KEY TAKEAWAYS

Drivers of Economic Inequality

In this chapter, Sharan Burrow makes the case for centring people and the planet in all aspects of decision-making be that in governance, business models, or societal values.

1. While business inherently carries risks, the failure to share the wealth generated from labour and profits contributes to a society where only a few benefit, leading to the dehumanising exploitation of workers, their communities, and the environment.

2. Research shows that 94% of workers in supply chains are 'hidden', with CEOs often unaware of the exploitation, poverty wages, and unsafe conditions these workers endure.

3. Governments, trapped in a pursuit of foreign direct investment, often accept the exploitation of their people, in exchange for 'trickle-down' wealth. This approach fails to provide sustainable development, skills enhancement, and equitable nation-building.