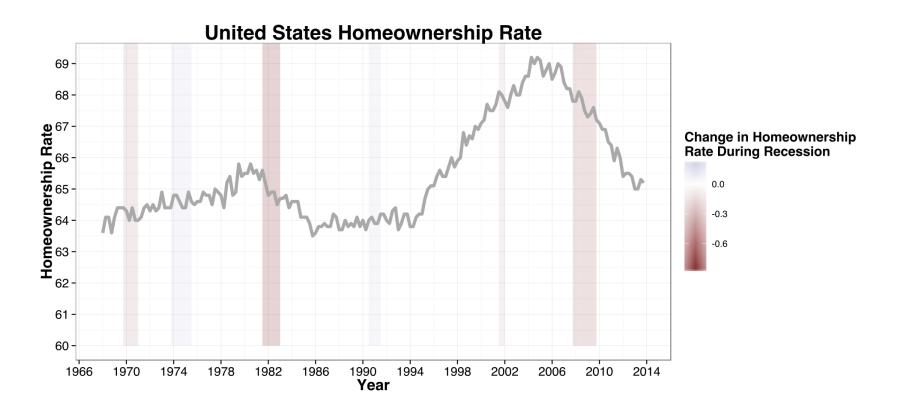


Household-Formation Rate



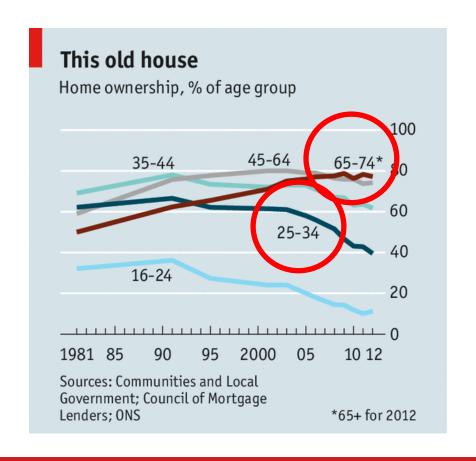
Declining Home-Ownership Rate

自有住房率的下降



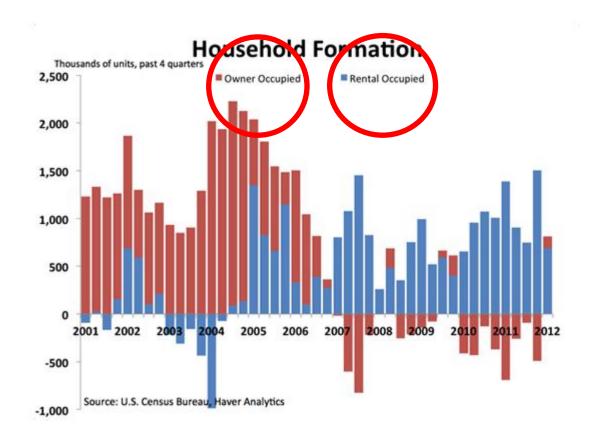
Declining Home-Ownership Rate

自有住房率的下降



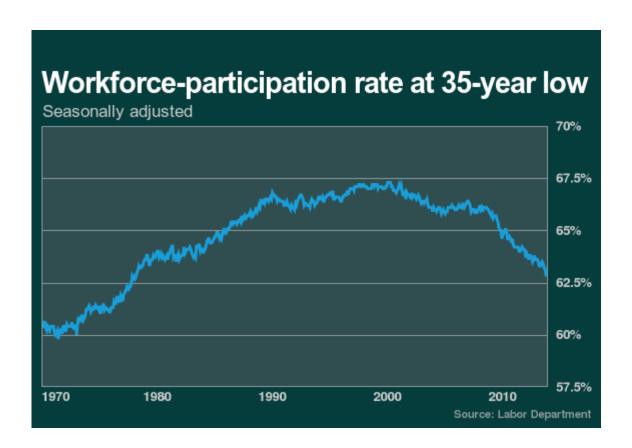
Declining Home-Ownership Rate

自有住房率的下降



Decreasing Labor-Force Participation

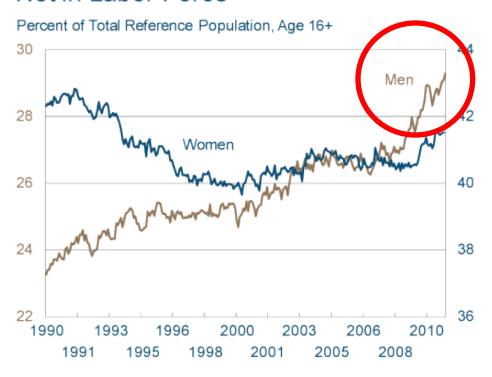
参与市场的劳动力下降



Decreasing Labor-Force Participation

参与市场的劳动力下降

Not in Labor Force



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Slowing of GDP Growth

GDP增长放缓

Annual US GDP Growth

10 year moving average

5.5%

4.5%

4.0%

3.5%

2.5%

1.5%

1.0%

0.0%

1987

1992

1997

2002

2007

Source: Calculated from Bureau of Economic Analysis NIPA Table 1.1.3

1977

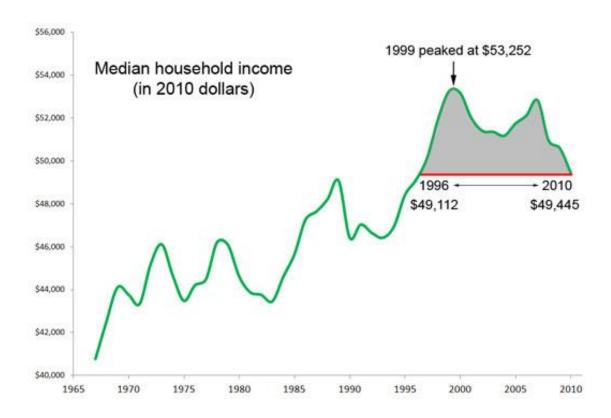
1982

1972

1967

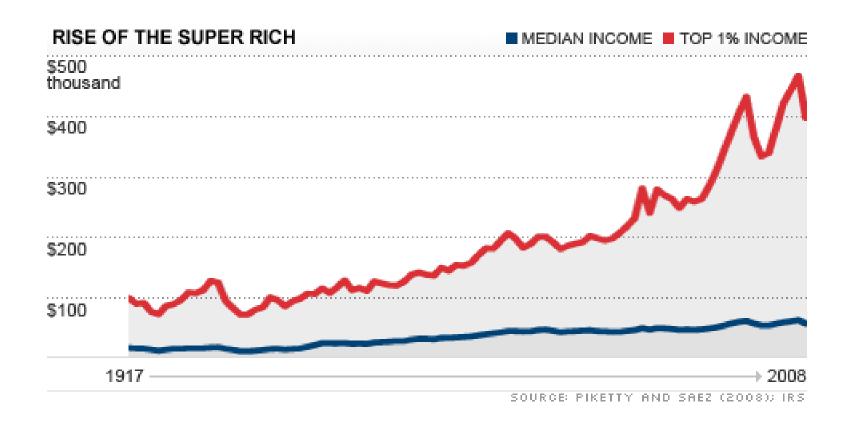
Stagnating Median Income

停滞的媒体收入



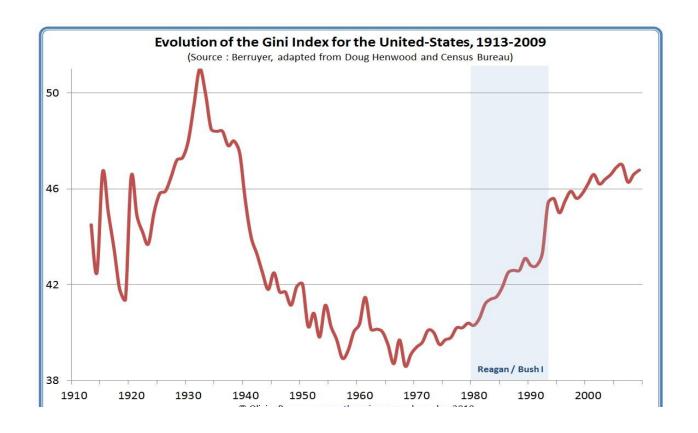
Success to the Successful

富有人群的成功



Increasing Income Inequality

收入不平等的加剧



Demise of the Political Consensus on Consumption-Driven Economic Growth

消费驱动经济增长的政治共识的终止

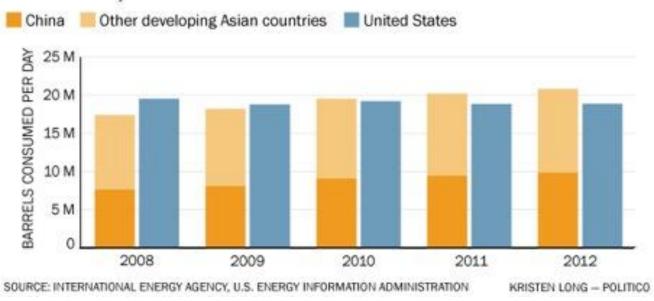


New Resource Scarcities

新型资源的匮乏

DEMAND FOR OIL

For the first time, more oil was consumed daily in 2010 by China and other developing Asian countries than by the United States.

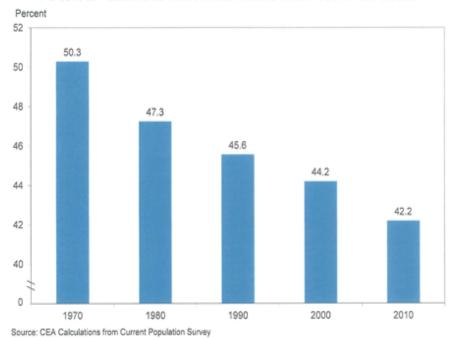


Contraction of the Middle Class

中产阶级萎缩

Figure 6: The Size of the Middle-Class has Fallen

Percent of Households With Annual Income Within 50% of the Median



Can Consumer Society Persist in the United States in the Absence of a Middle Class?

缺乏了中产阶级, 消费社会在美国还能维持吗?

THE SHRINKING MIDDLE CLASS HOUSEHOLDS WITH ANNUAL INCOMES WITHIN 50 PERCENT OF THE MEDIAN 52% 50.3% 50% 47.3% 48% 45.6% 46% 44.2% Since the 1970s the 44% percentage of households 42% earning middle class incomes 42.2% 40% has steadily declined 38% 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 Source: Alan Kruger, "The Rise and Consequences of Inequality," speech THE HUFFINGTON POST

Boutique Consumerism vs. Ordinary Provisioning

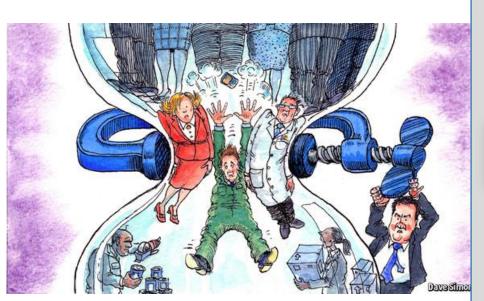
精品消费主义 vs.平凡的 供应

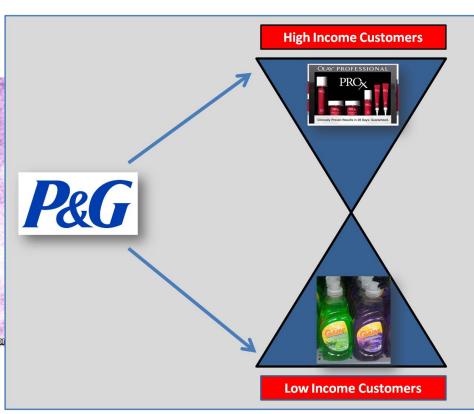




"Hourglass" Theory of Consumer Marketing

消费市场的"沙漏"理论





Toward a Post-Consumerist Future?

通往后消费主义的未来?

