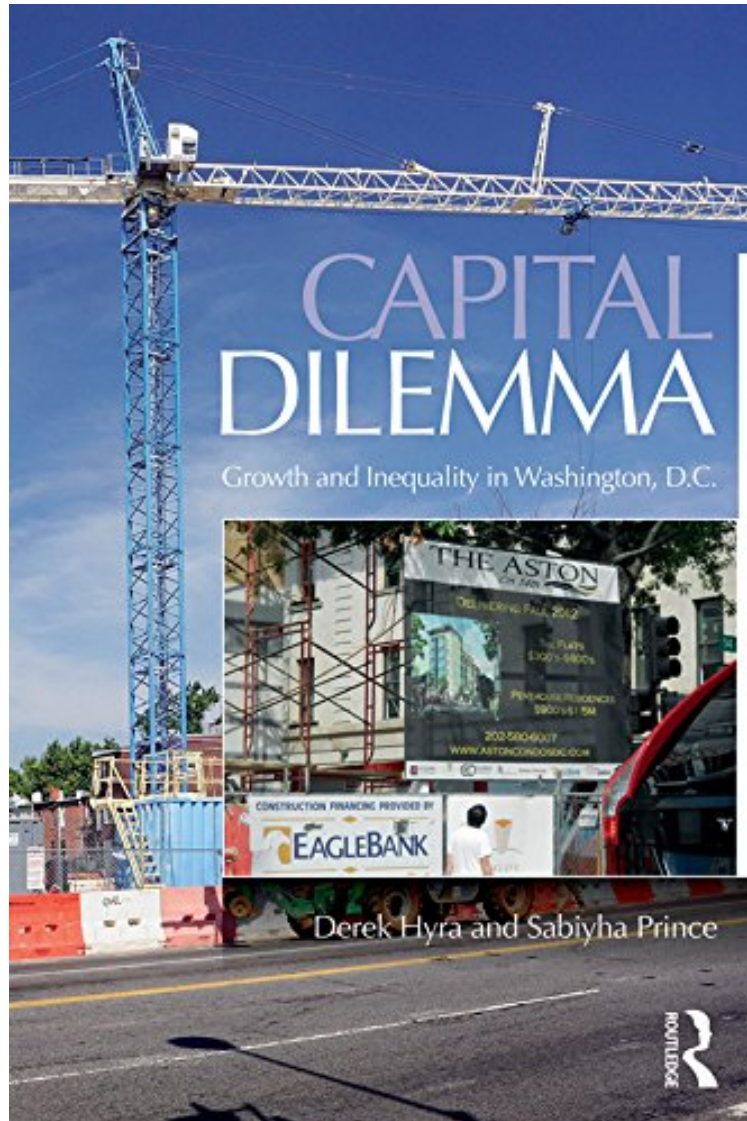


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## Capital Dilemma: Growth and Inequality in Washington, D.C.

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**From Routledge :** **Capital Dilemma: Growth and Inequality in Washington, D.C.** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Capital Dilemma: Growth and Inequality in Washington, D.C.:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. It gave my students no easy explanations or solutions to the challenges of change  
By Willow Lung-Amam  
Anyone who has lived in or even visited Washington, DC in the last several decades probably knows that gentrification has become a common moniker to describe the rapid demographic changes taking place in city. Few books, however, offer insight into vast social, economic and political forces

reshaping the city. Fresh off the press, I used *Capital Dilemma* for my graduate course on neighborhood change in Washington, DC. It gave my students no easy explanations or solutions to the challenges of change. Rather, it forced them to think across race and class lines, through decades of development booms and busts, and across the region and the globe to unravel the forces remaking the "Chocolate City." Its chapters provide perspectives on growth that are as complex as the city itself. The volume is useful for those interested in segregation, gentrification, urban inequality and politics and is equally rich for those interested in Washington, DC as a capital city. From H Street to the Southwest Waterfront, the book walks readers through neighborhoods that illustrate how social and political life in a majority-minority city is being transformed and negotiated in everyday urban spaces. Readers will come away rethinking what they thought they knew about gentrification and with a far greater appreciation for the dilemmas facing the city in defining and achieving equitable development today.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By TJJ  
Excellent analysis. Scholars, planners, and policymakers will appreciate this book on Washington, DC.

0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Reifying Capital inequality  
By Elizabeth  
So much for writing about inequalities in D.C... Why bother, really? If you're going to sell a paperback for \$60+, then who exactly are you imagining your audience to be? A D.C. community bookstore I frequent has been diligently trying to get the word out about what I understand to be an excellent, thoughtful and practical read - and even offering a steep discount off the price. But even so your book is outlandishly outside the economic reach of those you purport to write about. I - and I imagine many others who care about inequality in D.C. - won't be reading it until its pricing exits the Ivory Tower...

*Capital Dilemma: Growth and Inequality in Washington, DC* uncovers and explains the dynamics that have influenced the contemporary economic advancement of Washington, DC. This volume's unique interdisciplinary approach using historical, sociological, anthropological, economic, geographic, political, and linguistic theories and approaches, captures the comprehensive factors related to changes taking place in one of the world's most important cities. *Capital Dilemma* clarifies how preexisting urban social hierarchies, established mainly along race and class lines but also along national and local interests, are linked with the city's contemporary inequitable growth. While accounting for historic disparities, this book reveals how more recent federal and city political decisions and circumstances shape contemporary neighborhood gentrification patterns, highlighting the layered complexities of the modern national capital and connecting these considerations to Washington, DC's past as well as to more recent policy choices. As we enter a period where advanced service sector cities prosper, Washington, DC's changing landscape illustrates important processes and outcomes critical to other US cities and national capitals throughout the world. The *Capital Dilemma* for DC, and other major cities, is how to produce sustainable equitable economic growth. This volume expands our understanding of the contradictions, challenges and opportunities associated with contemporary urban development.

"In 2011, as the economy of Washington DC was booming, its black population slipped below 50%. This is the "capital dilemmardquo; explored in this fascinating book. Astute analysis, lively writing and deep concern for human survival characterize this superb set of essays. Elegantly conceived to cover the complexity of the urban landscape, the chapters dovetail neatly to stimulate our thinking and push our questions. This is a terrific book and students of history, American cities, race relations and economic development will all find it a great asset." - Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Columbia University

"Washington, D.C. is one of the world's great cities; it is also one of the youngest. This combination makes it a fertile laboratory for researching how cities develop economically, socially, and politically during periods of rapid change. The scope of *Capital Dilemma* and the depth of the research it reports makes this book a foundational read for anyone interested in better understanding how today's cities might better interrelate their past and current growth patterns with their growth potentials to achieve a stronger and more balanced and viable social and political framework for the future. Derek Hyra and Sabiyha Prince have assembled a first class stable of researchers on cities with long ties to Washington, D.C. each of whom brings the combination of their deep understanding of the City and accumulated research-based study into focus in their tightly organized chapters. By peeling back the many interdependent layers, *Capital Dilemma* reports out the essentials of a city's evolution from a political creation to a dynamic, livable, multi-faceted city. Students of urban development, social change and political reform at all levels will find *Capital Dilemma* an intellectually enriching and important addition to the literature." - Stephen S. Fuller, George Mason University

About the Author  
Derek Hyra is associate professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy and director of the Metropolitan Policy Center at American University. His research focuses on processes of neighborhood change, with an emphasis on housing, urban politics, and race. Dr. Hyra is the author of *The New Urban Renewal: The Economic Transformation of Harlem and Bronzeville* (University of Chicago Press 2008) and recently completed his second book, *Making the Gilded Ghetto: Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappuccino City* (University of Chicago Press Forthcoming), which investigates the redevelopment of Washington, DC's Shaw/U Street neighborhood. He received his BA from Colgate University and his PhD from the University of Chicago. Sabiyha Prince is a Researcher and Data Analyst for Houses of Worship

and the Environment at the Anacostia Community Museum. She earned her Ph.D in Anthropology from the CUNY Graduate Center and has held teaching positions at American University, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Coppin State University. She is the author of *Constructing Belonging: Class, Race, and Harlem's Professional Workers* (Routledge 2004) and of *African Americans and Gentrification in Washington, DC: Race, Class, and Social Justice in the Nation's Capital* (Ashgate 2014).