In the midst of this once-in-a-century public health crisis, the United States was almost toppled from within by one of the two national political parties that a white-supremacist authoritarian had commandeered. For decades, American workers had been losing their leverage, as the world’s biggest corporations were able to successfully play one country’s workforce off another. For centuries, we have failed to directly address the crimes against humanity that were the cornerstones of American capitalism and are part of the continuum that extends systemic racism to our current circumstances. Our global brand may be equality, but the lived experience of tens of millions of Americans is the stark opposite, and there can be no forward motion if we fail to perceive just how deep a rut we are in.

“Stuck Nation” is the work of award-winning print and broadcast journalist Robert “Bob” Hennelly. Its depth reflects his many decades of on-the-ground reporting, from the streets to historical archives and the White House. In his reporting and in this book, Hennelly bears witness to the ongoing assault of systemic racism, the toll from the World Trade Center toxic exposures, the attacks on our civil service by our own government, the breathtaking concentration of corporate media, the power of our collective agency, and more. It features interviews with the key players and shapers of history - everyday people - as well as with union leaders and politicians, historians and academics, organizers and activists.

“Stuck Nation” lifts up the stories of those whom our capitalist system would otherwise see ‘disappeared’. It bears the human cost of our system and our silence. It holds accounts of individuals and a broader movement willing to put everything at risk to change our national narrative. Through it all, Hennelly shares his observations on the origins of our national stuck-ness, his reporting on how it endures, and his analysis of what might be required for us to change the course of our historical patterns, so that America can begin putting the wellbeing of its people ahead of its profits.

“Hennelly brilliantly analyzes our capitalist crises and how individuals cope with them, tragically but often heroically. He helps us draw inspiration and realistic hope from how courageous Americans are facing and fixing a stuck nation.”

Richard D. Wolff - Economist and Author

“With the skill of a seasoned reporter drawing from an impressive trove of scholarship and first-hand experience, Hennelly artfully presents a granular narrative of the political economy of contemporary US society that is simultaneously enlightening, infuriating and inspirational. Stuck Nation is a must read for those interested in extending democracy and combating racism, especially trade unionists, educators and social activists seeking justice, equality, and a new world order— from the bottom up!”

Joe Wilson - PhD, Labor historian and Political Scientist
STUCK NATION CAN THE UNITED STATES CHANGE COURSE ON OUR HISTORY OF CHOOSING PROFITS OVER PEOPLE?

by Robert Hennelly

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American history is airbrushed, and we wonder why we just can’t seem to master our destiny.

About the Author

FRobert “Bob” Hennelly is an award-winning print and broadcast journalist. He is currently the City Hall reporter for LaborPress, a New-York-City-based newsource on regional and national labor issues. He hosts a morning drive time program on WBAI (Pacifica in New York) 99.5 FM every Monday at 7 a.m. EST on labor issues. He is also a regular contributor to Salon, Insider NJ, and WBGO-Newark Public Radio.

Prior to joining LaborPress he covered the global economy for CBS MoneyWatch. From 2003 until 2013, he was a senior reporter for WNYC-New York Public Radio, where he also was a National Public Radio contributor. Prior to WNYC, he served as a national correspondent for Pacifica Network News. Prior to Pacifica, he was on staff at The Village Voice.

He has been a freelance reporter for CBS’s “60 Minutes” and in New Jersey for The New York Times. His writing has also been published by The Detroit Free Press, The Miami Herald, The Christian Science Monitor, The Bergen Record, the Star Ledger and The Guardian. His work has also been featured on Alternet, Raw Story, Portside and Real Clear Politics.