



Human Scale Revisited

A New Look at the Classic Case
for a Decentralist Future

Kirkpatrick Sale

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The Antidote to the Modern Age of Big Everything

“An erudite, impassioned, and incisive critique of industrial systems with an elegant appeal for the human dimension in everything we build and make.”

—**NEW STATESMAN** on *Human Scale*

Big government, big business, big everything: Kirkpatrick Sale confronted giantism in his 1980 classic, *Human Scale*.

In this timely revision, Sale details how the crises that imperil modern society are the inevitable result of bigness grown out of control, and he makes an impassioned case for bringing human endeavors back to scales we can comprehend and manage—from buildings to self-governance.

Like *Small is Beautiful* by E. F. Schumacher, *Human Scale* is a lodestar of modern decentralist thought and communitarian values. And this revised edition breathes new life into a concept that is needed now, more than ever.

Sale takes readers to a time when buildings were scaled to the human figure (as was the Parthenon), democracies were scaled to the societies they served, and economies were scaled to communities. Against that backdrop, he dissects the bigger-is-better paradigm that defines our modern times and outlines how we can return these core elements of society to human scale.

Rewritten to interpret the past few decades, *Human Scale Revisited* offers compelling new insights on how to turn away from giantism and toward a scale that allows humanity to survive, if not thrive.



Kirkpatrick Sale is a prolific scholar and author of more than a dozen books—including *Human Scale*, *Rebels Against the Future*, and *After Eden: The Evolution of Human Domination*. He has been described as the “leader of the Neo-Luddites,” is one of the pioneers of the bioregional movement, and throughout his career has been a regular contributor to *The Nation*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *CounterPunch*, *Lew Rockwell*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *The Utne Reader*, which named him one of 100 living visionaries. Sale is currently the director of the political think tank the Middlebury Institute for the study of secession, and self-determination.