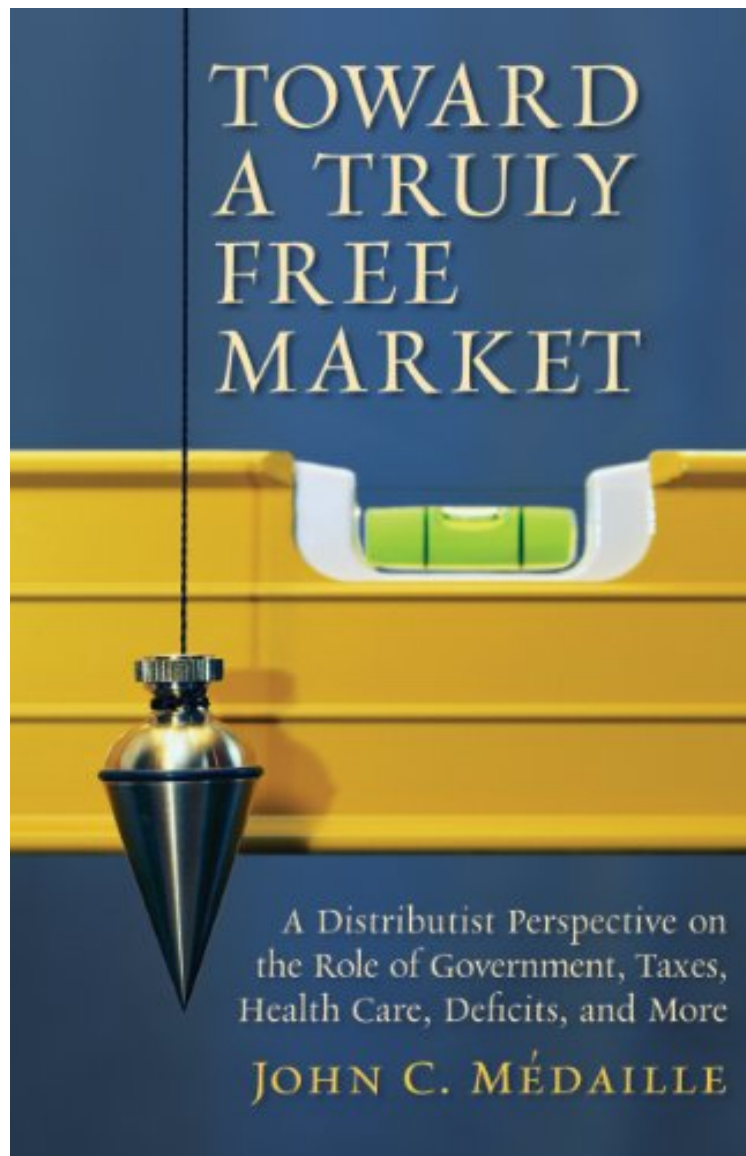


[Mobile ebook] Toward a Truly Free Market: A Distributist Perspective on the Role of Government, Taxes, Health Care, Deficits, and More

Toward a Truly Free Market: A Distributist Perspective on the Role of Government, Taxes, Health Care, Deficits, and More

John Medaille

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John Medaille : Toward a Truly Free Market: A Distributist Perspective on the Role of Government, Taxes, Health Care, Deficits, and More before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Toward a Truly Free Market: A Distributist Perspective on the Role of Government, Taxes, Health Care, Deficits, and More:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The answer to income inequality By J. D. JANSEN So, Thomas Piketty has created a firestorm of debate over income inequality. But the flaw of capitalism was foreseen a century ago by GK Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc. John Medaille presents his modern take on distributism in "Toward a Truly Free Market". Mr Medaille lays out the fatal flaw in capitalism, that capital is overcompensated compared to labor. This was the great "discovery" by Thomas Piketty and modern progressives, but common sense and observation informs us that this is the case without needing 700 pages of statistics (though there is value in analysis, which I praised Piketty for providing). In addition, the increased concentration of capital leads to an alliance with big government, the opposite of what one would expect from capitalist theory, but exactly what we see in practice. The problem is that the concentration of capital leads to periodic imbalances, creating recessions. Over the past 70-80 years governments responded by increased spending to prop up and "clear" the markets. As Mr Medaille demonstrates this has helped to smooth out the imbalances inherent in capitalism. Unfortunately, central governments never have the political will to cut spending in good times, leading to ever enlarging debts. We may have reached the natural extent of this Keynesian policy as we have seen in the recent "Great Recession" which has been the slowest recovery since the Great Depression. The answer to the problem of increased inequality and enlarging debts (public and private) is distributism. Unlike re-distribution which puts the power into the hands of the central government to manage the economy, distributism seeks wider ownership of capital, so that employees are also the owners of capital, and take part in the profits due to capital. Another key concept is the "just wage" which means that individuals should earn a sufficient wage to live in dignity without reliance on government transfers or credit. The good news is that distributism has been tried successfully, and Medaille spends some time detailing these experiences. He also lays out some explicit ideas about government, basically shrinking the size and power of the central government, and shifting more control locally or to end users. Some of his ideas on taxation are unlikely to happen because they are so revolutionary and the entrenched interests would certainly be against them. However, I think there are politicians who would be amenable to the small government arguments, and I think government could certainly play a role in making distributist enterprises the preferred way of organizing businesses. I think everyone interested in the economy and inequalities of income and capital should read this book, and hopefully these ideas can become part of the debate, rather than just the spiral of increased power in the hands of the oligarchy.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The sad part about this book is that while it offers ... By E. A. Hara John Medaille not only shows the weakness which is inherent in the Capitalist system, he offers remedies which are already making a difference in many lives in various parts of the world. Perhaps the most well-known example of Distributist successes is that of the Mondragon Cooperative in Spain, a large conglomerate of employee-owned (as opposed to being owned by faceless bureaucrats) businesses which has a net worth of some \$43 billion dollars. While right-wing blowhards such as Mark Levin say that Capitalism is the only system which has ever shown success in elevating people out of poverty, the Mondragon Cooperative puts that lie to rest. Professor Medaille takes each sector of our lives which have been negatively impacted by Capitalism and gives the Distributist answer to it. I found most interesting his chapter on economics and the government wherein he shows how to make drastic cuts in the over-bloated and sinking economy of the United States while at the same time doing little damage to the structures which are already in place. The sad part about this book is that while it offers a true change for the good of all people, the corporate fat cats in this and other countries will fight to the death to keep their bloated bank accounts and controls over the rest of us wage-slaves. When I spoke with Professor Medaille, he said that the changes in the economy can come in either one of two ways - people see the wisdom of Distributism and begin a slow change to that system, or the whole Capitalist system, propped up for decades by government bail-outs and tax breaks, comes crashing down and creates a complete economic meltdown. One can only hope that if the latter happens, people will realize what caused it and not turn back to Capitalism nor the failed experiment called Socialism. Learn the things that are in this book and spread the Distributist message. It is the only hope we have left.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Level the Plumb Line By Settler Highly down to earth! In answering fundamental questions concerning the purpose and place of economic thought, John Medaille presents a compelling explanation and defense of distributism in theory and practice. Answering the charges that distributism is romantic, impractical, and untested, he marshals solid historical analysis, present day examples of distributism, and workable prescriptions for what ails the economy. If you can gift a capitalist just one book on distributism, this would be the one.

For three decades free-market leaders have tried to reverse longstanding Keynesian economic policies, but have only produced larger government, greater debt, and more centralized economic power. So how can we achieve a truly free-market system, especially at this historical moment when capitalism seems to be in crisis? The answer, says John C. Medaille, is to stop pretending that economics is something on the order of the physical sciences; it must be a humane science, taking into account crucial social contexts. *Toward a Truly Free Market* argues that any attempt to divorce economic equilibrium from economic equity will lead to an unbalanced economy; one that falls either to ruin or to ruinous government attempts to redress the balance. In *Toward a Truly Free Market*, Medaille not only points out the problems, but also offers viable solutions, showing how we can: *Slash the federal budget by half* *Reduce the tax code from nine million words to a couple of pages* *Drastically curb the*

government's sprawling bureaucracyManage natural resources safely, while cutting the budget in halfEnd the bailoutsReally reform the health care systemAnd much moreInns;Toward a Truly Free Market, Meac;uille makes a refreshingly clear case for the economic theorydash;and practicemdash;known as distributism. Unlike many of his fellow distributists, who argue primarily from moral terms, Meac;uille enters the economic debate on purely economic terms.