

Capitalism and Goodness

Misconception: Capitalism makes people greedy and selfish—it makes them worse.

My contention? Capitalism makes people better...***much better.***

1. Capitalism promotes ***service***; Socialism promotes power.

- a. In Capitalism, ***rich people work for you.*** None of them makes a dime if you don't buy their product. But each gets rich by producing something many people want—usually for cheap.
- b. For instance, making a movie costs millions of dollars, and I see it for \$15. I watch Lebron or listen to Rush for the price of commercials. Cellphones bring me the world for very little.
- c. That's how you get rich in Capitalism: ***The one serves the many.*** The more people you serve and the happier you make them, the more success you get. ***Capitalism is mutual service.***
- d. Socialism, on the other hand, is the many taking from the one...through majority vote.
- e. Greed is everywhere, but what empowers it? Individual serving, or group seizing?

2. Capitalism makes us ***less judgmental.***

- a. I don't like Ellen Degeneres's views.
- b. But many people do, and they like her talent as well, so she's very rich.
- c. That's great! As a capitalist, I don't want to control her success with my vote! Ellen's supporters don't have to outnumber people at the polls to reward her service.
- d. The capitalist says, "I want to control my own life, not yours."
- e. Judgmental attitudes are everywhere, but which system empowers them?

3. Capitalism promotes ***potential***, not jealousy.

- a. What's better? There are 100 people in a room, and...
 1. ...you have \$10, while the other 99 each have \$10 as well, or...
 2. ...you have \$100, but the other 99 each have \$1,000.
- b. The capitalist sees 10 times the spending \$ as a good thing, while the Socialist fixates on "wealth disparity." One measures happiness personally; the other, against others.
- c. Jealousy is everywhere, but which system empowers it?

4. Capitalism replaces Blame with ***Merit.***

- a. Don't you hate being around people who always take credit or cast blame?
- b. When government acts, rival parties must engage in nonstop finger-pointing *because political power is at stake in the results.***
- c. But when a private business acts, its success or failure stands on its own. No one's political power is at stake. Nothing is being taken from anyone. Hence the term, "Free Market."
- d. Think about it: What commercials do you hate the most? ***Political commercials.***
- e. Blame is everywhere, but which system demands we point fingers?

5. Capitalism promotes ***Privacy and Charity.***

- a. Hypothetically, if rich people gave all they had to the poor, would we still raise their taxes?
- b. Of course not, so we're actually raising their taxes to ***control their charity.***

- c. What if you and I went to church, and when it came time for donations, I grabbed your checkbook and wrote in the amount, and the name of a church I like better?
- d. What is a greater invasion of privacy than controlling someone's charity?
- e. Is it any better to have voters doing it to you instead of someone next to you at church?
- f. Invasion of privacy happens everywhere, but which system demands it?

6. Capitalism is **Fair**.

- a. Are all rich people good? Are all bad? Maybe some got their money in good ways, while others got theirs in bad ways.
- b. If I jack up all taxes on the wealthy, I punish everyone as villains for the sins of a few.
- c. How do you like being in a workplace or classroom, and having the leader punish everyone for what a couple people do? Is that fair?
- d. In Capitalism, laws punish illegality, not the sin of "having more." What people have is their own business.
- e. Unfairness is everywhere, but which system demands it?

7. Capitalism allows us to be **Brave**, thanks to "More Than They Need."

- a. Many say the rich have "more than they need."
- b. But is that a bad thing? Look at the risk involved in creating jobs at, say, a sandwich shop:
 - 1. A storefront is rented for a year or more, food and prep equipment is purchased, staff is hired, advertising is paid for, taxes are burdensome, etc.
 - 2. All this **might** produce profit, until a competitor smells success and invades the area.
- d. We all need jobs, but who can risk producing them without having **far more** than they need?
- e. We all value courage, but which system actually rewards it?

8. Capitalism helps us **Celebrate the Choices** of others, not control them.

- a. Imagine if there was only one Fast Food chain—no options.
- b. Suddenly, everyone is fighting over what kind of food the chain provides.
- c. This turns us against each other, making good people force other good people to eat their kind of food. **It makes us worse.**
- d. Thankfully, we all get to choose for ourselves and be nice to each other. Capitalism even allows us to celebrate the choices of those disagreeing with us. How great is that?!
- e. Vouchers, coincidentally, bring that celebration to education.
- f. The desire to control other people's choices is everywhere, but which system demands it?

Remember the two foundational statements for The Party Of Choice:

"I want to control my own life, not yours."

"I support every choice that doesn't take away someone else's choice."

These are popular statements, and they reflect Capitalism. The key is, Capitalism makes us better in every way: It makes us less selfish, judgmental, jealous, or driven to blame. It also increases our appreciation for privacy, fairness, courage, and the choices of others.

Does Capitalism make us worse, or better? It's not even close.

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