

Preface

As I began to proofread the final draft of this book, the world changed. In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced everyone into their homes. The housing justice community mobilized for action on behalf of those without homes and those facing housing insecurity. Several local, state, and federal government agencies in the United States responded with policies that granted temporary relief from rental and mortgage payment obligations. In May 2020, George Floyd's brutal death at the hands of the Minneapolis police catalyzed a nationwide reckoning with the durable legacies of America's racist past and present. These events, combined with the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 borne by people of color, brought attention to structural injustices that are deeply embedded within America's institutions. A variety of proposals for reform that were only in their embryonic stages in summer 2020 will likely come into full view by the time this book hits the shelves. I hope that this book offers lasting advice to US housing policymakers seeking to incorporate the lessons from 2020 into policy reforms that will chart a path toward justice. As this book goes to press, these lessons have only begun to be revealed.

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/13587.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/13587.001.0001)

Just Housing

The Moral Foundations of American Housing Policy

By: Casey J. Dawkins

Citation:

Just Housing: The Moral Foundations of American Housing Policy

By: Casey J. Dawkins

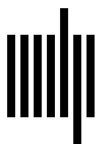
DOI: 10.7551/mitpress/13587.001.0001

ISBN (electronic): 9780262367110

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 2021

The open access edition of this book was made possible by generous funding and support from MIT Libraries



The MIT Press

© 2021 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This work is subject to a Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND license.

Subject to such license, all rights are reserved.



The open access edition of this book was made possible by generous funding from the MIT Libraries.

The MIT Press would like to thank the anonymous peer reviewers who provided comments on drafts of this book. The generous work of academic experts is essential for establishing the authority and quality of our publications. We acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of these otherwise uncredited readers.

This book was set in Stone Serif and Stone Sans by Westchester Publishing Services.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Dawkins, Casey J., author.

Title: Just housing : the moral foundations of American housing policy /
Casey J. Dawkins.

Description: Cambridge, Massachusetts : The MIT Press, 2021. | Series: Urban
and industrial environments | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2020053009 | ISBN 9780262543071 (paperback)

Subjects: LCSH: Housing policy—United States. | Housing—Moral and ethical
aspects—United States.

Classification: LCC HD7293 .D33 2021 | DDC 174/.936355610973—dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2020053009>