

## About the Authors

**Samuel J. Abrams** is a professor of politics at Sarah Lawrence College and a nonresident senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

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**Charles Blain** is the president of Urban Reform and the Urban Reform Institute, both of which focus on researching and promoting free-market policies to foster upward mobility for those living in major metro areas. Blain has been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *City Journal*, *Forbes*, the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Hill*, *Wired*, and *HuffPost*. He serves on the governing board of the Prison Entrepreneurship Program and the boards of Texas Families First, Good Policy Society, and Entre Capital, a commercial lender for businesses started by ex-offenders. In September 2021, Blain was appointed to a four-year term to the Texas Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights.

**J. H. Cullum Clark** is director of the George W. Bush Institute–Southern Methodist University Economic Growth Initiative and an adjunct professor of economics at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He is coauthor of *The Texas Triangle: An Emerging Power in the Global Economy* (Texas A&M University Press, 2021).

**Wendell Cox** is principal of Demographia, a demographics and public policy firm. He was appointed by Mayor Tom Bradley to three terms on the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission, which was a predecessor agency to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Speaker Newt Gingrich appointed him to the Amtrak Reform Council. He is a senior fellow at the Urban Reform Institute and the Frontier Centre for Public Policy and a member of the board of advisers at the Center for Demographics and Policy at Chapman University. He served as a visiting professor of transport at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers in Paris.

**Natalie Gochnour** serves as an associate dean at the David Eccles School of Business and director of the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah.

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**Hügo Krüger** was born in Pretoria, South Africa, and moved to France in 2015. He is a structural engineer with working experience in the nuclear, concrete, and oil and gas industry. He has worked on a variety of infrastructure projects in Europe and Southern Africa. He holds a bachelor's in civil engineering from the University of Pretoria and a master's in nuclear structures from the *École Spéciale des Travaux Publics, du bâtiment et de l'industrie* (ESTP Paris). He frequently contributes to various newspapers and online blogs including the South African newspaper *Rapport* and *Rational Standard*. He also coauthored articles for *Quillette*, *Spiked*, and *UnHerd*.

**Michael Lind** is the author of *The New Class War: Saving Democracy from the Managerial Elite* (Portfolio, 2020) and *Land of Promise: An Economic History of the United States* (HarperCollins, 2012), among many other books. A former editor or staff writer at the *New Yorker*, *Harper's Magazine*, the *New Republic*, and the *National Interest*, he is a fellow at New America and a columnist for *Tablet* and has taught at Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Texas at Austin.

**Sherry Lee Linkon** is a professor of English and American studies at Georgetown University. Her most recent book, *The Half-Life of Deindustrialization: Working-Class Writing About Economic Restructuring* (University of Michigan Press, 2018), won the Working-Class Studies Association's 2019 CLR James Award for the Best Book of 2018. She edits a weekly blog, *Working-Class Perspectives*, and her commentaries have appeared in the Moyers and Company blog, *NewGeography.com*, and the *American Prospect*. Together with John Russo, she codirected the Center for Working-Class Studies at Youngstown State University for 17 years and coedited *New Working-Class Studies* (Cornell University Press, 2005).

**Celia López del Río** is a research associate at Connexions Consulting, where she advances knowledge in the community-development field and its effects on American families. She is passionate about helping working families build wealth through homeownership and entrepreneurship. Her expertise in commercial real estate empowered many minority-owned micro- and small businesses throughout Southern California. As a new resident of Colorado, López del Río follows her own migration path to build on her work and research from the West Coast.

**Karla López del Río** is a community development executive with a track record of creating collaborations and leading research initiatives that promote more equitable public policies. Her research focuses on demographic changes, drawing on her perspective as a first-generation immigrant, real-estate background, and social-enterprise experience. She served as the US Census Bureau's lead partnership specialist in the Inland Empire during the 2020 Decennial. Her team helped significantly improve census response rates, equating to billions of dollars of increased federal funding and political representation for the region. López del Río serves as the executive director of Community Action Partnership of Riverside County, and she is a member of the board of advisers for the Center for Demographics and Policy at Chapman University.

**Bheki Mahlobo** was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is a senior analyst at the Centre for Risk Analysis (CRA), a South African think tank with a global perspective. Mahlobo is a regular speaker and media commentator,

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**Li Sun** is a lecturer in sociology and social policy at the University of Leeds. Her main research interest is China's urbanization and governance. Sun also serves as a consultant to the UN, World Bank, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. She is the author of *Rural Urban Migration and Policy Intervention in China: Migrant Workers' Coping Strategies* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019).