

Rural America

The moral outrage of rural America is a mixture of fear and anger.

The fear is that small-town ways of life are disappearing. The anger is that they are under siege. The outrage cannot be understood apart from the loyalties that rural Americans feel toward their communities.

It stems from the fact that the social expectations, relationships, and obligations that constitute the moral communities they take for granted and in which they live are year by year being fundamentally fractured.

Robert Wuthnow, *The Left Behind*