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Urgent Issues, Extraordinary Politics
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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*
- Anne Case and Angus Deaton, “Mortality and morbidity in the 21st century,” (<https://www.brookings.edu/bpea-articles/mortality-and-morbidity-in-the-21st-century/>)
- 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, *Dopesick: 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*