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The Metropolitan Enigma

Edited by
James O.
Wilson



A Doubleday
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Metropolitan Enigma Inquiries Into

Theodore R.Sizer



Metropolitan Enigma Inquiries Into:

The Metropolitan Enigma James Q. Wilson, 1968 In a society which has made urban crisis a phrase peculiarly its own it is strange how many different meanings are assigned to those two words The theme of this book is that it is more important to disentangle and analyze the various problems which are indiscriminately referred to by this phrase than simply to issue a call to arms To paraphrase the editor of *The Metropolitan Enigma* James Q Wilson not everything about cities constitutes a problem and not all problems to be found in cities are distinctively urban This book seeks to explore the complexities and clear away the easy generalizations that prevent an understanding of the human problems of an urbanizing nation The essays in this book were written by Daniel P Moynihan Poverty in Cities Bernard J Frieden Housing and National Urban Goals Edward C Banfield Rioting Mainly for Fun and Profit and other perceptive students of American society Some of the papers reveal unexpected findings others take an unusual perspective each provides a fresh and lucid treatment of a difficult subject No effort has been made to produce a work animated by a single point of view A central idea of *The Metropolitan Enigma* is that there is no all embracing strategy that can be put forward as an effective solution for the urban crisis Directed to everyone who is interested in the future of the American city this is an important and valuable book The volume was first published in a soft cover edition by the Task Force on Economic Growth and Opportunity of the United States Chamber of Commerce in 1966 The Joint Center for Urban Studies of M I T and Harvard commissioned the articles Each of the contributors has had an opportunity to revise his paper and several essays have been substantially rewritten Edward Banfield's essay appears here for the first time

Metropolitan Enigma: Inquiries Into the Nature of James Q. Wilson, 1968 *The Metropolitan Enigma - Inquiries Into the Nature and Dimensions of America's Urban Crisis* Ed. by James Q. Wilson James Quinn Wilson, 1970

The Metropolitan Enigma; Inquiries Into the Nature and Dimensions of America's Urban Crisis. Edited by James Q. Wilson ,1970

Environmental Activism and the Urban Crisis Robert Gioielli, 2015-09

Environmental Activism and the Urban Crisis focuses on the wave of environmental activism and grassroots movements that swept through America's older industrial cities during the late 1960s and early 1970s Robert Gioielli offers incisive case studies of Baltimore St Louis and Chicago to show how urban activism developed as an impassioned response to a host of racial social and political conflicts As deindustrialization urban renewal and suburbanization caused the decline of the urban environment residents primarily African Americans and working class whites organized to protect their families and communities from health threats and environmental destruction Gioielli examines various groups activism in response to specific environmental problems caused by the urban crisis in each city In doing so he forms concrete connections between environmentalism the African American freedom struggle and various urban social movements such as highway protests in Baltimore and air pollution activism in Chicago Eventually the efforts of these activists paved the way for the emergence of a new movement environmental justice

Crowds and History Mark Harrison, 2002-06-20 A fresh look at the crowd in

relation to the urbanising process and the civic culture it inspired The Declining Significance of Race William Julius Wilson, 2012-08-28 When first published in 1980 *The Declining Significance of Race* immediately sparked controversy with its contentious thesis that race was becoming less of a deciding factor in the life chances of black Americans than class This new edition of the seminal book includes a new afterword in which William Julius Wilson not only reflects on the debate surrounding the book but also presents a provocative discussion of race class and social policy The intellectual strength of this book lies in his capacity to integrate disparate findings from historical studies social theory and research on contemporary trends into a complex and original synthesis that challenges widespread assumptions about the cause of black disadvantage and the way to remove it Paul Starr New York Times Book Review This publication is easily one of the most erudite and sober diagnoses of the American black situation Students of race relations and anybody in a policy making position cannot afford to bypass this study Ernest Manheim Sociology Lean and Mean Bennett Harrison, 1997-07-11 Is big business on its way out The author shows that the big firm is alive and well and becoming more flexible and efficient He makes the case that although smaller companies have an important role to play long term economic growth lies with the country's largest global companies **The Red Pencil** Theodore R.Sizer, 2008-10-01 This engaging and important book is a critique of American education wrapped in a memoir Drawing on his fifty years as teacher principal researcher professor and dean Theodore R Sizer identifies three crucial areas in which policy discussion about public education has been dangerously silent He argues that we must break that silence and rethink how to educate our youth Sizer discusses our failure to differentiate between teaching and learning noting that formal schooling must adapt to and confront the powerful influences found outside traditional classrooms He examines the practical as well as philosophical necessity for sharing policy making authority among families schools and centralized governments And he denounces our fetish with order our belief that the familiar routines that have existed for generations are the only way to bring learning to children Sizer provides alternatives to these failed routines guidelines for creating a new educational system that would among other things break with wasteful traditional practice utilize agencies and arrangements beyond the school building and design each child's educational program around his or her particular needs and potential *Migration and Politics* Thad A. Brown, 2018-08-25 A UNC Press Enduring Edition UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print These editions are published unaltered from the original and are presented in affordable paperback formats bringing readers both historical and cultural value *Commuting Stress* Meni Koslowsky, Avraham N. Kluger, Mordechai Reich, 2013-06-29 Several people have asked what motivated us to write a book about commuting something that we all do but over which we have very little control As a matter of fact the general reaction from professional colleagues and friends alike was first a sort of knowing smile followed by some story Everyone has a story about a personal commuting experience Whether it was a problem with a delayed bus a late arrival broken down automobiles

hot trains or subways during the past year we have heard it all Many of these stories must be apocryphal because if they were all true it is amazing that anyone ever arrived at work on time at home or at some other destination The interest for us likely stems from many factors that over the years have probably influenced our thinking All of the authors studied and or grew up in the New York City metropolitan area For illustration let s devote a few paragraphs to describing some of the senior author s Koslowsky s life experiences As a young man in New York City he was a constant user of the New York City subway system The whole network was and still is quite impressive For a relatively small sum one can spend the whole day and night in an underground world growing up in New York often makes one think that the whole world is contained in its five boroughs

Urban Politics Stephen J. McGovern, 2016-02-16 Steve McGovern s *Urban Politics A Reader* examines the changing structure of political power in cities through the lens of historical development accompanied with brief explorations of pertinent public policy issues Having studied and taught urban politics for over 20 years McGovern Haverford College foregrounds his approach with a discussion of cities in a global era and then divides the material into five parts or themes the formation of city politics city politics under stress the politics of urban revitalization the changing dynamics of urban politics and visions of contemporary urban politics He expands the scope of his exploration by integrating literature that is not commonly observed in urban politics texts i e works by journalists as well as scholars and by including debates about political power in both big and smaller cities

Race, Class, and the Postindustrial City Frank Harold Wilson, 2012-02-01 *Race Class and the Postindustrial City* thoroughly explores the scholarship of William Julius Wilson one of the nation s leading sociologists and public intellectuals and the controversies surrounding his work In addressing the connection between postindustrial cities and changing race relations the author who is not related to William Julius Wilson shows how Wilson has synthesized competing theories of race relations urban sociology and public policy into a refocused liberal analysis of postindustrial America Combining intellectual biography the sociology of knowledge and theoretical analyses of sociological debates relevant to African Americans this book provides both appraisal and critique ultimately assessing Wilson s contribution to the sociological canon

Crucible of Freedom Eric Leif Davin, 2012-07-10 This book explores the relation between democracy and industrialization in United States history Over the course of the 1930s the political center almost disappeared as the Democratic New Deal became the litmus test of class with blue collar workers providing its bedrock of support while white collar workers and those in the upper income levels opposed it By 1948 the class cleavage in American politics was as pronounced as in many of the Western European countries such as France Italy Germany or Britain with which we usually associate class politics Working people created a new America in the 1930s and 1940s which was a fundamental departure from the feudalistic and hierarchical America that existed before They won the political rights of American citizenship which had been previously denied them They democratized labor capital relations and gained more economic security than they had ever known They obtained more economic opportunity for them and their children than they

had ever known and they created a respect for ethnic workers which had not previously existed In the process class politics re defined the political agenda of America as for the first time in American history the political universe polarized along class lines Eric Leif Davin explores the meaning of the New Deal political mobilization by ordinary people by examining the changes it brought to the local county and state levels in Pittsburgh Allegheny County and Pennsylvania as a whole

Bibliography on the Urban Crisis National Clearinghouse for Mental Health Information (U.S.),1968 *American Furies* Sasha Abramsky,2007 In this dramatic expose of U S penitentiaries and the communities around them Sasha Abramsky finds that prisons have dumped their age old goal of rehabilitation often for political reasons The new ideal unknown to most Americans is a punitive mandate marked by a drive toward vengeance Surveying this state of affairs life sentences for nonviolent crimes appalling conditions the growth of private prisons the treatment of juveniles Abramsky asks Does the vengeful impulse ennoble our culture or demean it What can become of people who are quarantined for years in a violent subculture California s Three Strikes law typifies the politics that exploit the grief of victims families and our fears of violent crime Brilliantly researched and compellingly told *American Furies* shows that the ethos of lock em up and throw away the key has enormous social costs The most urgent book of the season Sasha Abramsky provides us with an invaluable if harrowing audit of the cataclysmic damage inflicted upon American values by American prisons The lack of compassion in our national life and the gangrened hearts of our politicians pose greater threats to our childrens futures than any overseas terrorist conspiracy Mike Davis professor of history at University of California Irvine and author of seven books including *Planet of Slums* and *The Monster At Our Door* A smart compassionate and tough minded look at the rise and impact of the tough on crime culture that has made America the world s foremost jailer By showing us how we got into this mess this revelatory book also holds out hope that we might find our way out Nell Bernstein former Soros Justice Media Fellow and author of *All Alone in the World* *Children of the Incarcerated* This is by far the most intelligent and haunting indictment of the American prison system that I have ever read Sasha Abramsky has shone an incandescent lamp on a shadowy underground universe that holds and in all too many cases brutalizes the lives of more than two million Americans He should be commended for doing so and his book made required reading for every legislator in the land bar none Simon Winchester author of *A Crack in the Edge of the World* and *The Professor and the Madman* It is with an exemplary and multifaceted grasp of the history and modern day reality of incarceration that Abramsky is able to grasp the full context of why callous negligence and brutality so abound in the American prison system *American Furies* is a brilliantly crafted piece of creative non fiction replete with non dogmatic accessible and lyrical prose In the difficult realm of prison reporting Abramsky is unquestionably among the best and brightest and *American Furies* is clear evidence of such The American Prospect Praise for Conned Timely and important Instead of preaching democracy to the world the United States should start practicing it at home Eric Schlosser The war on drugs the disenfranchisement of convicted felons a series of dodgy electoral Republican

victories someone had to connect the dots and Sasha Abramsky has done so with passion precision and artistry Barbara Ehrenreich Sasha Abramsky has written for The Atlantic The Nation and Rolling Stone The author of *Conned How Millions Went to Prison Lost the Vote and Helped Send George W Bush to the White House and Hard Time Blues How Politics Built a Prison Nation* he has also reported on U S prisons for Human Rights Watch He lives in Sacramento California

Immigration and Categorical Inequality Ernesto Castañeda, 2017-09-13 *Immigration and Categorical Inequality* explains the general processes of migration the categorization of newcomers in urban areas as racial or ethnic others and the mechanisms that perpetuate inequality among groups Inspired by the pioneering work of Charles Tilly on chain migration transnational communities trust networks and categorical inequality renowned migration scholars apply Tilly's theoretical concepts using empirical data gathered in different historical periods and geographical areas ranging from New York to Tokyo and from Barcelona to Nepal The contributors of this volume demonstrate the ways in which social boundary mechanisms produce relational processes of durable categorical inequality This understanding is an important step to stop treating differences between certain groups as natural and unchangeable This volume will be valuable for scholars students and the public in general interested in understanding the periodic rise of nativism in the United States and elsewhere

The Cotton Plantation South since the Civil War Charles S. Aiken, 2020-03-24 Winner of the J B Jackson Prize from the Association of American Geographers Originally published in 1998 The plantation writes Charles Aiken is among the most misunderstood institutions of American history The demise of the plantation has been pronounced many times but the large industrial farms survive as significant parts of not just the South's but the nation's agriculture In this sweeping historical and geographical account Aiken traces the development of the Southern cotton plantation since the Civil War from the emergence of tenancy after 1865 through its decline during the Depression to the post World War Two development of the large industrial farm Tracing the geographical changes in plantation agriculture and the plantation regions after 1865 Aiken shows how the altered landscape of the South has led many to the false conclusion that the plantation has vanished In fact he explains while certain regions of the South have reverted to other uses the cotton plantation survives in a form that is in many ways remarkably similar to that of its antebellum predecessors Aiken also describes the evolving relationship of African Americans to the cotton plantation during the thirteen decades of economic social and political changes from Reconstruction through the War on Poverty including the impact of alterations in plantation agriculture and the mass migration of Southern blacks to the urban North during the twentieth century Richly illustrated with more than 130 maps and photographs many original and many from FSA photographers *The Cotton Plantation South* is a vivid and colorful account of landscape geography race politics and civil rights as they relate to one of America's most enduring and familiar institutions *The Political Economy of Urban Schools* Martin T. Katzman, 1971 No detailed description available for *The Political Economy of Urban Schools* *Daughters of the State* Barbara M. Brenzel, 1985-09 A rich and fascinating study of education social

reform and women's history *Daughters of the State* explores the lives of young girls who came to the State Industrial School for Girls in Lancaster, Massachusetts during its first fifty years. Brenzel skillfully integrates the complex lines of nineteenth-century social thought and policies formed around issues of work, sex roles, schooling, and sexuality that have carried through to this century. In the school's handwritten case histories and legislative reports, she uncovers institutional mores and biases toward the young and the poor, and especially toward women. Brenzel also reveals the plight of the parents who were forced by their circumstances to condemn their children to such institutions in the hope of improving their futures. Barbara Brenzel is Assistant Professor of Education and Department Chair at Wellesley College. *Daughters of the State* is an MIT/Harvard joint Center for Urban Studies Book.

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