

Victorian Public Sector Commission & the Australia and New Zealand School of Government present:



Do you have a question
for today's speakers?

Send this through to:

0447 523 995*

to be answered at the end of
the presentation

*standard international mobile phone
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Un-plan the future: futures and stories for public policy

Speaker

Dr Adrian Kuah

Senior Research Fellow
LKY School of Public Policy
Singapore

Speaker

Maria Katsonis

Project Director
Family Violence & Service Delivery Reform
DPC

Moderator

A/Professor Catherine Althaus

Associate Dean (Academic)
ANZSOG

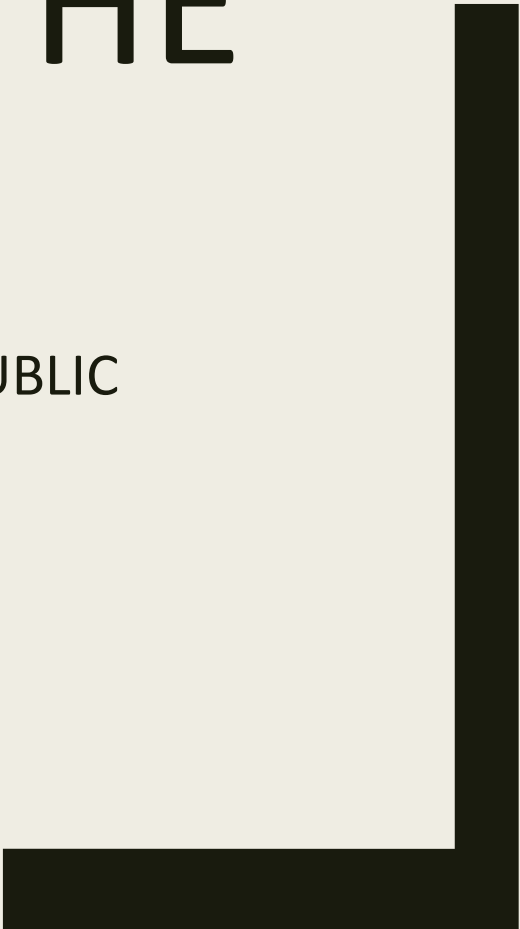


(UN)PLAN THE FUTURE

FUTURES AND STORIES FOR PUBLIC
POLICY

OCTOBER 2016

ADRIAN KUAH
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW
LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC
POLICY











12 Sep 1965



A historical black and white photograph of Raffles Place in Singapore. The image shows two large, ornate colonial-style buildings with multiple stories, arched windows, and classical architectural details. The street in the foreground is busy with early 20th-century automobiles, some with open tops, and several people walking. A central monument or fountain is visible in the middle ground. The overall scene depicts a bustling urban center from the late 19th or early 20th century.

Singapore late 19th
century: Swamp City?

RAFFLES PLACE, SINGAPORE



Once Upon a Time



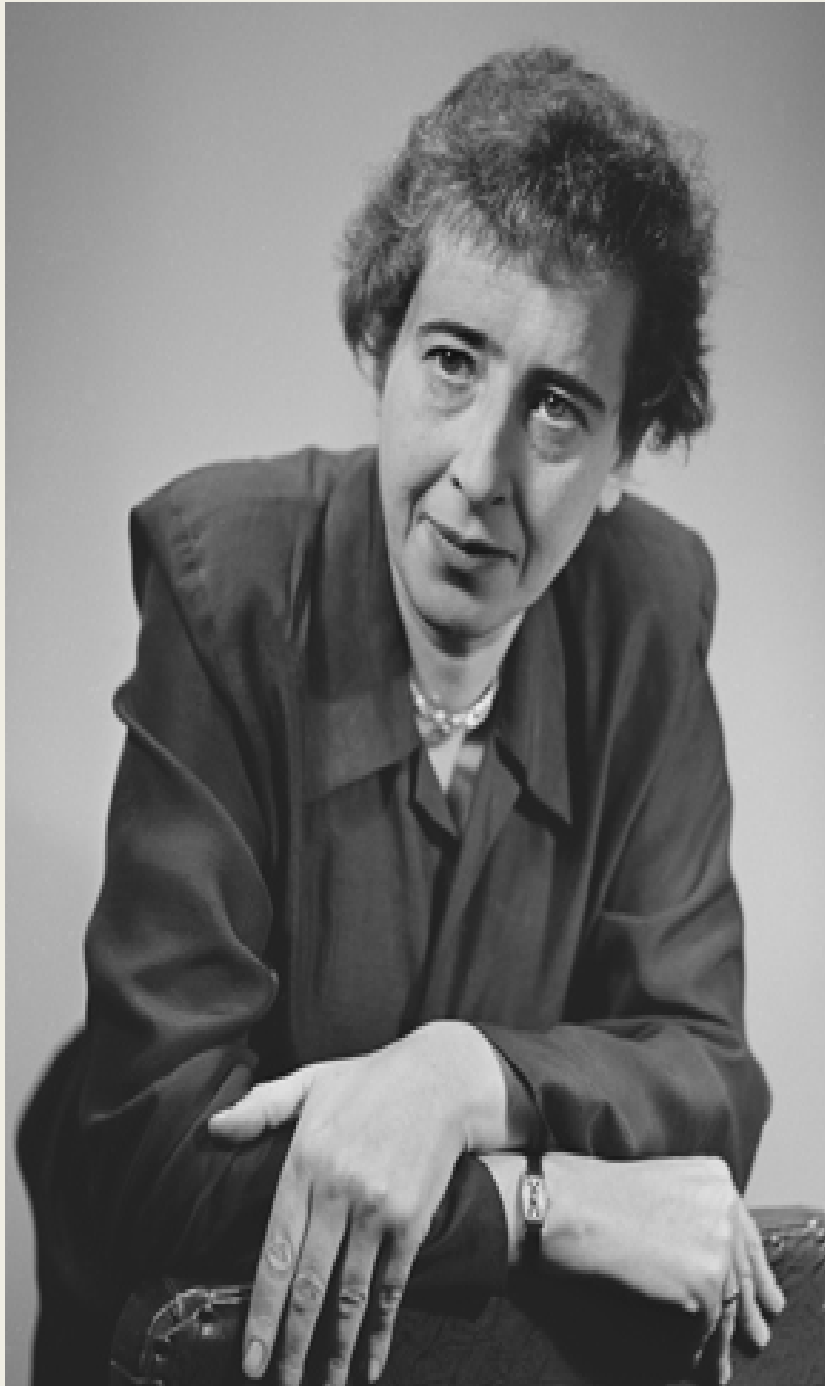
RICHARD BOOKSTABER

Author

A Demon of Our Own Design

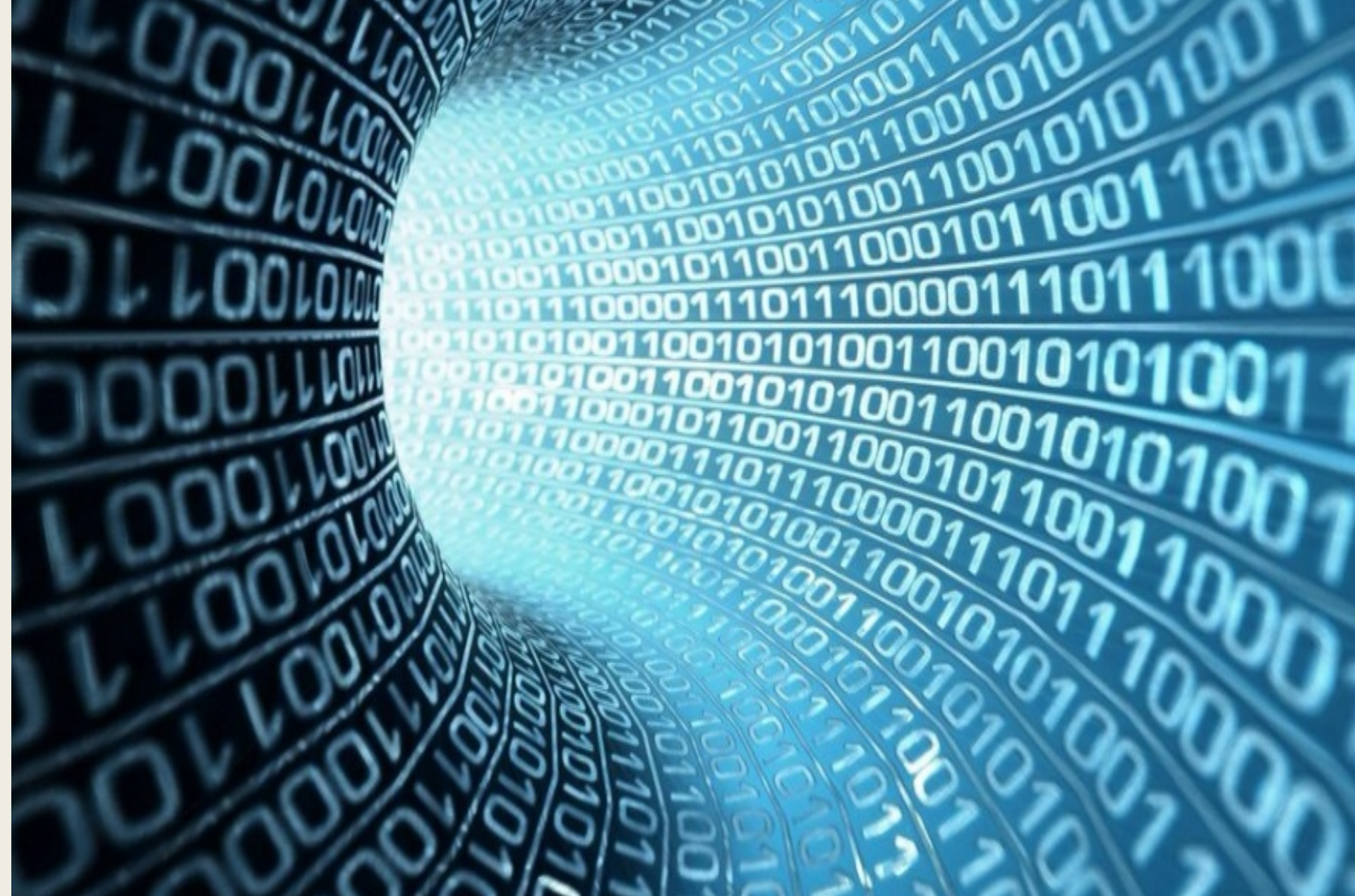


Puzzle or
Mystery?



Hannah Arendt:

“No philosophy can compare in intensity and richness of meaning with a properly narrated story.”



Big Data? Behavioural

Reflections

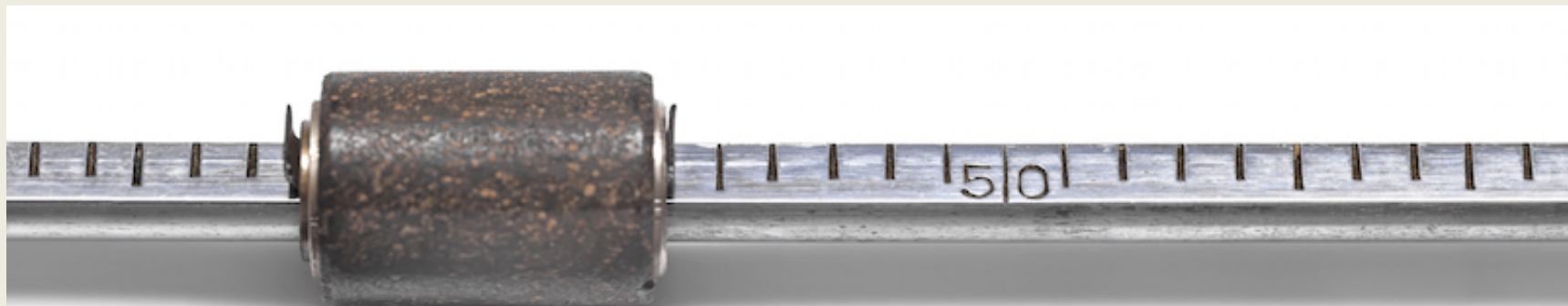
of Our Singapore Conversation



What future
do we want?
How do we
get there?

In praise of everyday
stories...





Once upon a time...



Two stories: very different and yet the same

a) Health policy

b) Lord of the Rings

We are here:

- a) Our health system is under pressure and faces mounting challenges
- b) Sauron wants his Ring of Power but Frodo has it

We want to go there:

- a) We need to build a health system for the 21st century
- b) Frodo must throw the Ring into Mount Doom

Why do we want to go there?

- a) Because a strong health system is essential to a strong, fair society
- b) Because it is good to save the world from evil

How do we get there?

- a) By an alliance with partners, better hospitals, and a good map
- b) By an alliance with elves, dwarves and wizards, and a good map

Difficulties along the way?

- a) Growing demand, arguments with the Feds, a shrinking budget
- b) Black Riders, orcs, and a giant spider – all require rigorous policy responses

How will we know?

- a) Patients get excellent service at an acceptable cost; society is healthy
- b) The Ring destroyed, Middle Earth saved



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