

a crisis historian has bad news for us

A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us: An Analysis of Societal Resilience in the Face of Recurring Crises

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Editor: Ms. Jane Doe, Senior Editor at The Atlantic with over 15 years of experience editing articles on political science, history, and social commentary.

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Summary: This analysis critically examines the central thesis presented in the hypothetical article "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us," exploring its implications for our understanding of societal responses to crises and the potential for future challenges. By examining Dr. Vance's expertise and the article's likely arguments, this analysis delves into the historical evidence supporting claims of recurring crises, the limitations of past responses, and the crucial need for proactive strategies to enhance societal resilience. The analysis concludes by highlighting the importance of understanding "a crisis historian has bad news for us" to improve future crisis management and preparedness.

1. Introduction: The Uncomfortable Truths of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

The hypothetical article, "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us," likely presents a compelling argument based on historical analysis, suggesting that humanity consistently underestimates the frequency and severity of crises. This analysis will dissect the potential claims within such an article, exploring its impact on our current understanding of societal responses to crises like pandemics, economic downturns, and climate change. The central thesis likely argues that while we learn from individual crises, we fail to internalize broader lessons about the cyclical nature of societal

disruptions. Essentially, "a crisis historian has bad news for us": we are not as prepared as we think we are.

2. Recurring Crises: The Historical Evidence Supporting "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

Dr. Vance's expertise likely draws heavily on historical precedents to support the article's core argument. The article would undoubtedly cite examples of recurring crisis patterns throughout history: the cyclical nature of economic booms and busts, the repeated emergence of infectious diseases, and the long-term consequences of environmental mismanagement. The analysis within "a crisis historian has bad news for us" likely emphasizes the inherent unpredictability of these crises, arguing that our tendency to focus on immediate recovery rather than fundamental systemic reform leaves us vulnerable to future shocks. For example, the article might highlight the repeated failure to adequately invest in public health infrastructure despite numerous pandemic outbreaks throughout history.

3. Limitations of Past Responses: Why "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us" Matters

The analysis presented in "a crisis historian has bad news for us" probably goes beyond simply cataloging past crises. It likely dissects the inadequacies of our responses. Common themes might include the prioritization of short-term political gains over long-term societal well-being, the limitations of centralized command-and-control systems in responding to complex emergencies, and the persistent inequalities exacerbated by crises. The article might demonstrate how past societal failures to address underlying vulnerabilities repeatedly undermined recovery efforts, ultimately leading to more severe future crises.

4. The Importance of Proactive Strategies: Learning From "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

The most crucial element of "a crisis historian has bad news for us" likely lies in its call for proactive strategies. Instead of reacting to each crisis in isolation, the article would advocate for systemic changes aimed at enhancing societal resilience. This might involve investing in robust public health infrastructure, diversifying economies to reduce vulnerability to shocks, promoting social equity to reduce inequalities, and developing effective early warning systems for potential crises. The article likely emphasizes the need for long-term strategic planning, recognizing the interconnectedness of various global challenges and advocating for a more holistic approach to crisis management.

5. The Psychological Impact: Understanding the Narrative of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

"A crisis historian has bad news for us" may have a significant psychological impact. The article might provoke anxiety and a sense of helplessness, but it could also serve as a catalyst for positive change. By acknowledging the cyclical nature of crises, the article may motivate individuals and governments to take proactive steps to mitigate future risks. Understanding this psychological dimension is crucial to effectively interpreting and utilizing the article's message. The article will likely emphasize the importance of fostering a culture of preparedness without succumbing to fear or fatalism.

6. Policy Implications: Acting Upon the Warnings of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

The article's policy implications are substantial. "A crisis historian has bad news for us" is likely to advocate for significant changes in government policy, encouraging a shift from reactive to proactive crisis management. This might involve increased investment in research and development for crisis mitigation, the establishment of international cooperation frameworks for crisis response, and reforms to existing governance structures to ensure greater responsiveness and adaptability. The article may also suggest innovative approaches to risk assessment and management, incorporating insights from various disciplines to develop more robust and comprehensive strategies.

7. The Role of Individuals: Personal Responsibility in the Face of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

While focusing on systemic changes, "a crisis historian has bad news for us" likely also emphasizes the role of individual responsibility. The article may encourage individuals to engage in personal preparedness, advocating for actions like building emergency kits, developing financial resilience, and participating in community-based initiatives that strengthen local capacity to respond to crises. This personal dimension reinforces the article's message, highlighting the interconnectedness of individual and collective efforts in building a more resilient society.

8. Conclusion: Navigating the Future with the

Insights of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"

"A crisis historian has bad news for us," but this bad news should not be interpreted as a reason for despair. The article, in its hypothetical form, serves as a potent reminder of the cyclical nature of crises and the necessity for proactive strategies. By acknowledging the recurring patterns of past societal responses, we can learn valuable lessons and develop more effective approaches to mitigating future risks. The article encourages a critical examination of our existing systems and a commitment to systemic change, empowering us to build a more resilient and equitable future. The challenge is not to eliminate crises entirely, which is likely impossible, but to improve our capacity to respond to them effectively and minimize their devastating impact.

FAQs:

1. What is the main argument of "A Crisis Historian Has Bad News For Us"?
The main argument centers on the cyclical nature of crises throughout history and our persistent failure to learn from past experiences, leaving us vulnerable to future shocks.
1. What historical examples does the article likely use? Examples likely include economic depressions, pandemics (like the Spanish Flu and COVID-19), and environmental disasters.
1. What are the limitations of past crisis responses? The article likely points to short-term political solutions over long-term systemic change, inadequate infrastructure, and persistent social inequalities.
1. What proactive strategies does the article suggest? The article likely recommends investments in public health, economic diversification, social equity, and improved early warning systems.
1. What is the psychological impact of the article's message? It could induce anxiety, but also motivate action and preparedness.

1. What are the policy implications of the article? The article likely suggests significant governmental shifts towards proactive crisis management and international cooperation.
1. What role does individual responsibility play? The article likely encourages personal preparedness and community involvement in building societal resilience.
1. How does the article define societal resilience? Societal resilience is likely defined as the capacity of a society to withstand, adapt to, and recover from crises.
1. What is the overall tone of the article? While conveying serious warnings, the article likely maintains a constructive tone, emphasizing the possibility of change and improved preparedness.

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the Middle East, and Latin America, forcing a rearrangement of global governance. With a historian's eye for detail, connection, and consequence, Adam Tooze brings the story right up to today's negotiations, actions, and threats—a much-needed perspective on a global catastrophe and its long-term consequences.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report* Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, 2011-05-01 The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report, published by the U.S. Government and the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission in early 2011, is the official government report on the United States financial collapse and the review of major financial institutions that bankrupted and failed, or would have without help from the government. The commission and the report were implemented after Congress passed an act in 2009 to review and prevent fraudulent activity. The report details, among other things, the periods before, during, and after the crisis, what led up to it, and analyses of subprime mortgage lending, credit expansion and banking policies, the collapse of companies like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and the federal bailouts of Lehman and AIG. It also discusses the aftermath of the fallout and our current state. This report should be of interest to anyone concerned about the financial situation in the U.S. and around the world. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS INQUIRY COMMISSION is an independent, bi-partisan, government-appointed panel of 10 people that was created to examine the causes, domestic and global, of the current financial and economic crisis in the United States. It was established as part of the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009. The commission consisted of private citizens with expertise in economics and finance, banking, housing, market regulation, and consumer protection. They examined and reported on the collapse of major financial institutions that failed or would have failed if not for exceptional assistance from the government. News Dissector DANNY SCHECHTER is a journalist, blogger and filmmaker. He has been reporting on economic crises since the 1980's when he was with ABC News. His film *In Debt We Trust* warned of the economic meltdown in 2006. He has since written three books on the subject including *Plunder: Investigating Our Economic Calamity* (Cosimo Books, 2008), and *The Crime Of Our Time: Why Wall Street Is Not Too Big to Jail* (Disinfo Books, 2011), a companion to his latest film *Plunder The Crime Of Our Time*. He can be reached online at www.newsdissector.com.

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companies, cowardly legislators, or clueless home buyers? According to Bethany McLean and Joe Nocera, two of America's most acclaimed business journalists, many devils helped bring hell to the economy. *All the Devils Are Here* goes back several decades to weave the hidden history of the financial crisis in a way no previous book has done. It explores the motivations of everyone from famous CEOs, cabinet secretaries, and politicians to anonymous lenders, borrowers, analysts, and Wall Street traders. It delves into the powerful American mythology of homeownership. And it proves that the crisis ultimately wasn't about finance at all; it was about human nature. Just as McLean's *The Smartest Guys in the Room* was hailed as the best Enron book on a crowded shelf, so will *All the Devils Are Here* be remembered for finally making sense of the financial meltdown and its consequences.

a crisis historian has bad news for us: *The Panic of 1907* Robert F. Bruner, Sean D. Carr, 2009-04-27 Before reading *The Panic of 1907*, the year 1907 seemed like a long time ago and a different world. The authors, however, bring this story alive in a fast-moving book, and the reader sees how events of that time are very relevant for today's financial world. In spite of all of our advances, including a stronger monetary system and modern tools for managing risk, Bruner and Carr help us understand that we are not immune to a future crisis. —Dwight B. Crane, Baker Foundation Professor, Harvard Business School Bruner and Carr provide a thorough, masterly, and highly readable account of the 1907 crisis and its management by the great private banker J. P. Morgan. Congress heeded the lessons of 1907, launching the Federal Reserve System in 1913 to prevent banking panics and foster financial stability. We still have financial problems. But because of 1907 and Morgan, a century later we have a respected central bank as well as greater confidence in our money and our banks than our great-grandparents had in theirs. —Richard Sylla, Henry Kaufman Professor of the History of Financial Institutions and Markets, and Professor of Economics, Stern School of Business, New York University A fascinating portrayal of the events and personalities of the crisis and panic of 1907. Lessons learned and parallels to the present have great relevance. Crises and panics are as much a part of our future as our past. —John Strangfeld, Vice Chairman, Prudential Financial Who would have thought that a hundred years after the Panic of 1907 so much remained to be written about it? Bruner and Carr break significant new ground because they are willing to do the heavy lifting of combing through massive archival material to identify and weave together important facts. Their book will be of interest not only to banking theorists and financial historians, but also to business school and economics students, for its rare ability to teach so clearly why and how a panic unfolds. —Charles Calomiris, Henry Kaufman Professor of Financial Institutions, Columbia University, Graduate School of Business

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And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children's lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, *Between the World and Me* clearly illuminates the past, bravely confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *The American Crisis* Writers of The Atlantic, 2020-09-15 Some of America's best reporters and thinkers offer an urgent look at a country in chaos in this collection of timely, often prophetic articles from The Atlantic. The past four years in the United States have been among the most turbulent in our history—and would have been so even without a global pandemic and waves of protest nationwide against police violence. Drawn from the recent work of The Atlantic staff writers and contributors, *The American Crisis* explores the factors that led us to the present moment: racial division, economic inequality, political dysfunction, the hollowing out of government, the devaluation of truth, and the unique threat posed by Donald Trump. Today's emergencies expose pathologies years in the making. Featuring leading voices from The Atlantic, one of the country's most widely read and influential magazines, *The American Crisis* is a broad and essential look at the condition of America today—and at the qualities of national character that may yet offer hope. With contributions by: Danielle Allen, Anne Applebaum, Yoni Appelbaum, Molly Ball, David W. Blight, Mark Bowden, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Elizabeth Cohen, McKay Coppins, James Fallows, Drew Gilpin Faust, Caitlin Flanagan, Franklin Foer, David Frum, Megan Garber, Michael Gerson, Elizabeth Goitein, David A. Graham, Emma Green, Yuval Noah Harari, Ibram X. Kendi, Olga Khazan, Adrienne LaFrance, Annie Lowrey, James Mattis, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Angela Nagle, Vann R. Newkirk II, George Packer, Elaina Plott, Jeremy Raff, Jonathan Rauch, Adam Serwer, Clint Smith, Matthew Stewart, Alex Wagner, Tara Westover, and Ed Yong.

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Deal. There is evidence, however, that the Dodd-Frank Act has slowed the recovery from the recession. If insufficient regulation caused the financial crisis, then the Dodd-Frank Act will never be modified or repealed; proponents will argue that doing so will cause another crisis. A competing narrative about what caused the financial crisis has received little attention. This view, which is accepted by almost all Republicans in Congress and most conservatives, contends that the crisis was caused by government housing policies. This book extensively documents this view. For example, it shows that in June 2008, before the crisis, 58 percent of all US mortgages were subprime or other low-quality mortgages. Of these, 76 percent were on the books of government agencies such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. When these mortgages defaulted in 2007 and 2008, they drove down housing prices and weakened banks and other mortgage holders, causing the crisis. After this book is published, no one will be able to claim that the financial crisis was caused by insufficient regulation, or defend Dodd-Frank, without coming to terms with the data this book contains.

a crisis historian has bad news for us: Panic of 1819: Reactions and Policies, The Murray Newton Rothbard, 2007

a crisis historian has bad news for us: The Bad News about the News Robert G. Kaiser, 2014-10-16 The digital revolution has forever changed American journalism, and not for the better. Robert Kaiser, former managing editor of The Washington Post, writes in his new Brookings Essay that the changing media landscape is not only a threat to traditional news, but to the future of democracy. A news industry without a viable business model, distracted by the need to attract eyeballs and discover new revenue streams, could lose the ability to provide the balanced, comprehensive, and investigative journalism that is the lifeblood of a healthy democracy. THE BROOKINGS ESSAY: In the spirit of its commitment to high-quality, independent research, the Brookings Institution has commissioned works on major topics of public policy by distinguished authors, including Brookings scholars. The Brookings Essay is a multi-platform product aimed to engage readers in open dialogue and debate. The views expressed, however, are solely those of the author. Available in ebook only.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster* Bill Gates, 2021-02-16 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER NATIONAL BESTSELLER In this urgent, singularly authoritative book, Bill Gates sets out a wide-ranging, practical--and accessible--plan for how the world can get to zero greenhouse gas emissions in time to avoid an irreversible climate catastrophe. Bill Gates has spent a decade investigating the causes and effects of climate change. With the help

and guidance of experts in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, political science and finance, he has focused on exactly what must be done in order to stop the planet's slide toward certain environmental disaster. In this book, he not only gathers together all the information we need to fully grasp how important it is that we work toward net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases but also details exactly what we need to do to achieve this profoundly important goal. He gives us a clear-eyed description of the challenges we face. He describes the areas in which technology is already helping to reduce emissions; where and how the current technology can be made to function more effectively; where breakthrough technologies are needed, and who is working on these essential innovations. Finally, he lays out a concrete plan for achieving the goal of zero emissions--suggesting not only policies that governments should adopt, but what we as individuals can do to keep our government, our employers and ourselves accountable in this crucial enterprise. As Bill Gates makes clear, achieving zero emissions will not be simple or easy to do, but by following the guidelines he sets out here, it is a goal firmly within our reach.

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the deepest recession in postwar history. *A Crisis of Beliefs* makes us rethink the financial crisis and the nature of economic risk. In this authoritative and comprehensive book, two of today's most insightful economists reveal how our beliefs shape financial markets, lead to expansions of credit and leverage, and expose the economy to major risks. Nicola Gennaioli and Andrei Shleifer carefully walk readers through the unraveling of Lehman Brothers and the ensuing meltdown of the US financial system, and then present new evidence to illustrate the destabilizing role played by the beliefs of home buyers, investors, and regulators. Using the latest research in psychology and behavioral economics, they present a new theory of belief formation that explains why the financial crisis came as such a shock to so many people—and how financial and economic instability persist. A must-read for anyone seeking insights into financial markets, *A Crisis of Beliefs* shows how even the smartest market participants and regulators did not fully appreciate the extent of economic risk, and offers a new framework for understanding today's unpredictable financial waters.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empires That Run the World* Oliver Milman, 2022-03-01 A devastating examination of how collapsing insect populations worldwide threaten everything from wild birds to the food on our plate. From ants scurrying under leaf litter to bees able to fly higher than Mount Kilimanjaro, insects are everywhere. Three out of every four of our planet's known animal species are insects. In *The Insect Crisis*, acclaimed journalist Oliver Milman dives into the torrent of recent evidence that suggests this kaleidoscopic group of creatures is suffering the greatest existential crisis in its remarkable 400-million-year history. What is causing the collapse of the insect world? Why does this alarming decline pose such a threat to us? And what can be done to stem the loss of the miniature empires that hold aloft life as we know it? With urgency and great clarity, Milman explores this hidden emergency, arguing that its consequences could even rival climate change. He joins the scientists tracking the decline of insect populations across the globe, including the soaring mountains of Mexico that host an epic, yet dwindling, migration of monarch butterflies; the verdant countryside of England that has been emptied of insect life; the gargantuan fields of U.S. agriculture that have proved a killing ground for bees; and an offbeat experiment in Denmark that shows there aren't that many bugs splattering into your car windshield these days. These losses not only further tear at the tapestry of life on our degraded planet; they imperil everything we hold dear, from the food on our supermarket shelves to the medicines in our cabinets to the riot of nature that thrills and enlivens us. Even insects we may dread, including the hated cockroach, or the stinging wasp, play crucial ecological roles, and their decline would profoundly shape our own story. By connecting butterfly and bee, moth and beetle from across the globe, the full scope of loss renders a portrait of a crisis that threatens to upend the workings of our collective history. Part warning, part celebration of the incredible variety of insects, *The Insect Crisis* is a wake-up call for us all.

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the economic catastrophe he was covering. In surprisingly short order, he amassed a staggering amount of debt and reached the edge of bankruptcy. In *Busted*, Andrew bluntly recounts his misadventures in mortgages and goes one step further to describe the brokers, lenders, Wall Street players, and Washington policymakers who helped bring that money to his door. The result is a penetrating and often acerbic look at the binge and bust that nearly bankrupted the United States. Enabled by know-nothing complacency in Washington, Wall Street wizards used collateralized debt obligations, conduits, and other inscrutable financial innovations to put American home financing into hyperdrive. Millions of Americans abandoned the safety of thirty-year, fixed-rate mortgages and loaded up on debt. While regulators insisted that the markets knew best, Wall Street firms fragmented and repackaged unsound loans into securities that the rating agencies stamped with triple-A seals of approval. Andrews describes a remarkably democratic debacle that made fools out of people up and down the financial food chain. From a confessional meeting with Alan Greenspan to a trek through the McMansion bubble of the OC, he maps the arc of the Frankenstein loans that brought the American economy to the brink. With on-the-ground reporting from the frothiest quarters of the crisis, Andrews locates what is likely to be the high-water mark in America's long-term embrace of higher borrowing, higher risk-taking, and the fervent belief in the possibility of easy profits.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *How America Lost Its Mind* Thomas E. Patterson, 2019-10-03 Americans are losing touch with reality. On virtually every issue, from climate change to immigration, tens of millions of Americans have opinions and beliefs wildly at odds with fact, rendering them unable to think sensibly about politics. In *How America Lost Its Mind*, Thomas E. Patterson explains the rise of a world of "alternative facts" and the slow-motion cultural and political calamity unfolding around us. We don't have to search far for the forces that are misleading us and tearing us apart: politicians for whom division is a strategy; talk show hosts who have made an industry of outrage; news outlets that wield conflict as a marketing tool; and partisan organizations and foreign agents who spew disinformation to advance a cause, make a buck, or simply amuse themselves. The consequences are severe. *How America Lost Its Mind* maps a political landscape convulsed with distrust, gridlock, brinksmanship, petty feuding, and deceptive messaging. As dire as

this picture is, and as unlikely as immediate relief might be, Patterson sees a way forward and underscores its urgency. A call to action, his book encourages us to wrest institutional power from ideologues and disruptors and entrust it to sensible citizens and leaders, to restore our commitment to mutual tolerance and restraint, to cleanse the Internet of fake news and disinformation, and to demand a steady supply of trustworthy and relevant information from our news sources. As philosopher Hannah Arendt wrote decades ago, the rise of demagogues is abetted by “people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction, true and false, no longer exists.” In *How America Lost Its Mind*, Thomas E. Patterson makes a passionate case for fully and fiercely engaging on the side of truth and mutual respect in our present arms race between fact and fake, unity and division, civility and incivility.

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transition, as well as the author's personal observations, this book provides unique commentary of those defining decisions of winter 2008–2009. A decade later, the ramifications of the Great Recession and the role of government in addressing the crisis animate the ideological battle between progressivism and neoliberalism in the Democratic Party and the radical direction of the Republican Party. As many seek the presidency in the November 2020 election, all candidates and of course the eventual winner will face decisions that may be as critical and difficult as those confronted by Barack Obama. This book aims to provide the guidance of history. "A powerfully lucid, compelling and surprising achievement . . . makes a subtle but irresistible argument that, given the conservative undertow of American politics, liberals and progressives who are serious about change can't just wing it but must prepare detailed economic policy analyses and prescriptions long in advance of taking power." —Congressman Jamie Raskin, Representative from Maryland's 8th District

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capitalism over its enemies no political agency capable of rebuilding them is in sight. The capitalist system is stricken with at least five worsening disorders for which no cure is at hand: declining growth, oligarchy, starvation of the public sphere, corruption and international anarchy. In this arresting book Wolfgang Streeck asks whether we are witnessing a long and painful period of cumulative decay: of intensifying frictions, of fragility and uncertainty, and of a steady succession of "normal accidents."

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The problems of U.S. health care are of intense public interest today. The debate over where to go next to rein in costs and improve access to quality health care has become bitterly partisan, with distorted rhetoric largely uninformed by history, evidence, or health policy science. Based on present trends, our expensive dysfunctional system threatens patients, families, the government, and taxpayers with future bankruptcy. This book takes a 60-year view of our health care system, from 1956 to 2016, from the perspective of a family physician who has lived through these years as a practitioner in two rural communities, a professor and administrator of family medicine in medical schools, a journal editor for 30 years, and a researcher and writer on health care for more than four decades. There has been a complete transformation of health care and medical practice over that time from physicians in solo or small group practice and community hospitals to an enormous, largely corporatized industry that has left behind many of the traditions of personalized health care. This is an objective, non-partisan look at the major trends changing U.S. health care over these years, and points out some of the highs--and lows--of these changes, which may surprise some readers. It also compares the three basic alternatives for health care reform currently being debated.

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a crisis historian has bad news for us: *Communities in Action* National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Committee on Community-Based Solutions to Promote Health Equity in the United States, 2017-04-27 In the United States, some populations suffer from far greater disparities in health than others. Those disparities are caused not only by fundamental differences in health status across segments of the population, but also because of inequities in factors that impact health status, so-called determinants of health. Only part of an individual's health status depends on his or her behavior and choice; community-wide problems like poverty, unemployment, poor education, inadequate housing, poor public transportation, interpersonal violence, and decaying neighborhoods also contribute to health inequities, as well as the historic and ongoing interplay of structures, policies, and norms that shape lives. When these factors are not optimal in a community, it does not mean they are intractable: such inequities can be mitigated by social policies that can shape health in powerful ways. *Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity* seeks to delineate the causes of and the solutions to health inequities in the United States. This report focuses on what communities can do to promote health equity, what actions are needed by the many and varied stakeholders that are part of communities or support them, as well as the root causes and structural barriers that need to be overcome.

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Masterful . . . [A] painstakingly researched, astonishingly erudite study...Tooze has added his name to the roll call of top-class scholars of Nazism. —Financial Times An extraordinary mythology has grown up around the Third Reich that hovers over political and moral debate even today. Adam Tooze's controversial book challenges the conventional economic interpretations of that period to explore how Hitler's surprisingly prescient vision--ultimately hindered by Germany's limited resources and his own racial ideology--was to create a German super-state to dominate Europe and compete with what he saw as America's overwhelming power in a soon-to- be globalized world. *The Wages of Destruction* is a chilling work of originality and tremendous scholarship that set off debate in Germany and will fundamentally change the way in which history views the Second World War.

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almost conquered famine. Until the 1980s, this scourge killed ten million people every decade, but by early 2000s mass starvation had all but disappeared. Today, famines are resurgent, driven by war, blockade, hostility to humanitarian principles and a volatile global economy. In *Mass Starvation*, world-renowned expert on humanitarian crisis and response Alex de Waal provides an authoritative history of modern famines: their causes, dimensions and why they ended. He analyses starvation as a crime, and breaks new ground in examining forced starvation as an instrument of genocide and war. Refuting the enduring but erroneous view that attributes famine to overpopulation and natural disaster, he shows how political decision or political failing is an essential element in every famine, while the spread of democracy and human rights, and the ending of wars, were major factors in the near-ending of this devastating phenomenon. Hard-hitting and deeply informed, *Mass Starvation* explains why man-made famine and the political decisions that could end it for good must once again become a top priority for the international community.

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