

Implications

Fill out the right column according to the instructions in the left column.

<p>SCENARIO</p> <p><i>Pick either Baseline or Alternative Future</i></p>	<p>Collapse: Things Fall Apart</p> <p>The loss of Christianity as a common cultural reference point leaves mostly capitalism to fill in the gap. This gives corporations more power and influence but also erodes much of the invisible safety net that was protecting their workers from problems like loneliness, hunger, and homelessness. Traditional religion gives negative social cachet, so people revert to more tribal forms of cultural identity.</p>
<p>CATEGORY</p> <p><i>Pick a category to focus the implications on (refer back to your client; what part of their organization will either care the most, or be the most be most impacted by the forecast (e.g. strategy, human sources, regulatory)</i></p>	<p>Religion Research - this is the group at Pew that is responsible for conducting research that informs discussion about the current state of religion in the United States (link). They need to understand how the landscape is changing so they can adjust their surveys and where they're looking for signals.</p> <p>I'm focusing specifically on implications for religious identification, because that forms the buckets that drive their analysis, and the forces driving change in affiliation are the most powerful driver.</p>
<p>FUTURES WHEELS</p> <p><i>Do 3-5 futures wheels of impacts of your scenario for the category.</i></p> <p><i>Use Coggle.It (create free account), KUMU or graphic program of your choice; take a picture of each of your futures wheels and paste in below</i></p>	<p>See attached.</p>
<p>MOST IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS</p> <p><i>3-5 Most Important Implications from anywhere on your Futures Wheels</i></p>	<p>Increase in loneliness: we've been seeing this trend grow since the 90s with Putnam's <i>Bowling Alone</i> and the 2023 announcement of a loneliness epidemic, but further increases could have serious implications for life satisfaction and mental health.</p> <p>Non-profits facing increased overhead / decreased resources: so much of what's done centrally in other countries is done outside the state in the US. If this work gets more expensive and there are fewer dollars to work with, it could become significantly more miserable to be poor in America.</p> <p>Decrease in birth rate: America is significantly below the replacement rate. Further decreases would threaten the kind of demographic collapse seen in Italy, starting to show up in China, etc. Immigration demand is high and a good solution, but there are political and social difficulties in significantly raising the rate of immigration.</p>
<p>MOST PROVOCATIVE IMPLICATIONS</p>	<p>Restaurants becoming conflict flashpoints: if more Americans are going hungry at the same time restaurants are providing more flashy/deluxe experiences to capture</p>

3-5 Most Provocative Implications from anywhere on your Futures Wheels

the discretionary income of people who used to donate it, it's possible that there could be more violent incidents, protests, panhandling, etc, in and near restaurants.

Greater election instability from "blood and soil" Right: we've already seen strong indications that large portions of the Right consider preserving the "real America" either so important or divinely foreordained that it justifies ignoring unfavorable election results. If this infects enough of the Republican Party, it could lead to an increase in election-related violence and a decrease in peaceful transitions of power.

Disappearance of Sunday brunch: if the rhythm of the week disappears and Sunday stops being a day when professionals don't have to work, then special weekly offerings and rituals like the Sunday Brunch could go extinct.

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE

From the Most Important implications, identify an issue that you will respond to in the next assignment

Increase in loneliness

MOST PROVOCATIVE ISSUE

From the Most Provocative implications, identify an issue that you will respond to in the next assignment

Greater election instability from "blood and soil" Right



