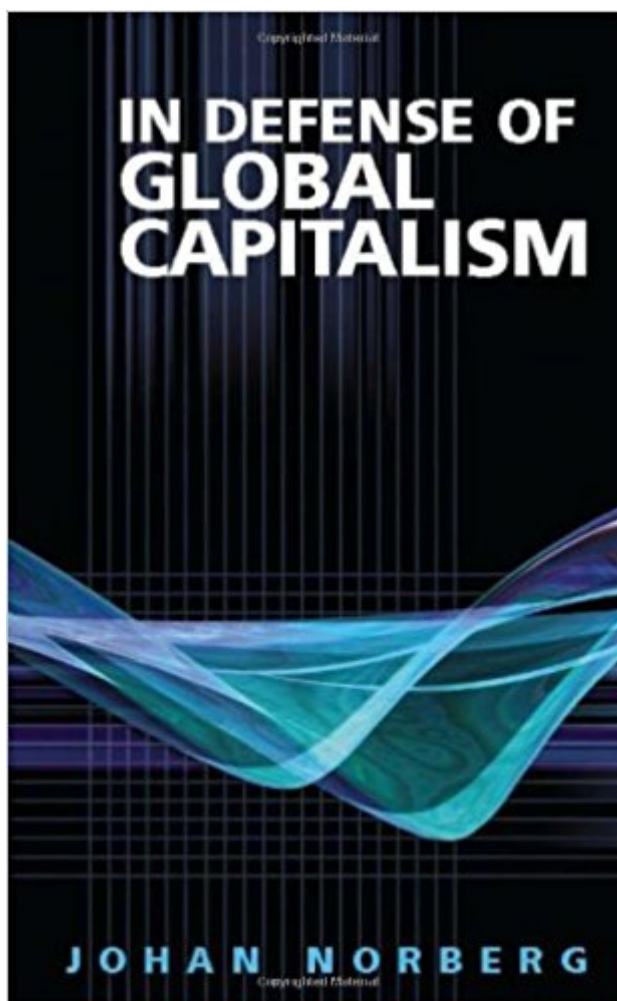


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In Defense Of Global Capitalism



Synopsis

Marshalling facts and the latest research findings, the author systematically refutes the adversaries of globalization, markets, and progress. This book will change the debate on globalization in this country and make believers of skeptics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It is a young man's book, addressed to the idealistic young." -- Rosemary Righter, The Times of London
"Norberg is Europe's answer to our own Naomi Klein." -- Dave O'Brien, Winnipeg Free Press

"Johan Norberg's book is a stunningly insightful, brilliantly detailed refutation of the crank theories of the anti-globalists. In Defense of Global Capitalism is a shining example of what a gifted mind can do working with the truth to advance the cause of capitalism, which in the end is the cause of every decent man and woman." --Ben Stein

This is a great little book, just brimming with facts and figures, statistics and upbeat anecdotes that make it clear that the world is (as John Lennon foresaw), "Every day, in every way, ...getting better and better." So often pro-capitalist books are written by stogy and conservative seeming old men who, while often correct, seem to be speaking to and about an older century. This book by Johan Norberg, a relatively young Swede (born 1973), is remarkable in being for and about a younger generation of humans, which is overall healthier, wealthier, freer, better educated and more equal

than any in history. It is about real positive change from the ground up (via the free market) instead of from central planners. Besides surveying the improving state of the world today Norberg also covers a wide range of topics that relate to capitalism, globalization and free trade (as well as simply and clearly defining them). This is the perfect book to encourage an optimism in those just getting started, an optimism sorely lacking in most media, political and academic accounts of life on Earth in the 21st century. This 2003 Cato Institute edition was originally written at the turn of the century and published in Sweden in 2001, and my only caveat in praising it is that it could use an update. A lot has happened in the past 11 years and it would be good to see (in the facts and stats and, Norberg's more mature attitude of today) how it continues to be positive for the majority of humans. It's this overall perspective that is so easy to lose track of - especially given the widely covered economic upheavals and sectarian military conflicts which have for many defined the first decade of this century. Life in the 21st century is full of serious challenges (and Norberg acknowledges these, while documenting how they are generally ameliorated by democracy and capitalism), but we're fully capable of meeting them and adapting and resolving and even, yes, thriving with them. The key word here is "we" - the global group of freely choosing individuals - that is the 100% which is easy to miss in the heated partisan debates. This 100% is what the inherently dynamic (creative/destructive) capitalist market nurtures and is nurtured by. The 21st century will either be the century of individual liberty (which the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries began recognizing and valuing, but only partly delivered), or it'll be much worse than anything we can imagine... My vote is for optimism.

If you're tired of using philosophical arguments to justify liberalized markets, this book is for you. Norberg does a bang up job pointing out how the people we should care the most about (the poor) are the most helped with liberalized markets. I often recommend this book to my progressive friends or for people interested in learning more about free-market capitalism. At times, the book is a bit cumbersome with so many statistics, but it's a great reference.

Johan Norberg has written a book destined to become a classic. He provides major solutions to what are the major discussions in economics and politics today. These include why some countries are wealthy and why some are impoverished, with numbers to support the results. A necessary read for anyone who is honestly looking for workable moral answers. The solutions are not generally his discoveries, but Norberg organizes them in an entertaining way that will keep you reading. More importantly, the solutions are not political at all, but explain how politics

invariably interferes with economic prosperity and the pursuit of human happiness.

An exceedingly well crafted and cogent volume, Norberg supplies a collection of essays that each discuss in researched detail the benefits and costs of a freemarket economy. Norberg carefully examines and measures truths and falsehoods associated with all views of the topic at hand. He also does so with a understanding of the different scales of time and geography and population upon which freemarkets act. This book would well serve to be a textbook in secondary, advanced, and also post-graduate education.

If you want to know how to rid the world of poverty and oppression, answers can be found in this powerful little book. No matter your politics or world view, you'll want to read In Defense of Global Capitalism for the way it is written. Presented as a series of short logical arguments, Norberg shows, in clear concise English and very simple charts, the correlation between economic freedom and prosperity, not just economic prosperity but longer lives, better nutrition, higher education, better working conditions and an improved environment. A smart book, easy to read and easy to understand; give it to a friend.

Great condition

I really enjoyed reading this book. It shows an uncommon perspective of capitalism and its virtues, and proves its statements with accurate data both from the past and the present. In my opinion this is a must for everyone willing to understand today's world, in which trade between all countries is unavoidable and hugely positive, especially for poor countries.

very good review of the success of free markets world wide. Capitalism may not be perfect but there is no remote second if history is any guide and of course it always is.

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