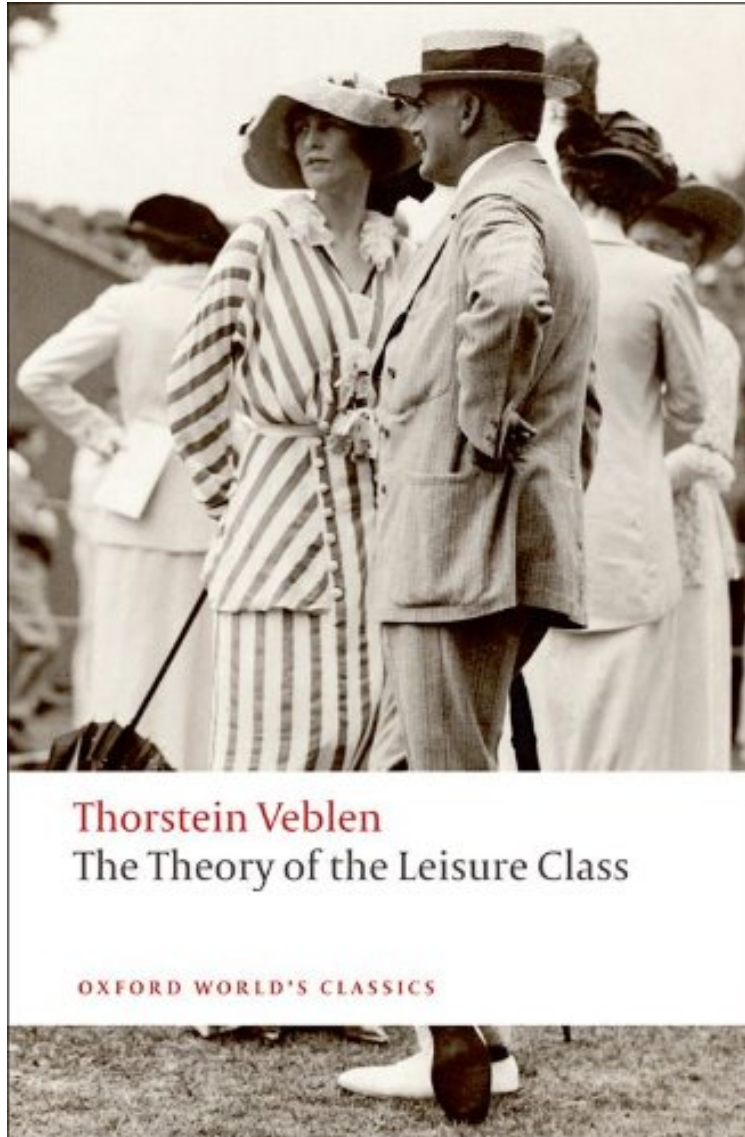


(Ebook free) The Theory of the Leisure Class (Oxford World's Classics)

The Theory of the Leisure Class (Oxford World's Classics)

Thorstein Veblen

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



 Download

 Read Online

#731174 in eBooks 2007-10-11 2007-10-11 File Name: B005PUWS7S | File size: 31.Mb

Thorstein Veblen : The Theory of the Leisure Class (Oxford World's Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Theory of the Leisure Class (Oxford World's Classics):

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Occypy Wall Street read this book!By Nancy L. BrownClearly delineates the two figures on the historical horizon: the earlier, "savage" man (or woman - Veblen regards women as those responsible for humanity's progress in food) who labors, admires craftsmanship, and, the later "barbaric" man: the predator who, by force and fraud, seizes and controls the usufruct to the detriment of the underlying population. In

the semi-peaceful modern period, the barbarian is the pecuniary (monied) class, the businessmen and vested interests who seek a profit, as opposed to the technologists and laborers in charge of the actual production of goods. The profit comes usually at the sabotage of production, and is a matter of salesmanship, not technological knowledge. In this book Veblen paints the mindset of the pecuniary class: make believe: an anthropomorphic god, gradations in rank, and a showing of status by Not Working: conspicuous leisure, conspicuous waste, so that those who actually do work will find work "irksome" due to an envious comparison with the non-worker. With this book you'll learn why we have lawns rather than urban gardens, why sports and entertainment are so highly valued, why people hunt, why no one picks up garbage in a public place, why stock market crashes are the rule rather than the exception, why women paint their nails and bind their feet, and why there are priests even today. The man who predicted the stock market crash of 1929 and the world war to follow World War One, presents to you his very first book. Also, those who wish to improve their vocabulary and the grammar of an argument could not find a better teacher. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good research material. By Jeremy Jones The best deconstructed treatment of this topic from this period that I have found. A good read for anyone interested in understanding the origins of modern materialism and consumerism. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By James F. Comer A very entertaining and thought-provoking classic.

'Conspicuous consumption of valuable goods is a means of reputability to the gentleman of leisure.' In *The Theory of the Leisure Class* Thorstein Veblen sets out 'to discuss the place and value of the leisure class as an economic factor in modern life'. In so doing he produced a landmark study of affluent American society that exposes, with brilliant ruthlessness, the habits of production and waste that link invidious business tactics and barbaric social behaviour. Veblen's analysis of the evolutionary process sees greed as the overriding motive in the modern economy; with an impartial gaze he examines the human cost paid when social institutions exploit the consumption of unessential goods for the sake of personal profit. Fashion, beauty, animals, sports, the home, the clergy, scholars - all are assessed for their true usefulness and found wanting. The targets of Veblen's scorching satire are as evident today as they were a century ago, and his book still has the power to shock and enlighten. Veblen's uncompromising arguments and the influential literary force of his writing are assessed in Martha Banta's Introduction. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

About the Author Thorstein Veblen (1857-1929) was perhaps the most famous American economist and social critic of his time. He taught at the universities of Chicago and Missouri, Stanford University, and the New School for Social Research. His many books include *The Theory of Business Enterprise*, *The Higher Learning in America*, and *The Theory of the Leisure Class*, all available from Transaction.