

Social Inequality The Politics Of Representation A Global Landscape

A Question of Inequality The Politics of Inequality A Question of Inequality Democracy, Inequality, and Representation in Comparative Perspective Inequality After the Transition The New Power Elite The Politics of Inequality Inequality, Globalization, and World Politics Unequal China Polarization, Politics, and Property Rights The Politics of Income Inequality in the United States The Origins and Dynamics of Inequality The Politics of Inequality Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics Political Order and Inequality Social Inequality & The Politics of Representation Tracing the Relationship Between Inequality, Crime, and Punishment Individualism and Inequality The Great Gap Regimes of Inequality Christopher Steed Carsten Jensen Chris Steed Pablo Beramendi Ekrem Karakoç Alan Shipman Michael J Thompson Andrew Hurrell Wanning Sun Philip Keefer Nathan J. Kelly Jon D. Wisman David Pettinicchio Keith G. Banting Carles Boix Celine-Marie Pascale Nicola Lacey Ralph Fevre Merike Blofield Julia Lynch

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inequality is widening in the twenty first century the gap between those who have more and those who have less is growing 1 per cent of the world owns as much as the other 99 per cent should we be worried christopher steed author of the acclaimed a question of worth argues that inequality does indeed matter that economic fairness is one of the defining issues of our time in a world conditioned by social media enabling intensified social comparison the anxieties and effects of contemporary inequality are a cause for huge concern despite a wealth of research around inequality most studies have concentrated on its quantitative aspects in a question of inequality christopher steed is concerned with exploring why inequality matters what it means for those who find themselves victims of it and what can be done about it he probes what it means to experience inequality drawing out case studies on the effects of poverty in proposing a theory of social relativity the author provides new insights into the effects and meaning of inequality and makes an original and important contribution to a key issue facing the world today

contemporary democracies vary greatly in how much income inequality they tolerate some like the united states and the united kingdom have seen high and rising levels for decades while others

such as the nordic countries are much more equal this comprehensive text draws on a wealth of cutting edge theories and empirical data to examine the political and economic causes and consequences of income inequality around the globe it is organized around a set of key questions including is there something morally wrong with inequality is inequality good or bad for economic growth how does inequality affect political participation and engagement who decides in the politics of inequality systematic and accessible this is the perfect book for students with an interest in the connections between politics and inequality

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the gap between the richest and poorest americans has grown steadily over the last thirty years and economic inequality is on the rise in many other industrialized democracies as well but the magnitude and pace of the increase differs dramatically across nations a country s political system and its institutions play a critical role in determining levels of inequality in a society democracy inequality and representation argues that the reverse is also true inequality itself shapes political systems and institutions in powerful and often overlooked ways in democracy inequality and representation distinguished political scientists and economists use a set of international databases to examine the political causes and consequences of income inequality the volume opens with an examination of how differing systems of political representation contribute to cross national variations in levels of inequality torben iverson and david soskice calculate that taxes and income transfers help reduce the poverty rate in sweden by over 80 percent while the comparable figure for the united states is only 13 percent noting that traditional economic models fail to account for this striking discrepancy the authors show how variations in electoral systems lead to very different outcomes but political causes of disparity are only one part of the equation the contributors also examine how inequality shapes the democratic process pablo beramendi and christopher anderson show how disparity mutes political voices at the individual level citizens with the lowest incomes are the least likely to vote while high levels of inequality in a society result in diminished electoral participation overall thomas cusack iverson and philipp rehm demonstrate that uncertainty in the economy changes voters attitudes the mere risk of losing one s job generates increased popular demand for income support policies almost as much as actual unemployment does ronald rogowski and duncan mcrae illustrate how changes in levels of inequality can drive reforms in political institutions themselves increased demand for female labor participation during world war ii led to greater equality between men and women which in turn encouraged many european countries to extend voting rights to women for the first time the contributors to this important new volume skillfully disentangle a series of complex relationships between economics and politics to show how inequality both shapes and is shaped by policy

democracy inequality and representation provides deeply nuanced insight into why some democracies are able to curtail inequality while others continue to witness a division that grows ever deeper

after the transition is an all encompassing examination of the origins increase and persistence of inequality in new democracies it challenges the conventional thinking found in much of the democratization inequality literature and offers a new theory it speaks simultaneously to literature of democratization party systems social policy and inequality to explain why democracies are not able to fulfill their promise to the disadvantaged and why they cannot achieve income equality it investigates social policy programs such as pensions unemployment benefits and other social transfers in poland and the czech republic in post communist europe and turkey and spain in southern europe the volume traces the origins and development of social policy from the formation of nation states to the present and considers how different political regimes whether totalitarian post totalitarian or authoritarian designed welfare policies to prioritize civil servants and the working classes in formal sectors at the expense of the majority poor it then demonstrates how these legacies perpetuate and widen disparities in access to welfare policies and thus income inequality in countries where low mobilization by the poor and unstable party systems prevail this study employs interviews with polish czech turkish and spanish union leaders bureaucrats and business people while also conducting an original survey in turkey to dissect the linkage between organized groups and parties employing a multi method approach two paired case studies on these countries also demystify why and how new populist parties have successfully appealed to voters and affected the trajectory of social policy party systems and inequality comparative politics is a series for researchers teachers and students of political science that deals with contemporary government and politics global in scope books in the series are characterised by a stress on comparative analysis and strong methodological rigour the series is published in association with the european consortium for political research for more information visit ecpr.net/eu the series is edited by emilie van haute professor of political science université libre de bruxelles ferdinand müller rommel director of the center for the study of democracy leuphana university and susan scarrow john and rebecca moores professor of political science university of houston

elites have always ruled wielding inordinate power and wealth taking decisions that shape life for the rest in good times the 1 can hide their privilege or use growing social mobility and economic prosperity as a justification when times get tougher there s a backlash so the first years of the twenty first century a time of financial crashes oligarchy and corruption in the west persistent poverty in the south and rising inequality everywhere have brought elites and establishments under unprecedented fire yet those swept to power by this discontent are themselves a part of the elite attacking from within and extending rather than ending its agenda the new power elite shows how major political and social change is typically driven by renegade elite fractions who co opt or sideline elites traditional enemies it is the first book to combine the politics economics sociology and history of elite rule to present a compact comprehensive account of who s at the top and why we let them get there

since the early days of the american republic political thinkers have maintained that a grossly unequal division of property wealth and power would lead to the erosion of democratic life yet over the past thirty five years neoconservatives and neoliberals alike have redrawn the tenets of american liberalism nowhere is this more evident than in our current mainstream political discourse in which the politics of economic inequality are rarely discussed in this impassioned

book michael j thompson reaches back into america s rich intellectual history to reclaim the politics of inequality from the distortion of recent american conservatism he begins by tracing the development of the idea of economic inequality as it has been conceived by political thinkers throughout american history then he considers the change in ideas and values that have led to the acceptance and occasional legitimization of economic divisions thompson argues that american liberalism has made a profound departure from its original practice of egalitarian critique it has all but abandoned its antihierarchical and antiaristocratic discourse only by resuscitating this tradition can democracy again become meaningful to americans the intellectuals who pioneered egalitarian thinking in america believed political and social relations should be free from all forms of domination servitude and dependency they wished to expose the antidemocratic character of economic life under capitalism and hoped to prevent the kind of inequalities that compromise human dignity and freedom the core principles of early american politics in their wisdom is a much broader more compelling view of democratic life and community than we have today and with this book thompson eloquently and adamantly fights to recover this crucial strand of political thought in this impassioned book michael j thompson reaches back into america s rich intellectual history to reclaim the politics of inequality from the distortion of recent american conservatism he begins by tracing the development of the idea of economic inequality as it has been conceived by political thinkers throughout american history then he considers the change in ideas and values that have led to the acceptance and occasional legitimization of economic divisions thompson argues that american liberalism has made a profound departure from its original practice of egalitarian critique it has all but abandoned its antihierarchical and antiaristocratic discourse only by resuscitating this tradition can democracy again become meaningful to americans the intellectuals who pioneered egalitarian thinking in america believed political and social relations should be free from all forms of domination servitude and dependency they wished to expose the antidemocratic character of economic life under capitalism and hoped to prevent the kind of inequalities that compromise human dignity and freedom the core principles of early american politics in their wisdom is a much broader more compelling view of democratic life and community than we have today and with this book thompson eloquently and adamantly fights to recover this crucial strand of political thought

this text suggests that globalization is creating urgent problems for states and international institutions to deal with and that these organisations are increasingly unsuitable for handling such problems

economic development and a dramatic improvement in living standards in many parts of the people s republic of china during the past three decades of economic reforms have been hailed by the chinese communist party and many commentators in the international arena as the most spectacular achievements in the history of humanity however three decades of economic reforms have also transformed china from one of the world s most egalitarian societies into one of the most unequal this book offers a comprehensive account of inequality in china from an interdisciplinary perspective it both draws on and speaks to the existing body of literature that is generated mainly in the fields of economics and sociology while extending its scope to also examine the political social moral and cultural dimensions of inequality each chapter addresses the question of inequality from a specific context of research including housing health care social welfare education migration land distribution law gender and sexuality moving beyond traditional socio economic theories the contributors to this volume explore a wide range of social political economic and cultural practices that result from as well as further entrench the inequalities in chinese society importantly the essays in unequal china probe the hidden causes of inequality

namely the role of state power and the importance of culture and underline how both state power and cultural factors have a key part to play in legitimating inequality with an innovative approach that moves beyond the economic and sociological roots of inequality in china this volume is a welcome addition to what is a growing field of study and will appeal to students and scholars interested in chinese culture and society chinese politics and asian social policy

one strand of research argues that polarized societies find it difficult to reach political consensus on appropriate responses to crises another strand focuses on redistribution asking whether income inequality stifles growth by increasing political incentives to redistribute which is right

using income surveys and various political economic data this 2009 book shows that income inequality is fundamental to the dynamics of us politics

in the origins and dynamics of inequality jon wisman provides a re interpretation of economic history and society he argues that the struggle over income wealth and privilege inequality has been the principal defining issue in human history and provides a novel framework for understanding inequality today

for its breadth and depth of research this volume of research in political sociology is essential reading for researchers and students of politics sociology and policy

all advanced democracies are facing the pressures of globalization technological change and new family forms which have had the effect of generating higher levels of inequality in market incomes but governments are responding differently often reflecting differences in their domestic politics the politics of who gets what and why is at the core of this volume the first to examine this question in an explicitly canadian context in inequality and the fading of redistributive politics leading political scientists sociologists and economists point to the failure of public policy to contain surging income inequality in canada government programs are no longer offsetting the growth in inequality generated by the market and canadian society has become more unequal the redistributive state is fading due to powerful forces that have reshaped the politics of social policy including global economic pressures ideological change shifts in the influence of business and labour changes in the party system and the decline of equality seeking civil society organizations on one side the organizations that speak for the economic interests of lower income canadians mobilizing resources expertise and attention on their behalf have been weakened on the other side changes in the distribution of power within our political institutions have made concerted action to tackle inequality more difficult this volume demonstrates conclusively that action and inaction policy change and policy drift are at the heart of growing inequality in canada governments have not responded energetically to the evidence and their indifference calls into question canada s record as a kinder gentler nation publisher s website

the fundamental question of political theory one that precedes all other questions about the nature of political life is why there is a state at all this book describes the foundations of stateless societies why and how states emerge and the basis of political obligation

this anthology critically analyzes how cultures around the world make social categories of race class gender and sexuality meaningful in particular ways the collection uses a wide range of readings to examine how contemporary issues of race class gender and sexuality are constructed

mobilized and transformed unlike many books in this area the u s is not analytical center

the question of inequality has moved decisively to the top of the contemporary intellectual agenda going beyond thomas piketty s focus on wealth increasing inequalities of various kinds and their impact on social political and economic life now present themselves among the most urgent issues facing scholars in the humanities and the social sciences key among these is the relationship between inequality crime and punishment the propositions that social inequality shapes crime and punishment and that crime and punishment themselves cause or exacerbate inequality are conventional wisdom yet paradoxically they are also controversial in this volume historians criminologists lawyers sociologists and political scientists come together to try to solve this paradox by unpacking these relationships in different contexts

a belief in individual self determination powered the development of universal human rights and inspired social movements from anti slavery to socialism and feminism at the same time every attempt to embed individualism in systems of education and employment has eventually led to increased social inequality across the globe individualism has been transformed from a revolutionary force into an explanation for increasingly unequal societies where dissent is largely silent this book explores the possibility of rediscovering the original transformative potential of individualism

the relationship between socioeconomic inequality and democratic politics has been one of the central questions in the social sciences from aristotle on recent waves of democratization combined with deepened global inequalities have made understanding this relationship ever more crucial in the great gap merike blofield seeks to contribute to this understanding by analyzing inequality and politics in the region with the highest socioeconomic inequalities in the world latin america the chapters written by prominent scholars in their fields address the socioeconomic context and inequality of opportunities elite culture public opinion and media framing capital mobility campaign financing representation and gender equality policies and taxation and social policies aside from the editor the contributors are pablo alegre maurício bugarin daniela campello anna crespo francisco h g ferreira fernando filgueira liesl haas sallie hughes juan pablo luna james e mahon jr juliana martínez franzoni adriana cuoco portugal paola prado elisa p reis luis reygadas sergio naruhiko sakurai and koen voorend

why can t politicians seem to make policies that will reduce social inequality even when they acknowledge that inequality is harmful

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