New Policy Frontiers:  
From the Crisis of Urban Affordability to
21st Century Consumer Rights and Protections

I. Determining Where We Stand in a Deeply Divided Nation: The Possibilities Available to Those Pursuing an Inclusive, Post-Traditional American Future
   A. Enlist the Injured: On the Need and Possibilities for Inclusive Public Policy
   B. Fight Against Injustice: The Limited Short-term Prospects for Reviving Progressive Politics at the National Level
   C. Separation: Local, State and/or National

II. A Litany of Big Policy Issues Facing the Nation
   A. Some Usual Suspects: 21st Century Infrastructure (from high speed rail and internet to climate change preparedness), and Immigration Reform
   B. The Opioid Crisis and Mass Incarceration
   C. Metabolic Syndrome (e.g. obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, dementia, etc.) and the Bankrupting of the American Health Care System
   D. Gender Inequality and the Boy Crisis
   E. Racial and Geographic Barriers to Economic Opportunity
   F. Unmanaged Technological Change and Correlate Changes in the Human Condition
   G. The Decline of Meaningful Employment and the End of Democratic Capitalism
   H. Global Climate Change
   I. Affordable Housing and Eviction
   J. Education Reform

III. Understanding Some Main Impediments to Action on 21st Century Policy Issues
   A. Polarization, Negative Partisanship, Incivility and the Paralysis of the Federal Legislator
B. The Concentration of Corporate Power and Regulatory Capture
C. The Benefits of Policy Drift for the Socially Powerful
D. Constitutional and Institutional Factors
   1. Too Many Veto Points
   2. Lack of Competent National Civil Service and Bureaucracy
   3. The Disproportionate Representation of Less Populace States
E. The Federal Judiciary

IV. (Re-)creating a Democratic Infrastructure to Overcome these Impediments
A. 21st Century Social Movement: Mark Warren’s Analysis of the School Reform as an Illustrative Case
B. Rebuilding Private Sector Unions
C. Removing Money From Politics
D. Supreme Court Term Limits
E. A 21st Century Democratic Press and Public Sphere (Wu, “Is the 1st Amendment Obsolete?”)
F. Aiming for Inclusive Policy Programs
G. Going Sub- or Supra-National When Necessary

Works Drawn On:
• Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness*
• Ta-Nehisi Coates, “The Case for Reparation,” *The Atlantic*, June 2014
• Matthew Desmond’s *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*
• Warren Farrel and John Gray, *The Boy Crisis*
• Richard Florida, *The New Urban Crisis*
• Patrick Radden Keef, “The Family that Built an Empire of Pain,” *The New Yorker*, October 30, 2017
• Robert Lustig, *The Hacking of the American Mind: The Science Behind the Corporate Takeover of Our Bodies and Brains*
• Beth Macy, *Dopescik: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company that Addicted America*
• Kate Manne, *Downgirl: The Logic of Misogyny*
• Robert McChesney and John Nichols, *People Get Ready: The Fight Against a Jobless Economy and a Citizenless Democracy*
• Annelise Orleck, *We Are All Fast Food Workers Now*
• Zeynep Tufekci, *Twitter and Tear Gas: The Power and Fragility of Networked Protest*
• Mark Warren, *Lift Us Up Don’t Push Us Out! Voices from the Front Lines of the Educational Justice Movement*