

SPRING 2016

SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES



PAUL STARR
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Paul Starr is Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs at Princeton University, with a joint appointment in the Woodrow Wilson School. His interests include institutional analysis, political sociology, sociology of the media, and the sociology of knowledge, technology, and information, especially as they bear on questions of democracy, equality, and freedom. These interests are reflected in his teaching as well as his research. Professor Starr has written three books about health care institutions and policies: *The Social Transformation of American Medicine* (1983), which won the Bancroft Prize (American History), C. Wright Mills Award (Sociology), and Pulitzer Prize (General Nonfiction); *The Logic of Health Care Reform* (1992); and *Remedy and Reaction: The Peculiar American Struggle over Health-Care Reform* (2011, revised ed. 2013).

He is also the author of *The Creation of the Media: Political Origins of Modern Communications* (2004), as well as numerous articles about contemporary changes in media and the public sphere. At Princeton, he holds the Stuart Chair in Communications at the Wilson School, serves on the American Studies committee and the Program in Law and Public Affairs, and chairs the University Resources Committee. Outside the university, he writes extensively on public issues for a non-academic audience. In 1990, with Robert Kuttner and Robert Reich, he co-founded *The*

American Prospect, a liberal magazine. During 1993 he served as a senior health policy advisor at the White House. His book *Freedom's Power* (2007) provides an account of both the philosophical and institutional development of liberalism from its classical to modern phases. He is currently working on a project on the entrenchment of power, law, and social structure, as well as a book about unanticipated changes in the development of post-industrial societies.

ENTRENCHMENT: WEALTH, POWER AND DURABLE CHANGE

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