

Mainstream politics in the United States has quietly abandoned working families, fueling a political realignment. But as Pavlina R. Tcherneva and L. Randall Wray argue, working families have not abandoned their progressive ideals. Rather, they have abandoned parties that no longer fight for them.

An alternative progressive agenda is at our doorsteps, but it requires a decisive break from the neoliberal consensus that has fueled inequality, weakened labor, prioritized corporate interests over public good, and fueled the take-over of our economy by the Wall Street -Silicon Valley nexus. Tcherneva and Wray analyze the economic drivers behind election trends over the post war period and draw from the visions of successful campaigns to build a practical and election-winning economic framework for progressive candidates. The policies explored here—from a Job Guarantee and universal childcare to Medicare expansion and debt relief—are widely supported measures that address the economic insecurity driving voter discontent.

At a time when neither the traditional Reagan Republican vision nor the post-Reagan Democratic vision appeals to the majority of today's voters, *That Vision Thing* offers a blueprint for a nation that works for the many, not the few. The task ahead is not merely to win elections but to build a movement that reclaims democracy from predatory capital and revives the promise of shared prosperity.

Pavlina R. Tcherneva is President of the Levy Economics Institute and Professor of Economics at Bard College. She specializes in monetary macroeconomics and public policy. Tcherneva is the author of *The Case for a Job Guarantee* (Polity, *Financial Times* economics books of 2020) and has worked with experts from the United Nations Human Rights Council, the International Labor Organization, members of the European Parliament, and policy makers from the United States and abroad on designing proposals and legislation, and evaluating employment programs.

L. Randall Wray is a Senior Scholar and a Professor of Economics at the Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, with which he has been affiliated since 1992. He has been an Emeritus Professor at University of Missouri-Kansas City since retiring in 2015. Before that, he taught for a dozen years at the University of Denver. He is known around the world as one of the developers of an approach to economics called *Modern Money Theory*. He is also known as an expert on the work of Hyman Minsky, and he is the 2022 *Veblen-Commons Award* winner for lifetime contributions to Institutionalist Thought.

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