

John Van Reenen

Professor, London School of Economics

The economics of bad bosses or “Bossonomics”. Why management matters for firm and national performance. What drives better management performance? How can business leaders and policy makers make a difference? This draws on a decade of research on surveying managers in over 14,000 organisations in 30+ countries featured in the *Economist*, *New York Times*, and *Harvard Business Review*.

Where is our economy going? Why has the world economy struggled to recover from the global financial crisis in 2008-09? What does this mean for business and policy makers? How can we improve things and reduce risk of such crises recurring? Builds on my report and book “Investing for Prosperity: Report of the LSE Growth Commission”

The Productivity puzzle. Why is UK productivity 14% lower today than on pre-crisis trends? IS the UK doomed to low wages and productivity for a generation? What is the role of policy in labour markets, finance and competition policy?

Forever Unequal? In the US the top 1% own a larger fraction of income since records began in the early Twentieth Century. Inequality has trended up in most countries over the last 30 years. What are the causes of this – what is the role of technology, of globalisation, and of institutions? How has this affected the equality of opportunity and should we care? Is this an inevitable feature of market economies or can policy affect growing disparities?

Innovation dilemmas. How is technology re-shaping the way we live and work? What makes for a high innovation country or organisation? Can governments help or only hinder the ecology of innovation?

Healthcare bills. Seemingly inexorable demand for healthcare has driven up the share of health in GDP to unprecedented levels. Nearly one in every five dollars spent in the US goes to healthcare. In an age of austerity governments and firms are seeking ways to bring costs under control. What works in improving healthcare efficiency? How can competition, management, technology and skills be harnesses to reduce costs and improve quality?