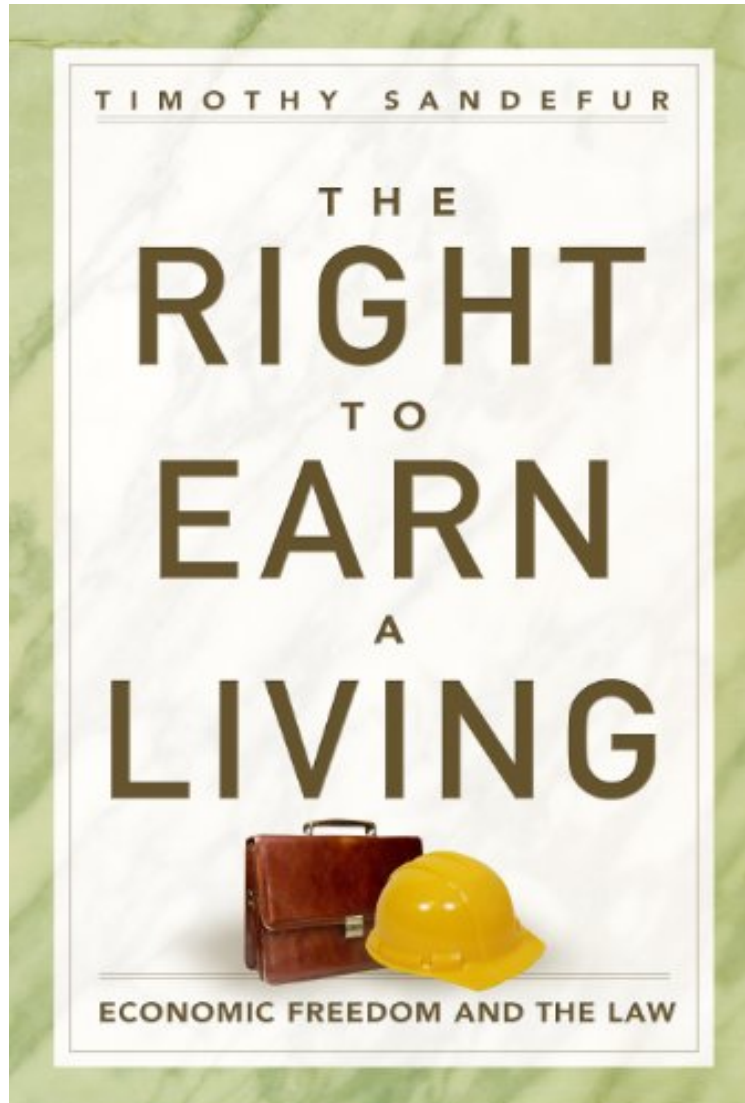


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The Right to Earn a Living: Economic Freedom and the Law

Timothy Sandefur

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Timothy Sandefur : The Right to Earn a Living: Economic Freedom and the Law before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Right to Earn a Living: Economic Freedom and the Law:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The most non-ideological right. By Warren Norred Politicians of all stripes need to understand that the most fundamental right of all is too little discussed, and too often ignored completely. This book goes over this issue with great examples to explain why government is too often the cause of unemployment and handicapped economies. 25 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book! By J. L. This book is an incredibly informative read. It points out all the defects in regulatory, licensing AND even common

law that inhibit our ability to make our living as we see fit and how applying these laws limit the ability of business, large and small, to employ new workers. Unfortunately, the present political and cultural climate is deeply ignorant of how these regulations have secondary, ripple effects. Timothy Sandefur points out what those ripple effects are and how harmful they can be. In short, this regulatory regime caps everyone's potential and is an impediment to pursuing our happiness. In more extreme language, the current system violates our human rights. On a side note I found it refreshing that this book points to the fact that we cannot look to the past for some golden age of economic liberty because it never existed. The idea of economic freedom is indeed for the future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Really Good Constitutional Law Analysis of The Destruction of a Fundamental Right By Dwight The right to earn a living was a fundamental right in American jurisprudence before the coming of the progressive change in legal theory. This is the basis of this book. It is well written and referenced, and thus is a scholarly work that anyone interested in law and economics should read.

America's founders thought the right to earn a living was so basic and obvious that it didn't need to be mentioned in the Bill of Rights. Yet today that right is burdened by a wide array of government rules and regulations that play favorites, rewrite contracts, encourage frivolous lawsuits, seize private property, and manipulate economic choices to achieve outcomes that bureaucrats favor. The Right to Earn a Living charts the history of this fundamental human right, from the constitutional system that was designed to protect it by limiting government's powers, to the Civil War Amendments that expanded protection to all Americans, regardless of race. It then focuses on the Progressive-era judges who began to erode those protections, and concludes with today's controversies over abusive occupational licensing laws, freedom of speech in advertising, regulatory takings, and much more.

"Expertly weaving legal history with contemporary events, Sandefur shows how [today's] shameful state of affairs violates the text and history of the Constitution and contradicts some five centuries of Anglo-American precedent.... It's certainly not a happy story, but if you want to understand today's illiberal legal landscape and how it got that way, this eloquent and carefully researched book is a perfect place to start." -- Damon Root, Reason magazine "The Right to Earn a Living does a superlative job of documenting government infringements on our economic liberties and the immense difficulty citizens encounter when attempting to defend their rights. Readers will be astonished to learn of the countless ways in which, for no good reason at all, the government gets in the way of our economic prosperity." -- Roger Lott, Washington Times "Tim Sandefur's The Right to Earn a Living is, so far as I can judge, a flawless, superb discussion of how a proper understanding of American constitutional law implies that in this country everyone has a basic right to earn a living." -- Tibor Machan, The Orange County Register