

## PREFACE

Crises are central pillars of politics and especially the field of political economy. Crises heighten interests in politics and are focal points for discourses. Ten years after the crisis of 2007, many aspects of the crisis still dominate British politics today. This book has at its core the task of comparing two recent crises in British political economy. In doing so, it links the crises of the late 1970s with that of 2007 through the crisis resolution of the former. This book seeks to highlight and assess the legacies of each crisis, linking the responses to both to wider economic relationships and notions of sustainability. However, this book attempts to offer more than an account of each crisis. Such comparisons are important and offer not only new insights into the nature of each crisis but will hopefully provide interesting and useful to those who have wider academic interests in the nature and pathologies of crises.

I was immensely fortunate to find myself working at the University of Sheffield during the creation of the Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute (SPERI) and have been fortunate enough to be allowed to continue my involvement with the institution after moving to the University of Liverpool. This book has been developed out of a number of conversations with co-directors Colin Hay and Tony Payne, alongside others working there, for which I am truly grateful.

Research for this work has been undertaken over the last six years and involved exploring the British Library Newspaper archives in Colindale North London as well as various Gallup opinion polls housed in the Western Bank Library at the University of Sheffield. Throughout the

process, I have developed greater understandings of the links between different aspects of British economic history and how these are interconnected.

Publishing any book is a journey, not least a first book, and one which requires a great deal of support. This book owes a great deal to a great number of people. Intellectually, I could not have completed this work without the support of SPERI and in particular Colin Hay. Colin's guidance and support has been invaluable in both developing my ideas and research. I am also grateful to others such as, Andrew Hindmoor, Steve Ludlam and Mick Moran and an anonymous reviewer, who have offered comments on this work either in full or in part.

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Liverpool, UK

Christopher Kirkland

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Trade Unions and the Banking Sector

Kirkland, C.

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