The Foreclosure Echo

This book tells the story of the foreclosure crisis from a new perspective – that of ordinary people who experienced it. This angle has not been thoroughly communicated before now. The authors are legal academics who have worked for decades defending low- to moderate-income people from foreclosure and challenging predatory lending practices. They have a wealth of experience representing people whose American Dream was shattered when they were threatened with losing their homes. Using actual experiences – often examined through a legal lens – supplemented by economic, social science and legal research, The Foreclosure Echo explains how people experienced the crisis and how their lenders and public institutions let them down. The book also details the lingering effects of the crisis – such as vacant and abandoned buildings – and how these effects have magnified inequality. Finally, the book suggests reforms that could help avoid another crisis.

Linda E. Fisher is Professor of Law at Seton Hall Law School, where she teaches and litigates foreclosure and mortgage fraud cases on behalf of lower-income clients. She has published in the areas of subprime lending, mortgage fraud and civil rights. She has testified before the House Financial Services Committee and presented at a Federal Trade Commission conference. She has also been a Network Fellow at the Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard and an American Association of Law Schools Bellow Scholar. She was co-chair of the Subcommittee on Legislation, New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on the Residential Foreclosure Process, and has been a member of the Court’s Committee on Minority Concerns. Professor Fisher also received the New Jersey AARP’s Advocate of the Year Award for work on anti-predatory lending legislation.

Judith Fox is Clinical Professor of Law at the Notre Dame Law School, where she teaches and practices consumer law. Fox directs the Economic Justice Project, a low-income clinic specializing in predatory lending and mortgage law. She has served on a number of committees and task forces including, most recently, the Indiana Mortgage Foreclosure Task Force and the Indiana Supreme Court’s Coalition for Court Access. She was a member of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s Consumer Advisory Board until Acting Director Mulvaney disbanded it on June 6, 2018. Over the years, Professor Fox has been honored for her tireless work for low-income borrowers. She has received numerous awards, including the Rodney Ganey, Faculty Community Based Research Award, the Greenville Clark Award for service to the cause of peace and human rights and the St. Joseph Valley Project Community Achievement Award for Social Justice.
The Foreclosure Echo

HOW THE HARDEST HIT HAVE BEEN
LEFT OUT OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY

LINDA E. FISHER
Seton Hall University School of Law

JUDITH FOX
University of Notre Dame School of Law
This book is dedicated to all of our foreclosure clients who have struggled to keep believing their American Dream.
## Contents

**Acknowledgments**  
page xi

**Introduction**

- Historical Background of Housing Policy  
  page 6
- The Rise of Behavioral Economics  
  page 13

1 **The Housing Crisis**

- Securitization Basics  
  page 18
- Mortgage-Backed Securities, Fraud and Misrepresentation  
  page 20
- The Borrowers’ Role  
  page 25
- Payment Option ARMs: The Worst of the Worst  
  page 29
- Predatory Lending, Racial Targeting and Reverse Redlining  
  page 33
- Deregulation’s Contribution to the Crisis  
  page 35
- Foreclosure Basics and the Explosion of 2006–10  
  page 36
- The Mortgage Note, Robo-Signing and MERS  
  page 38
- Document Creation and “Art Departments”  
  page 41
- Responses to Robo-Signing and Other Reactions to the Crisis  
  page 49

2 **The Breakdown of Mortgage Servicing and Loss Mitigation**

- Servicing and Securitization  
  page 50
- Fraud and Servicing  
  page 53
- Servicer Incompetence and Dysfunctional Bureaucracy  
  page 55
- Servicing Transfers  
  page 59
- Servicer Excuses and Defenses  
  page 61
- Principal Reduction and Consequences of Failure to Take It  
  page 63
- Foreclosure Mediation  
  page 67
- Continuing Mortgage Servicing Issues, Conflicts of Interest and Banking Culture  
  page 74
## Contents

3 **Zombie Mortgages and Abandoned Properties** 77
   - Stalled Foreclosures 78
   - Abandoned Foreclosures 79
   - Zombie Mortgages 84
   - Consequences of a Zombie Loan 91
   - Strategic Default and Other Theories behind Abandoned Properties 94

4 **The Benefits and Harms of Intervention** 99
   - The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) 99
   - Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS) 105
   - Distressed Asset Stabilization Program (DASP) 109
   - Freddie Mac’s Multifamily Small Balance Loan Securitization 112
   - Small Banks and Small Loans 114
   - Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) 117
   - Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP) 122
   - The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau 123

5 **Rethinking Home: Housing Post-Crisis** 130
   - The Changing Demographics of Homeownership 132
   - The Affordability Crisis in Rentals 135
   - The Resurgence of Contract Buying 140
   - Homelessness in America 144

6 **Foreclosure or a More Sustainable Mortgage?** 146
   - Brief History of Mortgage Law 146
   - The Harms of Foreclosure 148
   - Deficiency Judgments 155
   - The Rise of Fast-Foreclosure Laws 160
   - Tax Foreclosures 162
   - Homeowner Association Foreclosures 168
   - Some International Perspectives 169

7 **Picking Up the Pieces and Revitalizing Neighborhoods** 172
   - Moving from Crisis to Recovery 174
   - Community Development, Financial Institutions and Mortgage Acquisition 176
   - Land Banks 180
   - Renovation Innovation in Detroit 184
   - Remaining Concerns 187
Contents ix

8 Where Do We Go from Here? 189

Homeownership since the Crisis 189
Private Mortgage Lending Reforms 192
Shared Appreciation and Continuous Workout Mortgages 192
Mortgage Insurance for Borrowers 194
Servicing Reforms 195
Policy Changes and Government Assistance 196
More Support for Housing Counseling and Neighborhood Revitalization Efforts 198
Legal Changes 199
Housing as a Human Right 202

Conclusion 207

Index 209
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