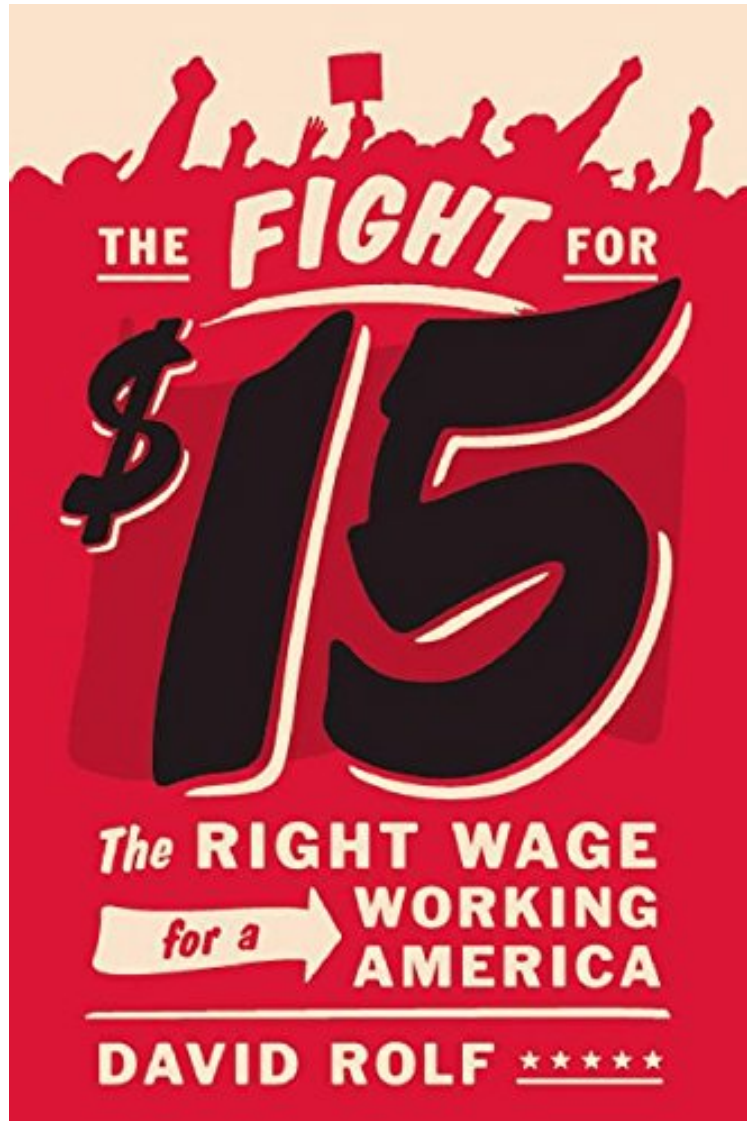


The Fight for Fifteen: The Right Wage for a Working America

David Rolf

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David Rolf : The Fight for Fifteen: The Right Wage for a Working America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fight for Fifteen: The Right Wage for a Working America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Everyone's FightBy Mark'A decent living for the many' is what secures our freedom in the US. Consider the possibility that this statement is not a platitude;that it's really the thing that determines the future.Robert Reich: "With intellectual rigor and practical wisdom, David Rolf shows why the fight for a \$15-an-hour minimum wage is not just a local battle but a national moral necessity and a cornerstone of a decent society."In Chapter One Rolf summarizes how we got where we are and why;for those who never

finished Picketty. Hint: It's not just because of Republicans and Conservatives, but also because of Democrats and Progressives. Their lack of concern for working people in recent decades has become just about the same. In Chapter Two, Rolf goes on to illustrate the "gig" economy, and the many ways (offshoring, automation, robotics, part-timing, subcontractors, flex-hours, internships, self-employment etc.) that bosses have creatively evaded responsibility for their employees. Millennials—who have never known any other world and who are among the worst screwed by this system—will find this chapter very familiar and worth the price of the book. No one that I know of has ever described the peculiarities of the working world of today as comprehensively as Rolf does in this one chapter. He then goes on to describe what created the successful struggle of the workers in Seattle. For its clarity, vision, and optimism, more people should be reading this book. I think David Rolf might be in our future.

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. One of the greatest worker organizers of our generation

By Nicole Grant One of the greatest worker organizers of our generation, David Rolf, lays down the truth about the ways in which the American dream is slipping away from everyday workers and how we can take it back. In particular I enjoyed the reckoning with how technologies like artificial intelligence and robotics are changing our economy. I'm always wanting to avoid the outcomes depicted in the Matrix and Idiocracy, my two favorite dystopian films, neither of which I want to see come to pass. Rolf's narrative around the historic campaigns for a \$15/hr wage in the Puget Sound region is fast paced and engaging, giving workers a sense of what is possible in their communities if they fight for it. The Fight for \$15 is ultimately a blueprint for an American future in which workers have power and equity, and path away from the income inequality that plagues us today.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lots of great information. Very informative

By Craig Great read! If you're curious about how a \$15 minimum affects the economy this is the book. Gives and in depth history lesson into labor and wages in America.

The fight for a higher minimum wage has become the biggest national labor story in decades. Beginning in November 2012, strikes by fast food workers spread across the country, landing in Seattle in May 2013. Within a year, Seattle had adopted a \$15 minimum wage—the highest in the United States—without a bloody political battle. Combining history, economics, and commonsense political wisdom, *The Fight for Fifteen* makes a deeply informed case for a national \$15/hour minimum wage as the only practical solution to reversing America's decades-long slide toward becoming a low-wage nation. Drawing both on new scholarship and on his extensive practical experiences organizing workers and grappling with inequality across the United States, David Rolf, president of SEIU 775—which waged the successful Seattle campaign—offers an accessible explanation of the economic, social, and political forces that have led to the current state of affairs. A blueprint for a different and hopeful American future, *The Fight for Fifteen* offers concrete tools, ideas, and inspiration for anyone interested in real change in our lifetimes.

In *The Fight for Fifteen*, union organizer David Rolf compiles a compelling history of this recent breath of life from an (only mostly) dead American labor movement, weaving personal narrative and politics into an engrossing story. Most impressive here is the breadth of the history he recounts. While the book focuses around the chapters detailing the fight for a livable wage in SeaTac and Seattle, there is also considerable work done to frame this moment within the historical context of the political battles of the last forty years, viz., the consolidation of neoliberal hegemony. An excellent introduction to recent labor history and especially pertinent to us locally.