

WHY CITIES LOSE

THE DEEP ROOTS OF THE
URBAN-RURAL POLITICAL DIVIDE



JONATHAN RODDEN
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Why is support for progressive political parties concentrated in cities and support for conservatives in rural and suburban areas?

Drawing on his new book, *Why Cities Lose*, Jonathan Rodden presents a bold new interpretation of today's urban-rural political polarization. Many place exclusive blame on partisan gerrymandering and voter suppression. However, Rodden shows that this polarization, and the left's electoral challenges in the United States, Canada, and other countries, have deep roots in the history of urban industrialization, and are unlikely to change without reforms to electoral systems.

For more information, contact Zack Taylor, zack.taylor@uwo.ca
<https://www.nest.uwo.ca/urbancentre/>