

THE NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB ARCHIVE OF EVENTS

Meeting Agendas of events January 2021 - present

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 28 January, 2021, 6 pm. Venue: Q224, Gardens Point Campus.

Discussion Topic: The book *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*, and the documentary “RBG”

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. ‘Roundtable’ style discussion of any aspect/theme/‘story’ in the book or movie

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything; examples include but are not limited to:

- RBG’s incremental “one step at a time” approach in bringing about change in the context of women’s rights
- How some of the cases were about men’s rights but indirectly about women’s rights highlighting that gender disparities are bad for everyone
- Any “stories” or cases that were particularly uplifting
- How RBG’s dissenting opinions paved the way for eventual legislative change

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant in the queues can continue with the same topic or something different.

Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month’s venue, logistics and planning for the year

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (You can still change your mind as clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

We will bring some drinks and nibbles and members can bring their own sacks or plate to share. However, the venue is a collaborative teaching space, and we will need to clean up after ourselves before we leave.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 25 February, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Botero House 258 Adelaide Street.

Discussion Topic: The Pandemic is a Portal

As mentioned on the website, the reading list is a collection of essays with the theme that the pandemic is an opportunity to create a better post-pandemic world. The focus is not on the pandemic per se but the social and economic problems of the current times. Arundhati Roy and Elif Shafak's essays outline what these problems are in an evocative, literary style. Mariana Mazzucato's essay visualizes what the world will look like in 2023, in terms of what economic policies are implemented around the world and their consequences and Jared Diamond visualized a greater coordination and cooperation in the future on the problem of climate change.

As always, we welcome you even if you haven't had the chance to read everything. The links to the essays are:

[The Pandemic is a Portal by Arundhati Roy](#)

[How to Stay Sane in an Age of Division by Elif Shafak](#)

[It's 2023. Here's How we Fixed the Global Economy by Mariana Mazzucato](#)

[Lessons from a Pandemic by Jared Diamond](#)

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme/'story' in the book or movie

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything; examples include but are not limited to:

- Social injustices and inequalities highlighted in Roy and Shafak's essays
- Polarization of views and lack of inclusion/acceptance of diversity in Shafak's essay
- The power of Big Tech companies, the intrusiveness of AI and data privacy, misinformation in social media platforms
- Any economic policies that may "fix" things (Mazzucato's essay or anything else you may have read/thought of)
- Potential for coordination on climate change referred to in Jared Diamond's article.

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date including venues with a mixed F2F/online option

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (You can still change your mind as clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 25 March, 2021, 6pm. Venue: Z808 Gardens Point, QUT or online (see [zoom link](#)).

Discussion Topic: Jane Austen, Game Theorist

As mentioned previously, we have assigned Michael Suk-Young Chwe's book, *Jane Austen, Game Theorist* as the key reading. For those of you familiar with game theory and Jane Austen novels it will be faster reading, but the book does not assume prior knowledge of either game theory or Jane Austen novels, of which the author respectively provides a primer and a summary. However, it is fine to have watched only the interdisciplinary Youtube seminar *Pride, Prejudice and Strategic Thinking*. The seminar is certainly useful from the point of view of getting the gist of the ideas in Chwe's book, but it is also interesting due to the cross-disciplinary conversation between an economist (Dr Chwe) and professor of English literature (Dr. Anne Mellor). You don't need to read Jane Austen books either, but given their popularity and fame you may have either read them some point in your life or watched one or more of the numerous film or TV productions based on them.

As always, we welcome you even if you haven't had the chance to read/view much given time constraints. The links are:

[Book](#)

[Seminar](#)

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the book or seminar

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- As per the Google English Dictionary a theory is "a supposition or a system of ideas intended to explain something, especially one based on general principles"

independent of the thing to be explained". Game theory, according to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy is "the study of the ways in which interacting choices of economic agents produce outcomes with respect to the preferences (or utilities) of those agents, where the outcomes in question might have been intended by none of the agents." Going by these broad definitions/our understanding of these concepts generally, is Jane Austen a game theorist?

- Austen's insights and systematic discussion of human behaviour, particularly their strategic behaviour
- Additional insights that emerge – "cluelessness", when using strategic thinking is an advantage and potential failures from using it.

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (Clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 21 April, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Motorwagen Café, 300 Adelaide Street.

Discussion Topic: The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams and Invisible Women by Caroline Criado Perez

Both books are about the underrepresentation of women in various walks of life. Set in a period overlapping with the Suffragette movement, Pip Williams's novel is historical truth presented in fictional form and highlights the missing perspectives of women in the evolution of language. Caroline Criado Perez's book has a broad scope, looking at gender data gaps that inform and adversely impact women in many ways, including but not limited to health care, workplace environment, product design, public life, political representation and in the aftermath of natural disasters and crises.

As always, we welcome you even if you haven't had the chance to read/view much given time constraints. The links are

[The Dictionary of Lost Words](#)

[Invisible Women](#)

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Underrepresentation of women's perspectives in language, culture and history; stereotypes resulting from lack of gender neutrality in language
- Gender data gaps that adversely impact on healthcare and medicine
- Adverse public policy outcomes resulting from gender data gaps

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (Clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 26 May, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Ed Café, 348 Edward Street, City.

Discussion Topic: Docuseries “Daughters of Destiny”

[Daughters of Destiny](#) is a docuseries about a residential school, Shanti Bhavan, that takes students from very poor, marginalized communities. and provides them with an elite education through school and college, free of cost. This compelling docuseries, which follows the lives of some of the female students of Shanti Bhavan over a period of seven years, can be uplifting and disturbing at the same time depending on your perspective. The (optional)reading for this month's meeting is a memoir, [The Elephant Chaser's Daughter](#) by one of the girls, **Shilpa Raj**, featured in the docuseries, and provides a student's perspective of her life in the school and outside of it. As always, we welcome you even if you haven't had the chance to read/view much given time constraints.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. ‘Roundtable’ style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Caste and gender discrimination in India and implications of the Shanti Bhavan initiative
- Pros and cons, ethical issues of social experiments of this type
- Individual stories of the key characters
- What was good about the docuseries and what could have been done better

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

- 3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format**
- 4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date**

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (Clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 28 June, 2021, 6pm. Venue: Brew Café and Wine Bar, Lower Burnett Lane, Brisbane CBD.

Note: This event did not take place due to insufficient numbers/last-minute cancellations; however, the plan for the meeting is noted here for the record. There was a snap lockdown immediately afterwards.

Discussion Topic: The Queen's Gambit Miniseries/book and other (optional) women-in-chess related movies and articles

The focus is on the [miniseries](#) or [book](#), but you may have also read the [blog](#) by Maria Cubel and seen the movie Queen of Katwe. Both the movie and miniseries focus on chess, with a real-life based (as in Queen of Katwe) and fictional (as in The Queen's Gambit) portrayal of a woman's journey of struggle and triumph in a male-dominated realm. The blog by Maria Cubel and references therein provide economists' perspectives of gender-related disadvantages in chess.

As always, we welcome you even if you haven't had the chance to read/view much given time constraints.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- The inner battles of the lead character Beth with alcoholism/substance abuse and her eventual triumph
- Gender disadvantages in chess
- Performances by actors, aspects of the movies that were well done (or not)

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets

a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

- 3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format**
- 4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date and choice of book based on list on website**

As indicated on the website, the July reading is based on an indigenous perspectives theme, given July contains NAIDOC week. Members choose one of the following:

[Terra Nullius](#) by Claire G. Coleman

[The Yield](#) by Tara June Winch

[Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia](#), edited by Anita Heiss

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the first six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (Clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 27 July, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Alta Café, 270 Adelaide Street, City.

Discussion Topic: Terra Nullius by Claire G. Coleman

The theme of this month's discussion is Aboriginal perspectives. To that end we meet to discuss the book, [Terra Nullius](#), a work of speculative fiction by Claire G. Coleman, who identifies with the south coast Noongar people. Without giving too much away, speculative fiction has been used as means to provide a perspective on Australia's colonial past. If you have already read the book, you may also read the following reviews:

["Not as we know it: Terra Nullius"](#) by Alison Whittaker, Sydney Review of Books.

[‘Speculative fiction is a powerful political tool’: from War of the Worlds to Terra Nullius](#) by Veronica Sullivan, The Guardian

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. ‘Roundtable’ style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- The “shift in perspective” as a device
- what was your reaction to the “twist” in the narrative
- What the author tried to say/achieve in relation to the target audience/readers

To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month’s venue and date

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the next six months appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Event details can be seen if you click the RSVP button for the event. (Clicking will only take you to a page that shows the details of the event after which you can complete the RSVP if you so wish).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 30 August, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Strauss Coffee, 189 Elizabeth Street, City.

Discussion Topic: Ted Talks and novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

In this month's meeting we discuss writing and TED talks by renowned Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. In particular, we will discuss her TED talk, one of the most-viewed TED talks of all time, "[The Danger of a Single Story](#)" which speaks to the under-representation of different cultural perspectives. Another TED talk of note by her is "[We Should All Be Feminists](#)", also widely viewed and published in essay form in 2014. She has written many award-winning books, but the one chosen for the August meeting is "[Americanah](#)" a novel which examines the issues of race, gender, social distinctions, ethnicity and the immigrant experience. The book is optional if you run out of time.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Solipsistic views of the world and how to avoid them
 - Your reaction to the talks - did you agree or disagree
 - The issues of race, migration and cross-cultural misunderstandings in Americanah
- To manage time, we will be keeping 5 minutes per participant. The next participant can continue with the same topic or something different. Ground rules: Everyone gets a turn to speak without interruption; any differences of opinion are expressed respectfully.

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the second half of the year appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings. Since we are typically a small group, I haven't updated the "Events" section, but will do so soon for the record when I have more time. 😊

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MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 28 September, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: La Luca Cucina, 5/120 Edward Street, City.

Discussion Topic: Suffragette the movie, and Emmeline Pankhurst's book "Suffragette: My Own Story"

In September we discuss the 2015 movie [Suffragette](#). Members are also encouraged to read the book [Suffragette: My Own Story](#) by Emmeline Pankhurst. The theme is self-evident, reflected in the titles of the movie and book. It may also be worthwhile reading the article in the Women's History Review, [The Making of the Feature Film Suffragette](#) by Sarah Gavron.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests and what they have been viewing/reading recently (apart from the book club agenda)

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Your impressions of the movie in relation to the perspectives in the book
- The director Sarah Gavron's decision to focus on working class members of WSPU rather than the leader's
- Why the movement evolved into a "militant" one

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date; selections for November (i.e. your choice from the list sent to members)

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). A discussion about the second half of the year appears on the landing page, but the Activities page has the yearly calendar as well as other suggested readings.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 22 October, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Cicada Café, b7/255 George Street (enter via Adelaide Street)

Discussion Topic: Kim Ji-Young: Born 1982, Book and/or movie

This month, we again have a movie-and-book session planned starring Kim Ji-Young: Born 1982 by Cho Nam Ju and movie by the same title. The theme of the novel (and movie) is gender-discrimination in Korea, but connects with gender discrimination issues more broadly. The book stirred up intense debate in Korea about feminist issues and is an international bestseller appearing in the [New York Times Notable Books of 2020](#). For reviews see:

[Book review by Sarah Shin](#), The Guardian

[Book review by Euny Hong](#), The New York Times

[Movie review by Hyun Eun Kim](#), BBC

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Movie v/s book – did the movie do justice to the book?
- Issues that Korean women face, but are universal themes for all women
- Mental health issues in the book/movie and underlying societal reasons

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next two month's venue and date;

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#). We can finalize the November reading as well from the suggested list.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 10 November, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: Shortlist Coffee, 299 Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

Discussion Topic: Women and Leadership: Real Lives, Real Lessons by Julia Gillard and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

The November meeting will be based on the book "Women and Leadership: Real Lives, Real Lessons" by Julia Gillard and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. Based on interviews of well-known women in leadership positions, including Jacinda Ardern, Hillary Clinton, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Theresa May, Michelle Bachelet, Joyce Banda, Erna Solberg, Christine Lagarde among others, it is about the impact of gender on the treatment of leaders. As always you don't have to read the whole book and, in this case, given the structure of the book, which has sections based on common themes, I recommend you read any extract of your choice.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Similarities and differences in the treatment of gender and leadership across different countries, based on the women's experience covered in the book
- Any themes/insights that resonated or connected with you
- The slow pace of progress in female representation in leadership roles

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next two month's venue and date;

For details about the annual reading schedule and other recommended readings please visit and explore the [website](#).

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 16 December, 2021, 7.30am. Venue: The Maillard Project, 119 Charlotte Street, Brisbane.

Discussion Topic: The Aosawa Murders by Riku Onda

In December we will read *The Aosawa murders*, a crime novel with an unusual texture. The facts unfold non-linearly through a series of interviews with perspectives of different characters, as though the reader is being invited to figure out the solution by putting together the various pieces of the puzzle that emerge in drip-by-drip fashion. For details see the amazon link [here](#).

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to:

- Your view of "what happened" in the end
- The motive, means and opportunity aspects of the case
- The writing style/techniques and its impression on the reader

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next two month's venue and date;

5. Next year's reading and viewing; potential selections

The [website](#) has been updated to include an extensive reading list on the activities pages from which we could select future meeting topics. The list is not comprehensive, of course, and will keep growing as we have ideas and suggestions for potential discussion topics.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 28 January, 2022, 7.30am. Venue: [Marchetti cafe](#), Tattersall's Arcade, 202 Edward Street, Brisbane.

Discussion Topic: Themes in book "The Underground Girls Of Kabul: The Hidden Lives of Afghan Girls Disguised as Boys" and Ted Talk "The dream of educating Afghan girls lives on"

We begin the year with a book and TED talk centred on gender issues in Afghanistan. The book chosen for the January meeting is "The Underground Girls of Kabul: The Hidden Lives of Afghan Girls Disguised as Boys", by Jenny Nordberg and TED talk is by Shabana Basij-Rasikh, titled "The dream of educating Afghan girls lives on". Nordberg's book follows several women who have lived as "bacha posh", i.e. disguised as men in the early years of their lives (and in some cases well into adulthood). It is a poignant narrative of the plight of women in a society that imposes extreme restrictions on women's rights and freedoms and raises thought-provoking questions on the roots of gender identity. The TED talk is by Shabana Basij-Rasikh, the founder of SOLA (School of Leadership, Afghanistan) a boarding school for Afghan girls. In her talk she shares story of evacuating more than 250 students, staff and family members from the school when the Taliban took over in August 2021. For details see the amazon link to the ebook [here](#) and YouTube link to the Ted talk [here](#).

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to the following:

- The idea of the presence of "bacha posh" as a form of resistance in Afghan society
- Historical parallels in other cultures of the same or similar phenomena
- Women's education and leadership in Afghanistan; the SOLA initiative as discussed in the TED talk

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next two month's venue and date;

The [website](#) has been updated to include an extensive reading list on the activities pages from which we could select future meeting topics. The list is not comprehensive, of course, and will keep growing as we have ideas and suggestions for potential discussion topics.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 21 February, 2022, 7.30am. Venue: [Frankie and George](#), 366 George St., Brisbane

Discussion Topic: Themes in book “Nemesis” by Isaac Asimov

The genre for the February meeting is classic science fiction, with Isaac Asimov's novel "Nemesis" as the chosen reading. Gender is not a theme per se, but the story is fun to read and centred on a female character. The book is not part of, but related to his well-known Foundation series, which outlines the future history of humanity starting from its early exploration of space. Put differently, it is a work set in what is referred to as the Foundation universe (see this wikipedia [link](#)). While it is a standalone novel, that context maybe of interest. However, even as a standalone novel there are several interesting themes. The idea of a planet as an organism or life-form is explored here, and links to what is known as the Gaia hypothesis, an idea that is explored further in later novels of the Foundation series, and by other science fiction writers (see [link](#)). Other themes relate to the tension between government sanctioned vs private space exploration, the gradual destruction of earth because of overcrowding and overuse of its resources, prejudices based on outward appearance, emergence of ethnocentric/racial views, to name a few. As is common to the science fiction genre, the novel highlights the potential for the future to be characterized by a dystopian or utopian world, with both trends present in equal measure.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally

2. ‘Roundtable’ style discussion of any aspect/theme in the books

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to the following:

- The idea/thought experiment of space exploration and the inferred (somewhat dystopian) sociological trends – e.g. the emergence of differences in culture and ethnocentric beliefs
- ‘Erythro’ – the planet as a living organism
- The characters, story elements that were striking or resonated in some form with the contemporary world

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next two month’s venue and date

The next month's event is of a different nature as we plan to watch a movie before the discussion, making it a longer session than usual. We will discuss further details at this meeting.

The [website](#) has been updated to include an extensive reading list on the activities pages from which we could select future meeting topics. The list is not comprehensive, of course, and will keep growing as we have ideas and suggestions for potential discussion topics.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 24 March, 2022, 5pm. Venue: C412, QUT Gardens Point Campus, Brisbane

Discussion Topic: Themes in movie Dangal

In March we have a special event, which includes a movie screening addition to discussion over drinks and nibbles. We will watch the Hindi film "Dangal" a biographical sports drama based on the lives of Geeta and Babita Phogat, female wrestlers from India who eventually went on to win gold medals in various commonwealth games.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome over drinks and nibbles

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally. This is the informal, social part of this event with conversations over snacks and beverages. We will bring food and drinks to share.

2. Viewing of the movie

3. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme in the movie

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to the following:

- The story generally, and whether the "Bollywood" style did justice to the real-life events it was representing
- The cast and characters, the performances
- The importance of role models in creating an opening in an otherwise male dominated area

4. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

5. Suggestions for next month's venue and date

The next month's discussion will be based on the book "A Murder at Malabar Hill" by Sujata Massey. We will discuss potential venues and dates at the end of the meeting, if time permits; otherwise we will decide via email.

The [website](#) has been updated to include an extensive reading list on the activities pages from which we could select future meeting topics. The list is not comprehensive, of course, and will keep growing as we have ideas and suggestions for potential discussion topics.

NO FREE LUNCH BOOK AND MOVIE CLUB

MEETING AGENDA

Women in Economics Network, Queensland Branch

Meeting 22 April, 2022, 7.30am. Venue: Brew Café and Wine Bar, Lower Burnett Lane, Brisbane CBD

Discussion Topic: A Murder at Malabar Hill by Sujata Massey

In April we will discuss [A Murder at Malabar Hill](#) by Sujata Massey. It can be classified as "light" reading as it can be read quickly, and it is relaxing in the sense of a classical mystery novel. It is a murder mystery set in early 20th century India with the protagonist Perveen Mistry a female lawyer and sleuth that appears in a series of books. The character is in fact inspired by Cornelia Sorabji and Mithan Tata Lam, India's first women lawyers, according to [this interview](#) of the author.

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome

Participants to introduce themselves in case there are new members and briefly talk about their reading/viewing interests generally. This is the informal "ice breaker" part.

2. 'Roundtable' style discussion of any aspect/theme of the book

This is an informal discussion with some basic structure. Each participant gets a turn and can comment on anything they feel like; examples include but are not limited to the following:

- Aspects of the novel that were well done
- The character development, plot twists, pace of the novel, style of writing
- The blending of two stories, told in non-linear style

3. Discussions that follow from round 2 in flexible format

4. Suggestions for next month's venue and date

The next month's discussion will be based on a short story collection [The Best Short Story Collection 2021: The O Henry Prize Winners](#), guest edited by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. We will discuss potential venues and dates at the end of the meeting, if time permits; otherwise we will decide via email.

The [website](#) has been updated to include an extensive reading list on the activities pages from which we could select future meeting topics. The list is not comprehensive, of course, and will keep growing as we have ideas and suggestions for potential discussion topics.