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# Working Scared (Or Not At All): The Lost Decade, Great Recession, And Restoring The Shattered American Dream



Working Scared (Or Not at All)

The Lost Decade, Great Recession, and Restoring the Shattered American Dream

CARL E. VAN HORN





## Synopsis

At the end of the 20th century, with the economy booming and unemployment at historic lows, the American economy was a job-producing marvel. The first decade of the 21st century was entirely different as the worst economy in 70 years, the Great Recession, crushed the lives of tens of millions of workers and their families, forestalled careers, scrapped hopes for a college education, delayed retirements, and foreclosed family homes. American workers experienced the best and worst of times and have endured an entire â œlost decadeâ • of high unemployment, stagnant or declining incomes, and anxiety. Working Scared draws upon nearly 25,000 interviews with employed and unemployed Americans conducted from, 1998 to 2012. These â œvoicesâ • of American workers tell a compelling story about wrenching structural changes and recessions during one of the most volatile periods in U.S economic history. This book represents one of the most comprehensive social science research portraits of the views of American workersâ <sup>™</sup> about their jobs, the workplace, and governmentâ <sup>™</sup>s role in the labor market. Working Scared will help citizens, policy makers, educators, business, union, and community leaders better understand what is happening to the United States workforce. It also describes the essential national priorities and policies that will assist frustrated, angry and scared American workers and the reforms that will help restore the American dream of secure employment and inter-generational progress.

### **Book Information**

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Things are not rosy out there. Too many of our youth are unemployed or underemployed. Older

workers are having to work longer because the value of their assets have been decimated. When will job growth accelerate? Are we stuck with 2% GDP for years to come? Learn the answers to these and other questions and what it all means for our future as a country.

The author of this book is a world renowned expert working in a world renowned center at Rutgers University. This book cuts through all of the mystery of the statistics and hoopla surrounding the issues of unemployment and cuts to the chase. It shows the human side of the situation in a clear and concise way. I have never read a better analysis of the present situation. More importantly, it presents a plan to get America and American workers back on their feet. If ONLY, the politicians were listening.

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