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The *Evolution of Retirement* is the first comprehensive economic history of retirement in America. With life expectancies steadily increasing, the retirement rate of men over age 64 has risen drastically. Dora L. Costa looks at factors underlying this increase and shows the dramatic implications of her findings for both the general public and the U.S. government. Using statistical, and demographic concepts, Costa sheds light on such important topics as rising incomes and retirement, work and disease, the job prospects of older workers, living arrangements of the elderly, the development of a retirement lifestyle, and pensions and politics.

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Dora L. Costa is the Ford Career Development Associate Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a faculty research fellow of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

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