



The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together

By Heather McGhee
One World, 2021, \$17.98

From the publisher's description: "Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy — and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a common root problem: racism. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out?"

"McGhee embarks on a deeply personal journey across the country from Mississippi to California to Maine, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm — the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others. ...

"But in unlikely places of worship and work, McGhee finds proof of what she calls the Solidarity Dividend: gains that come when people come together across race, to accomplish what we simply can't do on our own. ..."

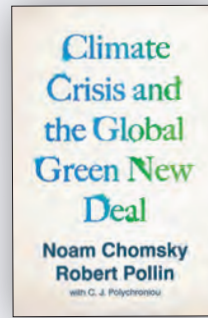


The Vanishing American Dream: A Frank Look at the Economic Realities Facing Low- and Middle-Income Americans

By Eugene Ludwig
The Ludwig Institute for Shared Economic Prosperity, 2020, \$16.82

From the Amazon description: "As America struggles to point its way out of the COVID-19 pandemic, we can't lose sight of the economic problems that existed before the crisis. Even when the unemployment rate was near record lows and the stock market near record highs, the gap between low- and moderate-income Americans and their wealthier counterparts had become unconscionably wide. A future economic recovery presents an opportunity to address this deeper, troubling challenge and to rectify the economic injustice that threatens so many Americans."

In 2019, founder and CEO of Promontory Financial Group, Gene Ludwig, gathered a bipartisan group of the nation's foremost economic thinkers — academics and politicians, CEOs and former presidential advisors — to break with convention and candidly discuss that widening gap. *The Vanishing American Dream: A Frank Look at the Economic Realities Facing Middle- and Lower-Income Americans* comes from their insights. "The opportunity to rebuild our economy should inspire the most important conversations and ideas of our time. ... As we remap our economy, we have an opportunity to rebuild the American Dream for the long-term. ..."



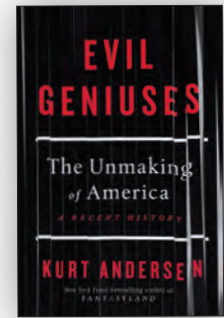
Climate Crisis and the Global Green New Deal: The Political Economy of Saving the Plane

By Noam Chomsky and Robert Pollin
Penguin Random House, 2020, \$18.95

From the publisher's description: "In this compelling new book, Noam Chomsky, the world's leading public intellectual, and Robert Pollin, a renowned progressive economist, map out the catastrophic consequences of unchecked climate change — and present a realistic blueprint for change: the Green New Deal."

"Together, Chomsky and Pollin show how the forecasts for a hotter planet strain the imagination: vast stretches of the Earth will become uninhabitable, plagued by extreme weather, drought, rising seas, and crop failure. Arguing against the misplaced fear of economic disaster and unemployment arising from the transition to a green economy, they show how this bogus concern encourages climate denialism."

"Humanity must stop burning fossil fuels within the next thirty years and do so in a way that improves living standards and opportunities for working people. This is the goal of the Green New Deal and, as the authors make clear, it is entirely feasible. Climate change is an emergency that cannot be ignored. This book shows how it can be overcome both politically and economically."



Evil Geniuses: The Unmaking of America

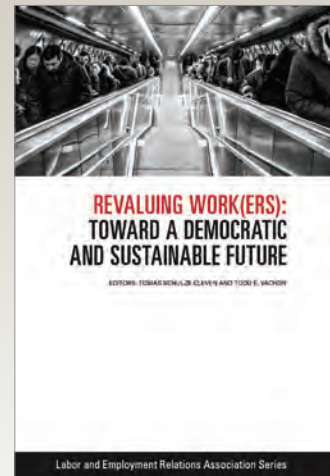
By Kurt Anderson
Random House, 2020, \$14.29

From the Evil Geniuses website: "During the twentieth century, America managed to make its economic and social systems both more and more fair and more and more prosperous. A huge, secure, and contented middle class emerged. All boats rose together. But then the New Deal gave way to the Raw Deal."

"Beginning in the early 1970s, by means of a long war conceived of and executed by a confederacy of big-business CEOs, the superrich, and right-wing zealots, the rules and norms that made the American middle class possible were undermined and dismantled. The clock was turned back on a century of economic progress and market all-powerful while weaponizing nostalgia, lifting up an oligarchy that served only its own interests, and leaving the huge majority of Americans with dwindling economic prospects and hope."

"Why and how did America take such a wrong turn? In this deeply researched and brilliantly woven cultural, economic, and political chronicle, Andersen offers a fresh, provocative, and eye-opening history of America's undoing, naming names, showing receipt, and unsparingly assigning blame — to the radical right in economics, the high priests of high finance, a complacent establishment, and liberal 'useful idiots,' among whom he includes himself."

Revaluing Work(ers): Toward a Democratic and Sustainable Future



Editors: **Tobias Schulze-Cleven** and **Todd E. Vachon**

How can we build a future of work that meets pressing challenges and delivers for workers? Contemporary societies are beset by interrelated ecological, political, and economic crises, from climate change to democratic erosion and economic instability. Uncertainty abounds about the sustainability of democratic capitalism. Yet mainstream debates on the evolution of work tend to remain narrowly circumscribed, exhibiting both technological and market determinism.

This volume presents a labor studies perspective on the future of work, arguing that revaluing work — the efforts and contributions of workers — is crucial to realizing the promises of democracy and improving sustainability. It emphasizes that collective political action, and the

collective agency of workers in particular, is central to driving this agenda forward. Moreover, it maintains that reproductive work — labor efforts from care to education that sustain the reproduction of society — can function as a crucible of innovation for the valuation and governance of work more broadly. ■



Editors: **Tobias Schulze-Cleven** and **Todd E. Vachon**

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