

**T**he perception that we're living through an epidemic of racially biased police shootings of black men is an optical illusion. It is created by deliberately selective coverage on the part of the media that does not give the public an accurate picture of what is going on."



**Heather MacDonald**  
fellow at the Manhattan Institute,  
on correcting the crime narrative  
(Aug. 25, 2021)

**W**hat we have now is a system that protects those large retailers from having to face competition, potentially from a mom-and-pop that could sell things at a lower cost or find a smarter way to do things, lower those costs and cause problems for the large retailers. What we have now is just a protection of the larger businesses."



**Will Flanders**  
research director for the Wisconsin Institute for  
Law & Liberty, on how Wisconsin's minimum  
markup law affects consumers (March 23, 2022)

# Compelling people

## Sit down with us

**E**verything we do from a public policy perspective needs to start with a focus on employment. How do we get people employed? How do we help them stay employed? In my view — and I think that the evidence backs this up — when people have employment in their household, they benefit not only from the income that it provides but the dignity it provides, the mental health aspects, the positive mental health aspects it provides, the socialization that it provides."



**Angela Rachidi**  
American Enterprise Institute senior  
fellow and Badger Institute visiting  
fellow, on Wisconsin's safety net  
programs (Nov. 17, 2021)



(Available wherever podcasts are found.)

**"P**eople from all over the world come to the United States because they want to work. That spirit, that desire for the opportunity of employment is what drives people to succeed. If we diminish that, if we disparage that, if we reward people and provide them benefits which make the incentive to work go away, we're going to be doing harm not just to them, which is definitely true, but to our society."



**Robert Doar**

president of the American Enterprise Institute, on *America at a crossroads* (Oct. 6, 2021)

**"A**mericans are thirsting for solutions that are aspirational, that are inspirational, so you have a formula for improvement. In other words, people are motivated to improve their lives when you show them victories that are possible, not always reminding them of injuries to be avoided."



**Bob Woodson**

founder of the 1776 Unites project and the Woodson Center, on a unifying vision for America (June 30, 2021)

**"I** don't want too much decision-making controlled by legislation and by single individuals. How ever we end up doing this in Wisconsin, I would want it where the key decision-making is always being made by experienced investors."



**Daniel Sem**

vice provost for research and innovation at Concordia University Wisconsin, on a proposal to create a \$100 million state-run venture capital program

**"M**y backstory is this. My late husband was white, so my children are biracial. My grandchildren are biracial, except for one grandson. He's triracial. He has a grandma that's Asian, a grandma that's Black and a granddad that's white. So, how do you explain to these children that part of them is oppressors and part of them are being oppressed and one is being a victim?"



**Cindy Werner**

state ambassador for the Frederick Douglass Foundation of Wisconsin, on *being Black and conservative* (Oct. 13, 2021)

## for a little Free Exchange

**"T**here are deep divisions in this country, not just on political and public policy issues but on cultural and social issues, too. That happens periodically in American society. It's not going to change that by somehow changing the way voting occurs."



**Hans von Spakovsky**

senior legal fellow at the Heritage Foundation, on *ranked-choice voting* (Aug. 11, 2021)

**"A** lot of economic literature has shown that graduated-rate individual income taxes are particularly harmful to long-time economic growth and that reducing those top rates is one of the best things states can do to promote in-state GSP growth. That's really where Wisconsin has a competitive disadvantage."



**Katherine Loughead**

senior policy analyst at the Tax Foundation, on a tax reform path to prosperity (Jan. 19, 2022)

**"I** tell my grandkids who are also mixed, I tell them, 'You're an American.' ... Just forget all that other stuff. There is no hyphen here. It's just American."



**Eloise Anderson**

former secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, on *being Black and conservative* (Oct. 13, 2021)

**"T**here are a number of important policy issues where there's wide consensus, both among the American people and among policymakers on both sides of the aisle. The reason we're not able to execute on those things is because the political incentives that are baked into our current two-party primary system and election system pull politicians apart instead of encouraging them to work together and solve problems for the American people."



**Austin Ramirez**

CEO of Husco International, on *ranked-choice voting* (Aug. 11, 2021)