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many cities have a rich past no one knows if many have a future richard c longworth caught in the middle 2007 p 28 in the last six decades no stagnant or decaying city has been globally or significantly saved never david h medonald more and more federal and state governments are growing their already out of control fi nancial problems cities are on their own to sink or swim now more than ever david h medonald only two states in the nation have over time lost population if the states are gaining population but the cities are losing then it is the cities fault david h medonald occasionally a city will usually by accident back into attempting growth in the right manner it always works david h medonald virtually no city has a workable vision of how to even achieve stability let alone a return to vibrancy th is book presents such a vision and a clear path to beginning the process of stabilization and growth david h medonald whatever is going to save your cities it won t be government both political parties are largely trapped in the past driven by a desire to protect old sacred cows

at 1 27 on the morning of august 4 2005 herbert manes fatally stabbed robert monroe known as shorty in a dispute over five dollars it was a horrific yet mundane incident for the poor heavily african american neighborhood of north philadelphia one of seven homicides to occur in the city that day and yet not make the major newspapers for michael b katz an urban historian and a juror on the murder trial the story of manes and shorty exemplified the marginalization social isolation and indifference that plague american cities introduced by the gripping narrative of this murder and its

circumstances why don't american cities burn charts the emergence of the urban forms that underlie such events katz traces the collision of urban transformation with the rightward moving social politics of late twentieth and early twenty first century america he shows how the bifurcation of black social structures produced a new african american inequality and traces the shift from images of a pathological black underclass to praise of the entrepreneurial poor who take advantage of new technologies of poverty work to find the beginning of the path to the middle class he explores the reasons american cities since the early 1970s have remained relatively free of collective violence while black men in bleak inner city neighborhoods have turned their rage inward on one another rather than on the agents and symbols of a culture and political economy that exclude them the book ends with a meditation on how the political left and right have come to believe that urban transformation is inevitably one of failure and decline abetted by the response of government to deindustrialization poverty and race how katz asks can we construct a new narrative that acknowledges the dark side of urban history even as it demonstrates the capacity of government to address the problems of cities and their residents how can we create a politics of modest hope

the continuing tendency to continentalize canadian issues has been particularly marked in the area of urban studies where united states based research findings methodologies and attitudes have held sway in this book goldberg and mercer demonstrate that the label north american city as widely used is inappropriate and misleading in discussion of the distinctive canadian urban environment examining such elements of the cultural context as mass values social and demographic structures the economy and political institutions they reveal salient differences between canada and the united states one of the most important of the many contextual differences is the strong collective sense in canada which accepts more public intervention in social and economic matters in contrast to the american

commitment to individualism canadians consequently expect a livable central city which is compact and well served by public transit and which has a fiscally sound local government to demonstrate these issues the discussion includes a detailed cross national empirical analysis of over 300 north american metropolitan areas along some three dozen dimensions including density transportation household change and structure income and fiscal disparities and economic structure since much urban planning in canada is based upon the continentalist assumption this volume should generate a reassessment of policy and encourage the development of a research base to suit the distinctiveness of the canadian experience with growing pressures to take a north american view of canadian policies it is vitally important that the differences delineated in this book are understood not just for their urban policy implications but for broader purposes as well

precise connections between race poverty and the condition of america's cities are drawn in this collection of seventeen essays policymakers and scholars from a variety of disciplines analyze the plight of the urban poor since the riots of the 1960s an

the landsmanshaften organizations named after their old world origins were a significant part of the immigrant experience the chicago segment was part of a universal manifestation from 1880 1980 which included european and asian immigrants these voluntary associations both independent and secular served each ethnic group with a wide variety of critical services during a stressful time of alienation and adjustment for some these societies became a refuge of comfort and security for many others perhaps the majority the societies became a bridge into the mainstream of america

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