

Title	Good Jobs, Bad Jobs: The rise of polarized and precarious employment systems in the united states, 1970s to 2000s
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Source	Russell Sage Foundation
Pub Date	2011
Brief introduction	<p>THE CENTRALITY of work to individuals, organizations, and societies makes the topic of job quality fundamental to an understanding of individual well-being and social welfare. The growing polarization between good jobs and bad jobs since the 1970s has preoccupied me for much of my professional career. The American Sociological Association's Rose Series in Sociology offered me the opportunity to write a book that provides an overview of the polarization in job quality and the rise of precarious work for a broad audience of social scientists, policymakers, and other interested parties. I have striven to document and explain the structural transformation in employment systems over the past four decades and not be distracted by the shifting tides of economic expansions and contractions and the immediate impacts of cyclical changes during this period.</p> <p>In the course of writing this book, I have accumulated a number of intellectual debts. I am grateful to Dan Clawson, who was the Rose series editor who originally encouraged me (nearly ten years ago now) to write this book and bugged me until I managed to get it well under way. I also thank his Rose series coeditors from the University of Massachusetts–Amherst for their advice and feedback: Douglas Anderton, Naomi Gerstel, Joya Misra, Randall Stokes, and Robert Zussman. Subsequent Rose series editor Michael Schwartz and his fellow coeditors at the State University of New York at Stony Brook picked up where the UMass group left off, and I thank them as well for their continued encouragement.</p> <p>Writing a book for the ASA's Rose Series in Sociology enabled me to continue my pleasant association with the Russell Sage Foundation, which is the publisher of this series. I am especially grateful to its president, Eric Wanner, for his continued support and to its director of publications, Suzanne Nichols, who has been steadfast in her enthusiasm for the book. My seminar at the Russell Sage Foundation in 2004 at which I presented my preliminary ideas to the Rose coeditors and other participants raised new questions and ideas for me to consider in explaining changes in job quality. I am especially appreciative of the</p>

suggestions at that seminar made by Nancy DiTomaso, Cynthia Fuchs Epstein, Kathleen Gerson, Leslie McCall, Joanne Miller, Michael Schwartz, Ed Wolff, and Julia Wrigley. The Russell Sage Foundation also provided me with the opportunity to spend the summer of 2009 in New York City to make the final push on finishing the book.

I also received terrific feedback and suggestions from the participants at numerous presentations I gave during the course of writing the book. I am particularly obliged for the suggestions on the two concluding policy chapters provided at seminars at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in 2009, the Department of Public Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in January 2010, and MIT's Sloan School of Management in March 2010. I am especially thankful for the ideas and clarifications advanced at these seminars by Ivar Berg, Charles Heckscher, Tom Kochan, Frank Levy, and Michael Piore.

I have also benefited from the generosity of friends and colleagues who read one or more earlier versions of the book and gave me a wealth of critical and constructive comments: Eileen Appelbaum, Steve Barley, Peter Cappelli, Duncan Gallie, Francis Green, Paul Osterman, Becky Pettit, and Don Tomaskovic-Devey. A number of graduate students in sociology and public policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill also made incisive critiques of earlier drafts, especially Joe Bongiovi, Colin Campbell, Shelley Golden, Rafael Gallegos Lerma, Jennifer Miller, Jessica Pearlman, Jordan Radke, and TiantianYang. I am especially indebted to the two anonymous reviewers of the manuscript (Ruth Milkman and Chris Tilly), whose insightful, thorough, challenging, and candid comments made me rethink and refine key aspects of the argument and presentation.

I owe special thanks to two of my collaborators on topics covered in this book. My work with Peter Marsden over the years helped considerably in shaping the ideas in chapters 5 and 9. My joint work with Ted Mouw was central in writing parts of chapter 6 and his help was essential for estimating many of the models reported in chapters 7 to 9. I also gratefully acknowledge the statistical help provided by two UNC sociology graduate students, Stefanie Knauer and Jeffrey Rosenthal.

Finally, I dedicate this book to my wife, Judith; my children, Kathryn, Jonathan, and Kari; and my grandchildren, Elise and Margit. You all make me very happy.