



THE LAST HUMAN JOB

The Work of Connecting in a Disconnected World

ALLISON PUGH



The Last Human Job: The Work of Connecting in a Disconnected World Allison Pugh, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology at Johns Hopkins University and 2024-25 Vice President of the American Sociological Association.

Nick Hatzis, MD

Board-certified general and child and adolescent psychiatrist and Medical Director of Meridian Psychiatric Partners' Child & Adolescent Division.

Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 7:00 PM
Latin School of Chicago, Wrigley Theatre
59 W. North Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610

This event is #freeandopentothe public and will be recorded but not live streamed.

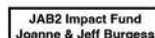
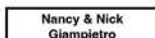
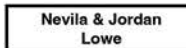
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Book sale and signing at the event.

Suitable for youth 12+

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: ALLISON PUGH, Ph.D. – IN PERSON

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No registration required. Book sale and signing at the event.

“Digital systems are rapidly replacing human beings because, we are told, they are more efficient and less biased. The Last Human Job offers a refreshingly novel criticism of this logic, spotlighting the vital connective tissue created by human interaction that machines cannot possibly replicate.” – Dorothy Roberts, Weiss University Professor of Law & Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

With the rapid development of artificial intelligence and labor-saving technologies like self-checkouts and automated factories, the future of work has never been more uncertain, and even jobs requiring high levels of human interaction are no longer safe. ***The Last Human Job: The Work of Connecting in a Disconnected World*** explores the human connections that underlie our work, arguing that what people do for each other in these settings is valuable and worth preserving.

Drawing on in-depth interviews and observations with people in a broad range of professions—from physicians, teachers, and coaches to chaplains, therapists, caregivers, and hairdressers—**Allison Pugh, Ph.D.** develops the concept of “connective labor,” a kind of work that relies on empathy, the spontaneity of human contact, and a mutual recognition of each other’s humanity. The threats to connective labor are not only those posed by advances in AI or apps; Pugh demonstrates how profit-driven campaigns imposing industrial logic shrink the time for workers to connect, enforce new priorities of data and metrics, and introduce standardized practices that hinder our ability to truly see each other. She concludes with profiles of organizations where connective labor thrives, offering practical steps for building a social architecture that works.

Vividly illustrating how connective labor enriches the lives of individuals and binds our communities together, *The Last Human Job* is a compelling argument for us to recognize, value, and protect humane work in an increasingly automated and disconnected world.

Pugh, professor of sociology at Johns Hopkins University, will be in conversation with **Nick Hatzis, MD**, a board-certified general and child and adolescent psychiatrist and medical director of Meridian Psychiatric Partners’ Child & Adolescent Division.

This event is suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded but not live streamed and will be available on FAN’s website and YouTube channel.

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