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Introduction

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Introduction

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Abstract

This introduction sets out the context for the special feature on gender and deindustrialization. It briefly outlines the development of research in this field and the contribution made by the articles included in this issue, before pointing to some directions for future research.

Keywords: gender; deindustrialization; labor; women; masculinity

Gender and deindustrialization: Perspectives from European case studies

This special feature brings together a selection of current research addressing the relationship between deindustrialization and gender. The phenomenon of deindustrialization is usually defined, in economic terms, by a falling proportion of industrial employment as a share of total employment.¹ This trend developed unevenly and at different rates but became apparent in much of North America and Western Europe in the second half of the twentieth century.² Conceived more broadly, the process of deindustrialization has been, in the words of Jefferson Cowie and Joseph Heathcote, “socially complicated, historically deep, geographically diverse and politically perplexing,” with effects that “rippled through all aspects of society.”³ As a growing body of research now demonstrates, it has been a process with profound implications in terms of class and gender.

The long-term social and political implications of deindustrialization have attracted renewed public attention since the fallout from the 2008 financial crisis and the rise of populist nationalist movements, marked by the 2016 victories of Donald Trump, the pro-Brexit movement in the UK, and far-right electoral gains across continental Europe. But a resurgence of scholarly interest was already apparent, at least in North America, by the early 2000s, driven in no small part by historians turning their attention to a phenomenon that had hitherto been analyzed by political economists and other social scientists.⁴ Barry Bluestone and Bennett Harrison’s *Deindustrialization of America* (1982), which told a story of corporate disinvestment and its impact on communities, is often cited retrospectively as a founding text for the field.⁵ In the British

context, there had been early attempts by economists to consider the implications of falling industrial employment for the national economy and a more geographical literature on regional disparities developed in the 1980s.⁶ By the mid-1980s, there was broad agreement from sympathetic scholars on both sides of the Atlantic that the process of deindustrialization differed fundamentally from periods of cyclical recession.⁷ More recently, the burgeoning interdisciplinary field of “deindustrialization studies” has been dominated by “bottom-up” studies of working-class people and places whose experiences have in many ways been defined by the disappearance of major sources of industrial employment. Thus, a substantial body of work has emerged from anthropologists, sociologists, geographers, and literary scholars, as well as historians, much of it informed by oral history or ethnographic methods.⁸ Such studies have paid particular attention to working-class experiences of plant closure, the lasting impact of such closures on neighborhoods, towns and regions, and to memory, cultural representations and (de-)industrial heritage. While a number of edited collections and journal issues have already served to stake out the field, this is the first to focus specifically on gender.⁹

As Clarke and McIvor et al. observe in their historiographical essay in this volume, research on deindustrialization has increasingly engaged with the gendered impacts of socioeconomic rupture, illuminating, in particular, the implications of the loss of industrial jobs and related social practices for working-class masculinities. The collapse of employment in sectors such as mining, steel, shipbuilding, and automobile manufacturing attacked the very foundations of class and gender identities in communities where normative masculinities were fundamentally tied up with occupational identities, notions of “hard work,” and men’s presumed role as “providers” for women and children.¹⁰ Considerable attention has thus focused on men as “displaced workers,” a term first coined in the USA for those whose jobs had been cut or relocated due to industrial restructuring. But scholars have also registered the profound effects of deindustrialization on other social groups, exploring family relationships and the outlook of a generation of young men who grew up in the shadow of masculinities shaped by industrial cultures, but without access to the secure forms of employment those industries once offered.¹¹

Women have tended to figure in this literature primarily in their capacity as wives or partners of displaced workers—resisting or managing the impact of deindustrialization on their families and wider communities.¹² And while some studies of male-dominated sectors have attended to the voices of women in those workplaces, industries such as the textile sector, where women made up a more significant proportion of the workforce, remained rather peripheral in the development of deindustrialization research.¹³ This relative neglect is striking, given that there is a well-established literature on women’s industrial labor in the twentieth century, and feminist labor history has done much since the 1980s to recognize and rectify the extent to which women’s work had been “ignored” by scholars in that field.¹⁴ Despite this, the field of deindustrialization studies developed similarly to “traditional” labor history: male workers and male-dominated heavy industries remained the primary center of interest and central protagonists in the story.

It is only in the last few years that deindustrialization scholars have begun to address more fully the experiences of women as industrial workers.¹⁵ While the loss of jobs in

male-dominated industries that were seen as symbols of national prosperity loomed large from the 1980s, the impact of global trade liberalization since the 1990s has focused greater attention in the past decade on sectors which employed women in significant numbers—the garment industry, light engineering, and the manufacture of electrical goods. In the UK, the closure of the Burberry manufacturing plant in the Rhondda Valleys in 2007 illustrated that even renowned, high-value, and long-established brands had minimal attachment to place in the pursuit of lower costs.¹⁶ In France, a series of high-profile factory closures in the 1990s and 2000s provoked a public debate about off-shoring which, combined with the effects of the 2008 financial crisis, have acted as a stimulus to a wave of research on deindustrialization that takes greater account of women, gender and sectors beyond heavy industry.¹⁷ In the rather different political context of the former Yugoslavia, the closure of large swathes of the textile sector in the 1990s and 2000s, following the collapse of socialism and the Yugoslav Wars, likewise provided the impetus for new research.¹⁸

As these examples suggest, the geographical focus of deindustrialization research has shifted significantly over this period: At the turn of the twenty-first century, the agenda was being set by North American scholars and European research was sparse; this situation has been reversed, as interest in the field in the USA has receded while there has been a significant growth in European-focused work. The articles in this collection reflect this trend.

This special feature has its origins in a research networking project entitled “After the Factory: Women, Gender and Deindustrialization in European Perspective,” funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh. The collection includes contributions from the fields of history, sociology, and memory studies, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of deindustrialization studies as a field. The articles gathered in this issue take deindustrialization as a vantage point from which to reflect further on working-class masculinities and communities shaped by industry, while crucially expanding the field of enquiry to take greater account of women’s role as industrial workers through a necessary integration of predominantly feminine workspaces. They address issues such as class, gender, and work-based identities; women’s participation in collective action to defend jobs, and the gendered memory of deindustrialization.

Tim Strangleman’s contribution revisits the literature on masculinity in crisis, with a particular focus on the UK, arguing that the understanding of working-class masculinity that has underpinned much of this work is one-dimensional. What tends to be foregrounded in these studies is a “hard” masculinity that valorizes physical effort and the ability to endure dirty and/or dangerous conditions, as well as the solidarities forged in such conditions. A significant body of evidence has built up on the ways in which this version of masculinity, usually associated with all-male working environments in heavy industry, is destabilized by the loss of such employment and the destruction of such workplaces. In contrast, drawing on autobiographical reflection and evidence from biographical accounts from (former) industrial workers, Strangleman offers a more multi-faceted portrait of working-class masculinities, emphasizing the ethics of care that often characterized relations among male workers of different generations. He points to the quasi-familial forms of socialization of young workers in trades that were entered via apprenticeships and the roles of “father” and “grandfather” figures in workplaces that fostered a culture of long service.

If scholars have contributed to the persistence of a reductive idea of working-class masculinity, this is not without wider cultural and political significance. Indeed, such representations have also predominated in some of the best known—and best-loved—British cultural representations of deindustrializing communities. As Andy Clark notes in his contribution, films such as *The Full Monty*, *Brassed Off*, and *Billy Elliott* have occupied a prominent place in British public memory of deindustrialization. In each of these, white working-class masculinities, built on the values of hard physical labor and the ideal of the male provider, rooted in strong occupational cultures and male-dominated trade unionism, are destabilized as communities are hit by industrial closures. While these films convey a sense of loss, they also suggest that the end of the old world of industry opens the way to something better: as gender boundaries are renegotiated, men rediscover sexual potency and explore long-repressed same-sex attraction (*The Full Monty*), leave a depressed northern town to find fulfilment in a profession hitherto considered effeminate (*Billy Elliott*) or even accept that women can join the previously male space of the colliery brass band (*Brassed Off*).¹⁹ All three films play to a certain nostalgia for industrial community (none more so than *Brassed Off*). Yet there is no mistaking the redemptive arc of their gender narratives: deindustrialization is ultimately framed as a form of modernization. Such cultural scripts are characteristic of the “New Labour” years in the UK, particularly under Tony Blair’s government from 1997, when the politics and culture of the “old” labor movement were to be left behind in favor of a neo-liberal, post-industrial vision of the country’s future. In a similar vein, to perpetuate a one-dimensional view of working-class masculinity, as Strangleman suggests, is arguably to reinforce narratives that serve to devalue working-class culture and communities, by positioning industrial working-class masculinity as something that can unambiguously be consigned to the past.

Strangleman remarks that deindustrialization “reveals taken for granted knowledge about work, place, community and the social.” In their article on the final years of the French domestic appliance company, Moulinex, Jackie Clarke and Fanny Gallot consider what is revealed when restructuring forces women workers to transfer to another factory in order to stay in work. Such constrained mobility is a common feature of restructuring processes but one that has attracted less attention than job loss and unemployment. Offering a gender perspective on this phenomenon, the authors trace the ways in which women’s identities as industrial workers were constructed at Moulinex, the experiences of dislocation and adaptation that accompanied moves to new factories and the difficulties of reconciling mobility with women’s disproportionate share of unpaid caring work. Clarke and Gallot highlight the significance of the semi-rural location of most Moulinex factories and the forms of identity fostered by the company’s strategy of regional dispersal of production sites, before showing how place-based identities, gender, and age intersect in the construction of women’s narratives of mobility. The article illustrates how attending to manufacturing sectors hitherto relatively neglected in deindustrialization research and to women in industry, also opens up new geographies for the field, beyond those regions that were highly dependent on geographically concentrated heavy industries such as coal and steel.²⁰

Another aspect of industrial restructuring that has attracted little systematic attention is the question of gender discrimination, direct or indirect, as companies

downsized their workforce. This question arises notably in manufacturing sectors with a mixed workforce, where women were often employed in lower skilled and lower paid roles. In her comparative analysis of developments at the French watchmaker Lip in Besançon and the Fiat automobile company in Turin, Italy in the 1970s and 1980s, Anna Frisone documents the mechanisms by which discrimination against women often developed “in disguise.” Lower-skilled jobs were targeted for redundancy at Lip with a disproportionate effect on women, while at Fiat there were attempts to push women out through bullying or by moving them to heavier work, as employers also counted on the strain of the double burden of waged and unwaged work to erode numbers of women on the payroll. At both Fiat and Lip, there was significant mobilization of women in struggles over job losses, accompanied by an explicitly feminist reflection on women’s situation.²¹ At the time, these struggles were not understood in terms of deindustrialization, as the concept was not yet widely used in France and Italy. Yet in retrospect they can be seen in the context of a more long-term downward trend in industrial employment in Western Europe that broadly coincided with the expansion of women’s labor market participation. While women were active in struggles to save jobs at Fiat and Lip, participation in collective struggles became more difficult to maintain once they had been made redundant or laid off, despite efforts in the Italian case to mobilize those who were subject to supposedly temporary lay-offs which ultimately became permanent.

In the current state of research, it is difficult to know what lasting impact involvement in these struggles had on the women concerned and we have only limited knowledge of how this generation of women experienced unemployment. Frisone charts two contrasting biographies: that of Alessandra Mecozzi, who continued to work as a trade union official trying to mobilize the unemployed, drawing on her experience of feminist labor organizing in the 1970s, and that of Monique Piton who found herself jobless, homeless, and isolated, after fighting a losing battle to save her job and those of other women at Lip. Piton’s experience as a single woman who lost the key sources of her identity and social status when she lost her job also serves as a counterpoint to the prevailing view that unemployment presents less of a challenge to women’s sense of self than it does to men’s, due to the importance placed on unwaged caring labor in the gender socialization of women. Not all women were wives and mothers.

Andy Clark’s article also draws on interviews with women involved in militant resistance campaigns. Clark draws attention to the mechanisms by which the memory of industrial closures, and of collective mobilization against restructuring plans, have developed along gendered lines. He points to dominant narratives that imagine a very constrained repertoire of working-class gender roles, casting men as providers and protagonists and women as supporters and carers. While these norms were strong in many working-class communities, they were not unaffected by the diffuse cultural influence of feminism and the high level of women’s labor market participation by the 1980s.²² Clark’s work on three successful factory occupations led by women workers in Scotland in the early 1980s tells a different story, centering women’s role as wage-earners, their political agency and capacity for collective action.²³ Yet the effect of the “cultural circuit” of memory has, he shows, served to downplay the significance and connectedness of these women’s action even in their own memories. This is a product of a popular retelling of the story of deindustrialization and resistance as essentially

a story about men and masculinity; however, this public memory has arguably also been reinforced by the academic focus on male-dominated industries and neglect of women's experiences.

This special feature shows how scholars of gender and deindustrialization are examining the long-term impact of industrial restructuring and closure in an increasingly wide range of sectors and geographies. It invites us to think afresh about gender, work-based identities, and industrial workplace cultures in the deindustrializing context of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. The historical transformation wrought by deindustrialization, and the associated ruptures in the lives of individuals and communities, provide a vantage point from which to evaluate what Strangleman calls "the world we have lost." Such ruptures also make visible some of the ways in which women forged identities as industrial workers and wage-earners at a time of increasing female labor market participation, and how they then navigated the threat or reality of unemployment. Given the significant growth in women's paid employment in the second half of the twentieth century, women's role as producers and wage-earners merits more prominent consideration within deindustrialization studies, if our aim is to capture and understand the full range of experience. Indeed, in the face of public discourses that are often simplistic and stigmatizing, a more nuanced understanding of working-class masculinities and femininities is of broader social as well as academic value.

Several lines of future enquiry emerge in this collection. As Clarke and McIvor et al. note in their historiographical review, questions of race and migration have remained somewhat marginal to studies of deindustrialization. This special feature does little to substantially address this neglect, but it does point to recent and emerging work which has the potential to reshape the conversation around race, class and gender. Other ways of expanding the research agenda become apparent as we glimpse the lives of women forced to manage the complexities of relocation, directing our attention to the ways in which deindustrialization affects the conditions of social reproduction. As Gábor Scheiring and Anne-Marie Jeannet have observed, deindustrialization "reshapes social cohesion and the division of labor both inside and outside of the family."²⁴ To open up these questions is also to decenter the industrial workplace itself as the locus of deindustrialization and as a primary site of investigation. At the same time, Clark and Frisone's discussions of women's collective action to save industrial jobs raise questions about the impact of such struggles in differing local or national contexts, and about the wider role of deindustrialization in reshaping gendered political subjectivities in the late twentieth century. Finally, in view of the questions raised here about public narratives of deindustrialization and their implications, there is clearly much work still to be done by historians and heritage professionals to reconsider which industries and whose experiences are being remembered, and which stories told, in museums, public history programs, and commemorative spaces.

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Notes

1. Jim Tomlinson, "De-industrialization: Strengths and Weaknesses as a Key Concept for Understanding Post-War British History," *Urban History* 47, no. 2 (2020): 219–01. Some authors have also considered the

contribution of industry to national output as part of the definition of deindustrialization but the employment measure is usually preferred. See Andy Pike, "Deindustrialization," in *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography. Second Edition*, ed., Audrey Kobayashi (Oxford: Elsevier, 2020), 213–22; Marion Fontaine and Xavier Vigna, "Introduction. La Désindustrialisation, une histoire en cours," *20&21: Revue d'histoire* 144 (2019): 3–4.

2. Between 1970 and 2016, the proportion of industrial employment as a share of total employment fell from 50 to 27 percent in Germany, 39 to 18 percent in France, 46 to 17 percent in the UK, and 44 to 24 percent in Italy. See Fontaine and Vigna, "Introduction," 4.

3. Jefferson Cowie and Joseph Heathcote, *Beyond the Ruins: The Meanings of Deindustrialization* (Ithaca NY: Cornell University Press, 2003), 2, 4.

4. Cowie and Heathcote, *Beyond the Ruins* and Steven High, *Industrial Sunset: The Making of North America's Rust Belt, 1969–84* (Toronto: Toronto University Press, 2003) were among the most influential studies to emerge in the early 2000s.

5. Barry Bluestone and Bennett Harrison, *The Deindustrialization of America* (New York: Basic Books, 1982).

6. Frank Blackaby, ed., *De-industrialisation* (London: Heinemann, 1979); R. Martin and R. Rowthorn, eds., *The Geography of Deindustrialisation* (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1986); Tony Dickson and David Judge, "Introduction," in *The Politics of Industrial Closure*, ed. Tony Dickson and David Judge (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1987); Hugo Levie, Denis Gregory, and Nick Lorentzen, "Overview," in *Fighting Closures: Deindustrialisation and the Trade Unions 1979–1983*, ed. Levie, Gregory, and Lorentzen (Nottingham: Spokesman, 1984), 9–71; John Foster and Charles Woolfson, *The Politics of the UCS Work-In: Class Alliances and the Right to Work* (London: Lawrence and Wishart, 1986); Colin Love, *Conflicts Over Closure: The Lawrence-Scott Affair* (Aldershot: Gower Publishing, 1988).

7. Bluestone and Harrison, *The Deindustrialization of America*, 15; Dickson and Judge, *The Politics of Industrial Closure*, 165.

8. Kathryn Marie Dudley, *The End of the Line: Lost Jobs, New Lives in Postindustrial America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994); Thomas J. Sugrue, *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996); Cowie and Heathcote, *Beyond the Ruins*; High, *Industrial Sunset*; Alice Mah, *Industrial Ruination, Community and Place: Landscapes and Legacies of Urban Decline* (Toronto: Toronto University Press, 2012); Tim Strangleman, James Rhodes and Sherry Lee Linkon, eds., "Crumbling Cultures: Deindustrialization, Class and Memory," special issue of *International Labor and Working-Class History* 84 (2013); Steven High, Lachlan MacKinnon and Andrew Perchard, *The Deindustrialized World: Confronting Ruination in Postindustrial Places* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2017); Sherry Lee Linkon, *The Half-life of Deindustrialization: Working-Class Writing about Economic Restructuring* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2018); Geoff Bright and G. Ivinson, "Washing Lines, Whinberries and Reworking 'waste Ground': Women's Affective Practices and a Haunting Within the Haunting of the UK Coalfields," *Journal of Working-Class Studies* 4, no. 2 (2019): 25–39; Jim Phillips, Valerie Wright, and Jim Tomlinson, *Deindustrialisation and the Moral Economy in Scotland since 1955* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2021); Jay Emery, "Urban Trauma in the Ruins of Industrial Culture: Miners' Welfares of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield, UK," *Social & Cultural Geography* 23, no. 5 (2022): 639–59.

9. Existing collections include Cowie and Heathcote, *Beyond the Ruins*; High, MacKinnon and Perchard, *The Deindustrialized World*; Strangleman, Rhodes and Linkon, eds., "Crumbling Cultures," special issue of *International Labor and Working-Class History* 84 (Fall 2013); Marion Fontaine and Xavier Vigna, "La Désindustrialisation, une histoire en cours," special issue of *20&21: Revue d'histoire* 144 (2019); Stefan Berger and Steven High, eds., "(De-)industrial Heritage," special issue of *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History* 16, no. 1 (2019); Steven High and Lachlan MacKinnon, "Deindustrialization in Canada: New Perspectives," *Labour/Le Travail* 91 (Spring 2023).

10. Valerie Walkerdine and Luis Jimenez, *Gender, Work and Community after De-industrialisation: A Psychosocial Approach* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012)

11. David Kideckel, "Miners and Wives in Romania's Jiu Valley: Perspectives on Postsocialist Class, Gender, and Social Change," *Identities* 11, no. 1 (2004): 39–64; Christine Walley, *Exit Zero: Family and Class in Postindustrial Chicago* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013); L. Jimenez and V. Walkerdine, "'Shameful Work': A Psychosocial Approach to Father–Son Relations, Young Male Unemployment and Femininity in an Ex-Steel Community," *Psychoanalysis, Culture & Society* 17, no. 3 (2012): 278–95; Michael Ward, *From Labouring to Learning: Working-Class Masculinities, Education and De-Industrialization* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).

12. Walkerdine and Jimenez, *Gender, Work and Community*; David Kideckel, “Miners and Wives in Romania’s Jiu Valley: Perspectives on Postsocialist Class, Gender, and Social Change,” *Identities* 11, no. 1 (2004): 39–64. In the UK context, much attention has focused on miners’ wives and women’s mobilization during the 1984–1985 miners’ strike. For a recent reinterpretation, see Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite and Natalie Thomlinson, “National Women Against Pit Closures: gender, trade unionism and community activism in the miners’ strike, 1984–5,” *Contemporary British History* 32, no. 1 (2028): 78–100; Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite and Natalie Thomlinson, *Women and the Miners’ Strike* (Oxford, 2023).
13. There are, of course, exceptions such as Jim Tomlinson, “Managing Decline: The Case of Jute,” *Scottish Historical Review* 90, no. 2 (2011): 257–79 or Cathy Stanton’s work on the textile town of Lowell, Massachusetts in Stanton, *The Lowell Experiment: Public History in a Postindustrial City* (Amherst, 2006).
14. Pioneering studies in the 1980s included Anna Pollert, *Girls, Wives, Factory Lives* (London: Macmillan, 1981); Ruth Cavendish (aka Miriam Glucksmann), *Women on the Line* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1982); Danièle Kergoat, *Les Ouvrières* (Paris: Sycomore, 1982); Alice Kessler-Harris, *Out to Work: A History of Wage-earning Women in the United States* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982). A number of major studies of women’s industrial labor were published in the following decade, such as Eileen Boris, *Home to Work: Motherhood and the Politics of Industrial Homework in the United States* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994); Laura Lee Downs, *Manufacturing Inequality: Gender Division in the French and British Metalworking Industries* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1995); Kathleen Canning, *Languages of Labor: Female Factory Work in Germany 1850-1914* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996); Deborah Simonton, *A History of European Women’s Work 1700-the present* (London: Routledge, 1998).
15. Andy Clark, *Fighting Deindustrialisation: Scottish Women’s Factory Occupations 1981-1982* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2022); Rory Stride, “Women, Work and Deindustrialisation: The Case of James Templeton & Company, Glasgow, c1960-1981,” *Scottish Labour History* 54 (2019): 154–80; Lauren Laframboise, “La grève de la fierté: Resisting Deindustrialization in Montreal’s Garment Industry,” *Labor/Le Travail* 91 (2023): 57–88; Amandine Tabutaud, “À la croisée de la Seine-Saint-Denis et de la Haute-Vienne: Les ouvrières aux prises avec la désindustrialisation (1970-1980),” *20&21. Revue d’histoire* 144 (2019): 131–44.
16. P. Blyton and J. Jenkins, “Life after Burberry: Shifting Experiences of Work and Non-Work Life Following Redundancy,” *Work, Employment and Society* 26 (2012): 26–41.
17. Manuella Roupnel-Fuentes, *Les Chômeurs de Moulinex* (Paris: Presses universitaires françaises, 2011); Fanny Gallot, “La revanche du soutien-gorge. Le corps des ouvrières de la lingerie (1968-2012),” *Clio: Femmes, Genre, Histoire* 38, no. 2 (2013): 61–78; Fanny Gallot, *En Découdre* (Paris, 2015); Tabutaud, “À la croisée de la Seine-Saint-Denis et de la Haute-Vienne.”
18. Chiara Bonfiglioli, *Women and Industry in the Balkans* (London: Bloomsbury, 2019).
19. On masculinity in these films, see Kelly Farrell, “Naked Nation: *The Full Monty*, Working-Class Masculinity, and the British Image,” *Men and Masculinities* 6, no. 2 (2003): 119–35; Sharyn Pearce, “Performance Anxiety: The Interaction of Gender and Power in *The Full Monty*,” *Australian Feminist Studies* 32 (2000): 227–36; David Alderson, “Making Electricity: Narrating Gender, Sexuality, and the Neoliberal Transition in Billy Elliot,” *Camera Obscura: Feminism, Culture, and Media Studies* 25, no. 3 (2011): 1–27; Sarah Godfrey, *Masculinity in British Cinema, 1990-2010* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2022).
20. An important exception to the relative neglect of light manufacturing is Jefferson Cowie’s pathbreaking study *Capital Moves: RCA’s 70-year Quest for Cheap Labor* (New York: The New Press, 2001).
21. See also Maud Bracke, “Labour, Gender and Deindustrialisation: Women Workers at Fiat (Italy 1970s-1980s),” *Contemporary European History* 28, no. 4 (2019): 484–99 and Donald Reid, *Opening the Gates: The Lip Affair 1968-1981* (London: Verso, 2018).
22. On gender norms and aspirations among working-class women in Britain, see Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite and Natalie Thomlinson, “Vernacular Discourses of Gender Equality in the Post-war British Working Class,” *Past and Present* 254, no. 1 (2022): 277–313.
23. See Andy Clark, *Fighting Deindustrialisation*.
24. Gabor Scheiring and Anne-Marie Jeannet, “New Perspectives on Deindustrialization as Socio-economic Disintegration,” *Blog Post*, SASE (Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics), 16 June 2022, <https://sase.org/blog/new-perspectives-on-deindustrialization-as-socio-economic-disintegration/>.