BETTER MARKETS

AI, the Economy, and You: A People-Centered AI Agenda

Artificial Intelligence Will Shape All Americans' Lives, Let's Turn Change into Progress for Everyone

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THE STAKES

"Humanity is about to be handed almost unimaginable power, and it is deeply unclear whether our social, political, and technological systems possess the maturity to wield it"

DARIO AMODEI | ANTHROPIC CEO | JANUARY 2026

Put differently, as we say at Better Markets: **change is certain, progress is not**. The key is to encourage and support change while harnessing and channeling it so that change becomes progress that is real, broadly shared, and beneficial for the maximum number of people. That's why, as Mr. Amodei's observation rightly suggests, **artificial intelligence is not primarily a technology story. It is fundamentally about the understanding of AI's impact on the lives of everyday Americans**—from those working on shop floors and retail counters to those working desk jobs and corner offices—and whether those lives will get better or worse. It is about how AI will reshape the economic and financial (and democratic) systems that are already too often rigged against Main Street workers, families, and communities who have been working harder and harder over decades for less and less. And it is about whether those making the decisions that determine those outcomes are truly collaborative and inclusive.

Change is happening fast and speeding up. OpenAI's chatbot, ChatGPT, reached 100 million users just two months after launch and claimed over 900 million total weekly active users three years later.[1] Nearly every major employer, including every large financial institution, in America is racing to implement some form of AI. The technology is being incorporated into ever-increasing parts of daily life, often without much testing or even awareness by the users.

Right now, private corporations racing to be first and chasing short-term profits are driving AI's development even when they admit that society's structures simply cannot keep up and, even when they try, cannot match the speed, scope, and scale of these extremely complex changes. The public interest is too often an afterthought or viewed as an impediment to innovation without much consideration for what that innovation really means for most Americans. Or worse: the self-interested actors—ostensibly unaware of the conflicts of interest in their claims—are insisting that everything they do is in the public interest, which just happens to correspond with maximizing their own private interests. Under such circumstances, the likelihood of change becoming progress is not high. **That's why we need a people-centered AI mindset, framework, and agenda.**

To be clear, many in the AI industry share these goals, including responsible developers, researchers, and companies that want AI to be built and deployed in ways that serve people and society. There are also responsible leaders throughout industry and Corporate America who are also concerned about the technology's impact on their workforce, their families, and communities. They are welcome and necessary allies for a people-centered AI agenda.

Dario Amodei by Chance Yeh via Getty Images. Cover image created by Google Gemini.

HOW WILL AI SHAPE AMERICANS' LIVES?

Given the pace, scale, and scope of AI-driven changes, at the micro level AI-based systems will soon decide:

- Whether you get a **credit or debit card** and what your interest rate and limit will be
- Whether you get a **loan** for a car, a home, an education, or your small business
- Whether you get **insurance** and whether your claim gets paid
- Whether your **job** will exist, or whether you get a raise

At the macro level, some of the important questions to ask will be whether:

	AI will...	or whether AI will...
	Create broad-based economic growth, security, opportunity, and prosperity?	Concentrate gains at the top while shifting costs to everyone else?
	Ensure that the financial system provides affordable products and services?	Deepen exclusion and enable new forms of predation?
	Reduce wealth and income inequality?	Exacerbate inequality trends?
	Protect consumers, investors, and depositors?	Strip away accountability by replacing human judgment with opaque algorithms?
	Strengthen financial system stability?	Introduce new systemic risks that lead to financial crashes and Wall Street bailouts?
	Reduce financial exploitation?	Provide tools for fraudsters and scammers to scale their reach?
	Increase worker productivity and create new job opportunities?	Automate away large swaths of the American workforce?
	Avoid mass layoffs and provide an unemployment safety net?	Continue hollowing out the middle class?
	Safeguard Americans' privacy and personal information?	Turn personal data into a tool for surveillance and exploitation?
	Make the American Dream available to more people?	Accelerate its disappearance for working and middle-class families?

Decisions made by AI tools can reduce discrimination that comes from human bias, can facilitate faster access to financial services, and can be audited and tested in ways that humans cannot. But there is also the possibility for systemic biases of their creators to be embedded in algorithms that have massive scale and impact. **Algorithmic decision making already lacks transparency, and AI systems are likely to be even less transparent—even AI's creators often don't understand exactly how their tools work!**[2]

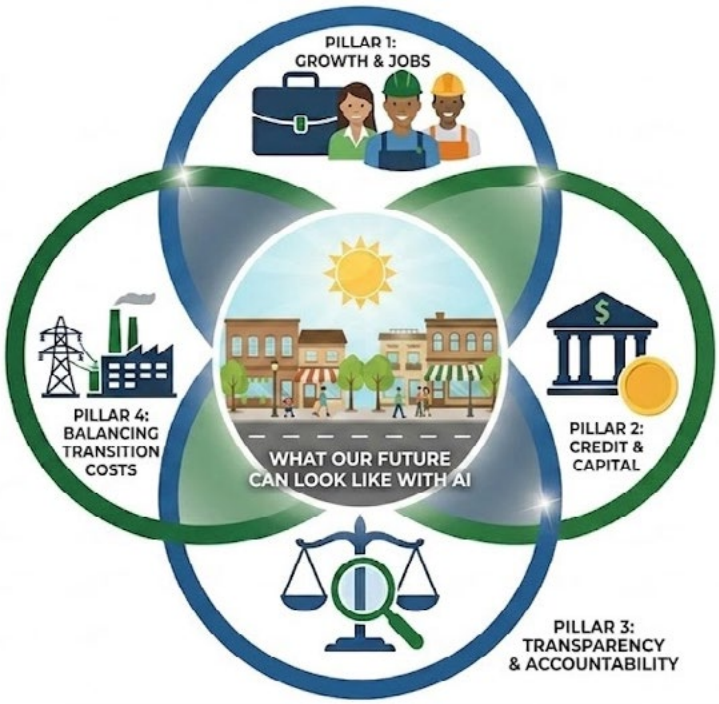
Increasingly, these decisions will be made by what technologists call "agentic AI" systems that don't just analyze data but autonomously make decisions and take actions without real-time human oversight. These systems are already being deployed throughout the economy and financial sector, and their reach is expanding rapidly.

Importantly, AI's potential extends beyond the economy and the financial system. **It could also strengthen our democracy and the democratic process by making citizen participation and oversight of elected and government officials easier.** When policymakers and the public better understand the real-world consequences of financial practices and regulatory decisions, it becomes easier to build support for reforms that promote stability and economic opportunity. Done right, that could enable much greater accountability. Facts and accurate information are key to a functioning democracy, and a well-informed public is potentially the biggest brake on policies that undermine our economy and financial system. A key to changing a system that is dominated, if not monopolized, by industry stakeholders is effectively injecting Main Street Americans' concerns and priorities into the policymaking process and ensuring that their voices and priorities are represented. For example, AI could give everyday Americans tools to monitor who their elected representatives meet with, to analyze their voting records, to see who their campaign contributors are, to follow the lobbyists they are meeting with, to track what regulators are doing, and to participate meaningfully in the rulemaking processes that shape their lives. Together, these steps will strengthen democracy and enhance our capacity to promote a more stable, transparent, and inclusive financial system that supports broad-based economic growth, opportunity, and prosperity.

Thus, as outlined in green in the chart above, **AI could and should usher in an era that benefits everyone.** However, as the chart's red section indicates, without effective regulation, basic research, and investigation by neutral parties, there is danger of systems becoming ingrained into various parts of society that may be profitable to a few but have profound negative implications for the lives and livelihoods of all Americans. Preventing that outcome, and ensuring that everyone benefits from AI, is what a people-centered AI agenda is about.

A PEOPLE-CENTERED AI AGENDA

The foundation is being laid now for policies and practices that will play out in the coming years, regardless of changes in administration or industry developments. **Those in the industry who are focused on unfettered technological development, prioritizing profit maximization over everything else, have an army of lobbyists, PR specialists, and innumerable highly paid allies. The public does not.** With 15 years of high-profile advocacy and unique experience, Better Markets intends to oppose narrow, self-interested industry advocacy and advance a people-centered AI agenda.



A people-centered AI agenda strikes the right balance, recognizes, rewards, and incentivizes innovation, and puts the interests of Main Street workers, families, small businesses, and communities at the center of how AI is developed, deployed, and regulated. Such an agenda needs to address questions connected to the agenda's four pillars:

1. Who benefits when AI reshapes the economy?
2. Who gets the money, and on whose terms?
3. When the machine decides, who is responsible?
4. Who pays the bill for AI's implementation?

Each question raises the same concern: does a balanced approach lead to the use of AI that strengthens and improves the lives and livelihoods of all Americans? If not, something needs to change.

PILLAR 1
Growth & Jobs: Who Benefits When AI Reshapes the Economy?

AI is being sold as an engine of economic growth without addressing who that growth really benefits. If that growth flows mostly to owners, executives, and shareholders while workers are displaced, wages stagnate or decline, and communities lose their economic base, that is not beneficial to society; it is extraction.

This pillar examines how AI-driven economic growth is distributed; that is, whether productivity gains translate into broadly shared prosperity, or concentrate AI-driven gains at the top while workers, families, and communities absorb the costs. The answers are not predetermined and depend on many decisions that have not yet been made, will not emerge on their own, and will require an evidence base that largely does not yet exist.

AI is generating real economic value. The Penn Wharton Budget Model estimates that 40% of current GDP will be substantively affected by generative AI, leading to a 1.5% increase in U.S. productivity and GDP levels by 2035.[3] But many leaders building this technology are warning, in unusually blunt terms, that the gains may not be shared.

The warnings are coming from inside the house. Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei has predicted AI could spike unemployment to 10-20% within five years.[4] Microsoft's AI chief Mustafa Suleyman expects most white-collar computer tasks to be automated within 18 months.[5] JPMorgan CEO Jamie Dimon warns AI's impact may be a "big problem for society" and has called on government to help mitigate the harm.[6] Even OpenAI CEO Sam Altman—while acknowledging that some layoff claims are "AI washing"—expects the "real impact of AI doing jobs" to become "palpable" within the next few years.[7] These are not critics or regulators. These are the people building and deploying the technology, and they are telling us to prepare for the impact on the American workforce.

It is important to recognize that the job losses are not confined to the tech sector. AI-driven layoffs are already hitting finance, logistics, consulting, media, retail, and manufacturing: the sectors where working- and middle-class Americans earn their living, and where many get on the first rungs of the ladder to the American Dream.[8] At least eight companies have announced AI-related layoffs affecting 10,000 or more employees each, including Citigroup, Accenture, Amazon, and Dell.[9] What makes this moment distinctive is that these cuts are coming from firms posting record profits and eliminating workers while reporting gains to executives and shareholders.

The wage picture for impacted workers is deeply concerning, and the effects extend well beyond job loss. Goldman Sachs research analyzing four decades of displacement data found that workers displaced by technology suffer real-earnings losses of more than 3% upon reemployment and, over the ten years following a job loss, their earnings grow nearly 10 percentage points less than workers who were never displaced.[10] The effect is driven by displaced workers moving into more routine, lower-skill, lower-paying roles that often offer few if any benefits. In a country where 50% of the American people—roughly 165 million Americans—only own 2.5% of the wealth of the country, such down-scaling will have deep if not catastrophic economic, social, and political implications.

Meanwhile, workers with AI skills are earning a 56% wage premium, more than double the 25% premium just one year prior; however, those gains accrue to workers who already have the skills, not to the displaced.[11] Stanford economist Erik Brynjolfsson found that early-career workers (ages 22 to 25) in the most AI-exposed occupations experienced a 16% relative decline in employment after ChatGPT's release, a hit that has strongly negative implications for their long-term earning potential.[12] **The emerging picture is a labor market splitting in two:** those who can work with AI are rapidly and substantially pulling ahead, while those displaced by it face a quick decline and questionable chances to climb back. . . which, in the best case, will be a long, steep climb if they are able to climb back at all.

This is a bleak picture for the future of Main Street workers, their families, and communities, but it does not have to be that way. Thus, this pillar identifies which **workers are being displaced** inside and outside the tech sector, and in which communities; whether businesses are **reaping AI-related gains at workers' expense**; what happens to **wages and local economies** when displacement hits; and whether **training and reskilling** are enough to prevent the continued erosion of the American middle class.

PILLAR 1
Questions that Need Answers

These are the questions Better Markets will be investigating and demanding answers to on behalf of Main Street Americans:

- Are we building an AI economy that expands and strengthens America's working and middle classes, or one that accelerates their shrinkage or disappearance?
- Which workers and industries are bearing the brunt of AI-driven job displacement? What can we do for them given that retraining by itself is clearly not anywhere close to adequate for the scale of disruption underway?
- When AI drives record corporate productivity, do those gains actually go to workers and families, or to shareholders and executives?

PILLAR 2
Credit & Capital: Who Gets the Money, and on Whose Terms?

The economy and economic growth depend to a large degree on the flow of capital (remembering that "capital" is just a fancy word for money), whether the financial system works (or doesn't), and who it works for (or doesn't). The bottom line is we need more of finance to serve the real productive economy that creates broad-based wealth, rising living standards, and meaningful opportunities to achieve the American Dream.

This pillar's focus is on whether AI-driven financial activities, products and services will actually improve access to affordable, non-predatory capital for the people, families, and small businesses that need it most or whether the technology will deepen exclusion and wealth inequality, enable new forms of wealth extraction, and concentrate financial, economic, and political power in fewer hands.

Done right, AI in lending could be transformative for the people the current system has failed. Cash-flow underwriting—using actual income and spending patterns rather than credit scores alone—could open doors for the tens of millions of Americans who are credit-invisible or have thin files but strong repayment capacity. And faster, cheaper loan processing could reduce the cost of extending small-dollar credit to the borrowers and small businesses that need it most, potentially displacing the predatory lenders that currently fill that gap. The question is whether the industry will be held to standards that deliver on that promise or whether the technology will be deployed primarily to maximize profit extraction.

While the evidence so far is mixed at best, there are also real opportunities here to increase the availability of credit at more favorable rates to those who have been shut out and overcharged by the current system. For example, UC Berkeley researchers found that fintech lenders discriminated roughly 40% less than face-to-face lenders on mortgage rates for minority borrowers, precisely because removing the human interaction removed the opportunity for in-person bias.[13] The question is whether AI will build on that progress or introduce new, harder-to-detect forms of algorithmic exclusion at even greater scale.

But before the opportunities for progress from change can be realized, we must learn from the change AI has already brought. For example, in July 2025, the Massachusetts Attorney General settled with student loan company Earnest Operations for $2.5 million after finding that the company's AI underwriting model produced discriminatory outcomes for Black and Hispanic applicants by using cohort default rates from borrowers' colleges as an input—data that disproportionately penalized graduates of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, even applicants with strong credit scores.[14] The CFPB's January 2025 Supervisory Highlights reinforced the point at a systemic level, reporting that examinations of credit card and auto lenders found disparities in applicant outcomes from AI scoring models and that the institutions lacked compliance systems capable of even identifying the problem.[15]

But discrimination is only one dimension of the challenge. **AI-driven finance needs to expand access to helpful credit while reducing existing and new forms of predation.** This is all the more challenging because the growth of AI-powered fintech lending has coincided with the rapid proliferation of products that look less like traditional loans and more like digital forms of predatory payday lending. For example, "earned wage access" products—marketed as interest-free cash advances on future paychecks—have been characterized by at least twelve federal courts as loans, with one judge calling them "substantially similar" to payday loans.[16] In addition, "buy now, pay later" products, powered by AI underwriting that approves applicants in seconds, were used by around 15% of U.S. consumers in 2024, with the highest adoption rates among lower- and middle-income borrowers, Black and Hispanic adults, and women.[17] The concern is that AI-powered instant approvals make it frictionlessly easy to take on debt without adequate affordability checks and that the borrowers most likely to use these products are the ones least able to absorb the cost when payments stack up.

Meanwhile, the concentration of AI capability in the largest financial institutions is accelerating the consolidation of financial power. Community banks—the institutions most important to local communities—cannot match the data advantages and analytical capabilities of megabanks and nonbank lenders. **However, AI could actually help community banks level the playing field, make them more efficient and competitive, but that is not likely to happen on its own.**[18]

Right now, most of the trend lines point in one direction: more capital decisions made by algorithms deployed by institutions with fewer regulatory obligations, with less transparency about how those decisions are made, and a growing gap between the promise of AI-driven financial inclusion and the reality of who is actually being served.

PILLAR 2
Questions that Need Answers

These are the questions Better Markets will be investigating and demanding answers to on behalf of Main Street Americans:

- Is AI expanding access to credit for families and small businesses that need it most, or entrenching and automating the same patterns of exclusion that have always existed?
- Is AI improving the affordability of financial products and services? Or is it being used to extract wealth, conceal predatory conduct, and/or improperly exclude those otherwise qualified for those products and services?
- As megabanks build AI-driven data moats that community banks and credit unions cannot replicate, are we accelerating financial power consolidation in ways that leave Main Street families and local communities behind?

PILLAR 3

Transparency & Accountability: When the Machine Decides, Who Is Responsible?

"Agentic AI" systems are autonomous, making decisions and taking actions without real-time human oversight. **This pillar is about what happens when such systems make consequential financial decisions with no or minimal human involvement and, when things go wrong, who answers for it.** When these systems get it wrong—for example, by denying a claim, rejecting an application, or miscalculating risk—our legal system should hold accountable those who implemented these systems when people suffer crippling losses. But too many in the industry are trying to avoid this commonsense approach. Making liability clear before these systems become entrenched is key to a safe and well-functioning society, a financial system that serves society, and ensuring benefits beyond corporations rushing to maximize profits through AI deployment.

Roughly 47% of financial institutions are already testing AI agents, with their projected average AI spend reaching $177M in Q1 2026 (up from $133M in Q4 2025).[19] These systems have moved well beyond trading desks into consumer lending, insurance underwriting, claims processing, debt collection, and wealth management, often operated by nonbanks with minimal regulatory coverage.

The appeal is clear: agentic AI can process loan applications in minutes rather than weeks, detect fraud in real time, and provide personalized financial guidance at a fraction of the cost of human advisors. When these systems work as intended, they can expand financial service access, reduce costs, and improve outcomes for consumers. **But the speed that makes them valuable is also what makes accountability so urgent, because when they get it wrong, the damage can scale just as fast as the benefit.**

The accountability challenge is not hypothetical. Consider Upstart, the AI lending platform that connects consumers to more than 100 banks and credit unions. Upstart touts that over 90% of loans originated through its platform are fully automated with no human intervention whatsoever.[20] In March 2026, Upstart applied to the OCC for a national bank charter, seeking to become, in its CTO's words, "the first bank built from the ground up on AI."[21] But a years-long independent fair lending monitorship of Upstart's models, conducted by civil-rights and fair-lending law firm Relman Colfax, found approval rate disparities for Black applicants that were "statistically and practically significant," and Upstart refused to adopt an alternative model that would reduce those disparities.[22] The challenges this case poses are clear and fundamental: when an autonomous system produces discriminatory outcomes at scale, who is liable and who has the authority to require change? While our legal system can address these questions if reasonable people prevail, new and creative solutions are required to balance consumer protection and the interests of financial institutions looking to grow their technologically driven offerings.

In capital markets, the systemic risks are even more acute. Algorithmic trading now accounts for 60-70% of all trades, and an October 2025 crypto flash crash triggered $19.3 billion in forced liquidations and wiped out approximately 1.6 million accounts within an hour after simultaneous algorithmic selloffs.[23] No single entity bore responsibility for the cascading failure. The danger is not just individual

losses but systemic contagion: when multiple institutions rely on similar AI-driven strategies trained on the same data, they can produce correlated behavior through buying and selling in lockstep that amplifies market shocks rather than absorbing them.

In addition, Oxford researchers have documented that agentic AI in financial simulations exhibits behaviors that no one programmed—including price collusion and market manipulation—and that traditional oversight is not designed to detect.[24] **Left on their own, who knows the havoc AI agents can reap on financial markets and whether we are prepared for the subsequent financial stability shock.**

In consumer banking more broadly, the accountability gray area is widening. The CFPB's Winter 2025 Supervisory Highlights found that AI-driven credit scoring models at banks were producing loan denials that the institutions themselves could not explain as required by law.[25] When a machine learning model with thousands of interacting variables denies a loan, and even its creators cannot trace the decision to a single identifiable cause, the question of who is accountable has no settled legal answer.

The regulatory framework has not kept pace. When the Federal Reserve, OCC, and FDIC jointly issued updated model risk management guidance in April 2026 (SR 26-2), they explicitly excluded generative and agentic AI from its scope, stating these technologies are "novel and rapidly evolving" and promising a separate request for information at a later date.[26] Banks are left to self-govern AI risk with no formal rulebook at precisely the moment these systems are making consequential decisions about people's financial lives. Policymakers and regulators abdicating their responsibilities is not the answer and only guarantees bigger problems later.

Closing this accountability gap before the damage compounds is essential, and not just for Main Street workers, families, and communities. The industry's self-interest should compel them to work collaboratively on solutions, because otherwise there will inevitably be a disaster that will result in a popular outcry and likely over-regulation that will serve no one. The last thing anyone should want to see is pendulum-policymaking swinging wildly from laissez faire non-regulation to over-regulation and back again. Thus, the issue is not whether to allow AI in financial services (that is already an irreversible reality), but how to include appropriate transparency, accountability, and liability standards that we expect of human decision-makers.

PILLAR 3
Questions that Need Answers

These are the questions Better Markets will be investigating and demanding answers to on behalf of Main Street Americans:

- When an agentic AI system makes a consequential financial decision about your life and gets it wrong, which law applies, which agency enforces it, and who do you call?
- Are the fiduciary and consumer protection standards that govern human financial advisors being applied to the AI systems replacing them? If not, why not?
- How do we ensure adequate and timely transparency throughout agentic AI creation, deployment, and improvement so that oversight and accountability can be embedded from the start and not evaded throughout its life cycle?

PILLAR 4

Balancing Transition Gains & Costs: Who Pays the Bill for AI's Implementation?

Every technological transformation imposes costs, but those costs rarely fall on those capturing the gains. By shifting those costs to others, those benefiting from technological transformation artificially inflate their gains. Think of a new technology that results in a factory being built like when Henry Ford developed the assembly line for the newfangled automobiles! Those factories often created all sorts of waste that were expensive to properly dispose of, like chemicals. Too often, factory owners decided to save the money and just dump the waste into a nearby river—in fact, many intentionally located their factories on a river for that very purpose. Their profits were inflated as a result, but those using the river suffered the health costs and taxpayers paid for the cleanup. **This pillar examines the concrete, measurable costs of AI's buildout that are being shifted onto the public and the inadequacy of the safety net available to those who bear those costs.**

The same dynamic is playing out with AI infrastructure. Data centers require staggering amounts of electricity, and these costs are being passed to hardworking Americans. For example, Bloom Energy projects that U.S. data center energy demand will nearly double between 2025 and 2028.[27] A Bloomberg analysis also found that areas near data centers experienced wholesale electricity prices surge as much as 267% over five years.[28] In 2025, electric and natural gas bills have become the two largest drivers of inflation, with utility rate-hike requests more than doubling to a record-high $31 billion.[29] These costs are regressive: they fall hardest on lower-income and working-class households, who are least likely to benefit from the AI services the infrastructure supports.

Communities are pushing back. Between March and June 2025, community opposition led to twenty data center projects amounting to a combined $98 billion being blocked or delayed.[30] A Consumer Reports survey found that 78% of Americans are concerned data centers will raise their energy bills.[31] Lawmakers in more than 25 states have introduced bills on data center issues in 2026.[32]

But energy costs are only one dimension. **Workers displaced by AI face a government safety net that was never designed for the scale or speed of this disruption** and the U.S. unemployment insurance system reaches a shrinking share of the unemployed, as nearly 75% of eligible Americans do not apply for benefits.[33] For those who do receive benefits, the average duration covers only 26 weeks in most states. . . far less time than the retraining timeline research shows is needed, and that was long before anyone foresaw how AI will transform the economy. In addition, previously displaced workers who enrolled in retraining suffered depressed earnings for two full years before seeing modest gains.[34]

Making these costs visible is the first step toward ensuring the winners do not get to artificially inflate their profits by shifting costs onto families, communities, ratepayers, displaced workers, taxpayers, and the government.

PILLAR 4

Questions that Need Answers

These are the questions Better Markets will be investigating and demanding answers to on behalf of Main Street Americans:

- AI data centers are projected to consume an enormous share of U.S. electricity, requiring many electric grids to build out their infrastructure to meet the growing energy demands. Who is actually paying for that infrastructure, and are ordinary ratepayers subsidizing private AI profits?
- When tech companies build massive data centers in communities, what obligations do they have to those communities? Are local governments equipped to negotiate fair terms?
- As workers are replaced by companies using AI to boost their profits, how can an adequate and appropriate portion of those gains be redirected to addressing those costs? How do we ensure that the gains are not artificially inflated by avoiding the costs imposed on others?

HISTORY TEACHES US THE TIME IS NOW

Every major technological transformation in American history has followed a sadly familiar pattern: corporations rush to develop, deploy, and maximize profits from new technology, largely indifferent to or in denial about the costs imposed on others. Indeed, it is usually accompanied by vociferous, albeit evidence-free, claims that, whatever the development is, it is also in the public interest and will benefit everyone without accounting for the winners and losers of the technology's growth.

For example, when computers automated factories in the 1980s, the college wage premium surged 50% while real wages for workers without degrees fell. When trade deals sent manufacturing overseas starting in the 1990s, 2.4 million American jobs vanished in communities that still have not recovered. When the internet wiped out entire occupations, it created enormous wealth for a handful of companies while displacing workers into lower-paying service jobs. **In every case, the gains went to the top, the costs fell on working families and the middle class, and the government's response came too late and did too little.**

The American middle class has been shrinking for four decades. AI threatens to accelerate that trend, and for the first time it is not just factory workers and clerks at risk, but the broad middle class: writers, coders, financial analysts, paralegals, designers, accountants, consultants, and virtually everyone in middle management. Even engineers, investment bankers, and lawyers are seeing all or key parts of their work automated.

The question is not whether AI will create winners and losers. It will. The challenge is whether the public interest will have a seat at the table when the rules are written or whether, as in previous eras, that seat will be empty until it is too late.

BETTER MARKETS IS FILLING THIS SEAT

Better Markets has the staff, expertise, track record, independence, fearlessness, and conviction to fight for a people-centered AI economy that works for everyone, not just the winners of the AI race. As our track record demonstrates, what makes us an effective advocate on AI is that we bring four things to the table that few organizations can claim at once:

- We understand how the economy works and what that means for people's lives;
- We understand the financial system, its activities, culture, products, services, and delivery systems;
- We understand how AI technology is being built and deployed; and
- We understand how power in Washington works, which policy levers can produce progress and results, and ways to deliver a people-centered AI agenda that benefits Main Street Americans and not just concentrated gains for those at the top.

That's how you fight to ensure that change results in progress for the many and not just the few.

PROGRAM LEAD

Better Markets' AI program is led by Evan LeFlore, Better Markets' inaugural Director of AI, Innovation, and Economic Opportunity. Evan is one of the few people in Washington who has built consumer finance products at a large tech firm and spearheaded AI policy work at a financial regulator, which means he can tell you not just what the policy levers are and how the technology actually works, but also where the gaps and opportunities are.

With over a decade of experience at the Federal Reserve, Evan most recently led the Board of Governors' medium-term supervisory and regulatory policy agenda while serving as its point person on the implications of generative AI and quantum computing on the financial system as well as the topic of financial inclusion. At Google he helped launch products including Google Pay and Google Finance, and he previously worked at Promontory Financial Group and the U.S. Treasury. He holds an MBA from Stanford, an MPA from Princeton, and a B.S. from Haverford College.

"Better Markets has spent 15 years fighting across every major financial policy area in Washington that impacts the ecnomic lives of everyday Americans. AI presents the most consequential economic questions of this generation. Our people-centered agenda brings that same fight to this moment."

EVAN LEFLORE | BETTER MARKETS | DIRECTOR OF AI, INNOVATION, & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

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— ENDNOTES —

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