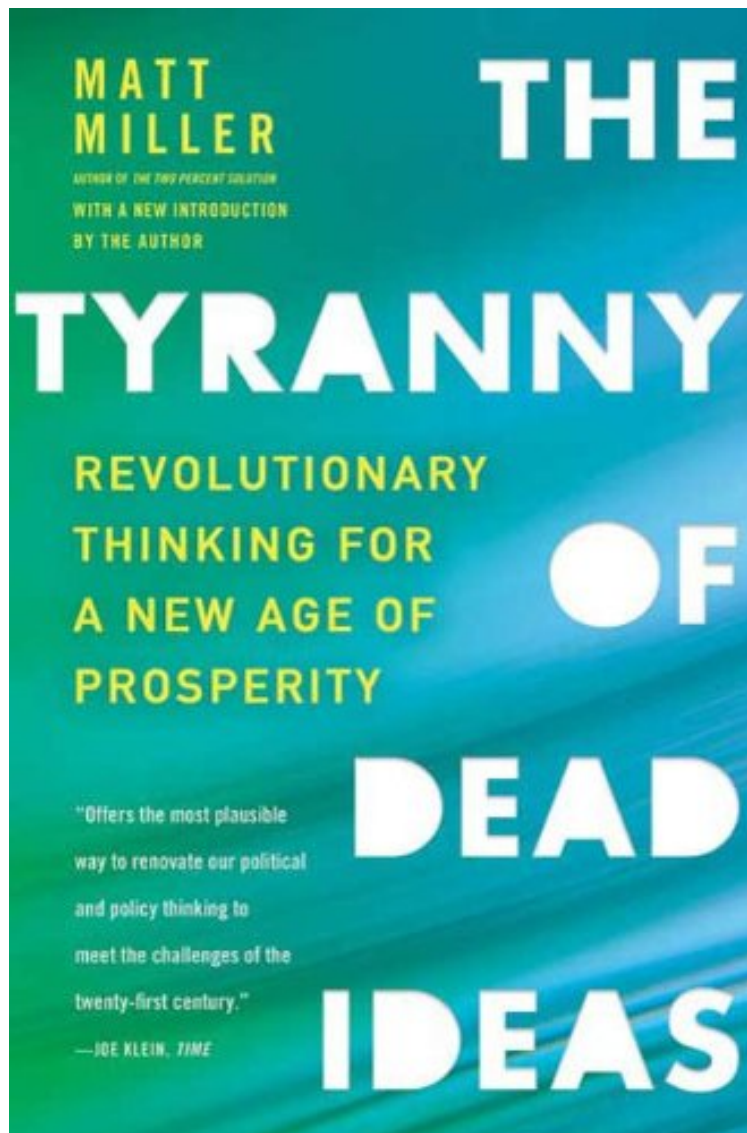


(Free read ebook) The Tyranny of Dead Ideas: Letting Go of the Old Ways of Thinking to Unleash a New Prosperity

The Tyranny of Dead Ideas: Letting Go of the Old Ways of Thinking to Unleash a New Prosperity

Matt Miller

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Matt Miller : The Tyranny of Dead Ideas: Letting Go of the Old Ways of Thinking to Unleash a New Prosperity before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Tyranny of Dead Ideas: Letting Go of the Old Ways of Thinking to Unleash a New Prosperity:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Discussion Starters By Timothy Haugh With a title like The Tyranny of Dead Ideas, obviously chosen to be provocative, there is an expectation that this book will contain something about

which everyone will be irritated. In that, Mr. Miller does not disappoint. And that is not necessarily a bad thing. Though I find some of his ideas a bit over-the-top, I appreciate his willingness to think beyond. Certainly, most of the ideas Miller identifies as "dead" should be given consideration. As a longtime educator, I agree that there needs to be some set of national standards to guide our school systems. And he's right on target when he spells out something we all know viscerally but don't want to admit: that money follows money, not merit. I also think he's got some good things to say about corporate life, taxes, and free trade. On the other hand, I think he's quick to abandon some things that we would be better off trying to maintain. For example, though Miller is correct in his analysis of the falling standard of living of the current generation, I think that working towards having our kids do better than ourselves is an idea worth supporting, even if what that looks like in the future is somehow different. I also think there is a balance to find in concepts like free trade, what our companies should be doing for us, and even what local control school boards keep. Handing everything over to the federal government is not the solution either. In many ways, Miller is fundamentally correct: too many "dead" ideas, entrenched so long in our culture that we can conceive of no other path, are stifling our future. He also seems fairly balanced in his approach, though that is sometimes lost in his desire to shake us from our complacency. Without a doubt, much of what he has to say will get passed over in the strictly drawn lines of what passes for public dialogue in America today; however, Mr. Miller puts a lot of things in front of us in this book that are worth discussing. Hopefully, the conversation will continue.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. You Can See It Happening Now! By klipper Excellent Read. I read the original on Kindle and so had not read the paperback introduction. If I had I would not have purchased the book. I am a Libertarian and this is not a lefty book, although you gather the author has such leanings as he excoriates the premise behind each Dead Idea. This is an in-depth analysis of common sense observations on beliefs formed over generations. Lewis' insight allows easy parallels with today's economic problems. Globalization has not benefited the entire economy. The children will generally not surpass their parents economically and we may all have to settle for a lower standard of living. Yet Wall Street continues to pay out huge bonuses. Through several examples, Lewis shows us why money does not follow merit - but underneath, we already knew this, didn't we? 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Easy read. Much already included in The 2% Solution By Jonathan Zucker This is a great book that spells out how the parameters of our debate on current policy needs to be expanded. Right now we are playing a game of chicken where policy makers are only interested in a game of "Gotcha". These same people, however, are willing to admit in private that certain actions are absolutely needed but are fearful of the repercussions if they were to utter them in public. However, without the political courage of politicians to frame our situation adequately we all run the real risk of driving our economic machine right off the cliff. Left, Right, Center... economic reality is coming whether we like it or not. We all better get used to some old/new unsettling news.

A leading political and business thinker identifies the greatest threat to our economic future: the things we think we know-but don't America is at a crossroads. In the face of global competition and rapid technological change, our economy is about to face its most severe test in nearly a century-one that will make the recent turmoil in the financial system look like a modest setback by comparison. Yet our leaders have failed to prepare us for what lies ahead because they are in the grip of a set of "dead ideas" about how a modern economy should work. They wrongly believe that- Our kids will earn more than we do- Free trade is always good, no matter who gets hurt - Employers should be responsible for health coverage - Taxes hurt the economy- Schools are a local matter - Money follows merit These ways of thinking-dubious at best and often dead wrong-are on a collision course with economic developments that are irre-versible. In *The Tyranny of Dead Ideas*, Matt Miller offers a unique blend of insights from history, psychology, and economics to illuminate where today's destructive conventional wisdom came from and how it holds our country back. He also introduces us to a new way of thinking-what he calls "tomorrow's destined ideas"-that can reinvigorate our economy, our politics, and our day-to-day lives. These destined ideas may seem counterintuitive now, but they will coalesce in the coming years in ways that will transform America. A strikingly original assessment of our current dilemma and an indispensable guide to our future, Miller's provocative and path-breaking book reveals why it is urgent that we break the tyranny of dead ideas, for it is only by doing so that we can move beyond the limits of today's obsolete debates and reinvent American capitalism and democracy for the twenty-first century.

From Publishers Weekly If Fortune columnist Miller's eerily prophetic book had come out earlier, it could have served as a wakeup call for Wall Street leaders and Washington, D.C. lawmakers before the failure of several venerable financial institutions required government bailouts. The author's prescient observations make a persuasive case for how an American attitude of entitlement and outdated beliefs about government, education, taxes, business, corporate excess and health care threaten our national well-being and our position as a world leader. The author denounces such cherished and longstanding beliefs as *Your Company Should Take Care of You*, and *The Kids Will Earn More than We Do*, and examines their historical provenances; for example, he traces the adoption of pensions to the early 20th century, when employers like Proctor and Gamble and G.E. acted as feudal lords offering benefits to recruit and retain employees; strategies that are now strangling these same corporations at the expense of global

competitiveness. Rather than a petulant indictment of our political and economic myopia, this book offers a fair-handed critique. (Jan.) Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Miller, consultant and author, describes the threat that America faces from the traditional way it thinks about certain economic issues ("Dead Ideas") and suggests new ways of thinking ("Destined Ideas") to ensure our future prosperity. Dead Ideas include corporate America's desire to stop providing health care and pensions to its workforce, which will leave millions unprotected; and since aging baby boomers will cause the government's health and pension costs to explode, we cannot manage this reality by raising taxes to a level that destroys economic growth. The author contends only top business executives can spearhead new ideas since power-driven politicians are incapable of such leadership. We learn, "In an era when more change is expected to occur in the next thirty years than in the previous three hundred, the skill and speed with which people cope . . . will be the key to success; those slow to adapt will be punished faster and more harshly." This is an excellent book for a wide range of library patrons. --Mary Whaley "Matt Miller writes and thinks with amazing clarity about some of the most difficult problems this country is facing. The Tyranny of Dead Ideas offers the most plausible way to renovate our political and policy thinking to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century -- if we have the guts to go forward. This is must reading for the next president and for anyone who wants to be a creative citizen in a difficult time." --Joe Klein, political columnist, Time "This book will make you the most valuable contributor to your next workplace discussion of politics or the economy. Matt Miller explains the history of ideas in a way that forces fresh insights about the future. I feel smarter already." --Chip Heath, author of Made to Stick: Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die "With crisp prose and compelling arguments, Matt Miller overturns orthodoxies left and right. Whatever your political persuasion, you will agree that The Tyranny of Dead Ideas is a tour de force -- the rare book that can reshape the national agenda." --Daniel H. Pink, author of A Whole New Mind "To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln, our times are piled high with difficulty, and just as we must act anew we must think anew. Matt Miller is one of those few, invaluable voices who is able to reach beyond the truisms of yesterday to help us think anew about tomorrow. I warmly recommend his pathbreaking new book The Tyranny of Dead Ideas." --David Gergen, director of the Center for Public Leadership, Harvard University, and senior political analyst, CNN "In The Tyranny of Dead Ideas, Matt Miller drives a bulldozer into the complacent conventional wisdoms of our society, including the desirability of free trade, of paternalistic corporations, and even of low taxes. You need not agree with every idea to be invigorated by Miller's bold and original vision." --Philip K. Howard, author of The D...