Department of International Development public lecture

23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism

Professor Ha-Joon Chang
Cambridge University & Author of '23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism'

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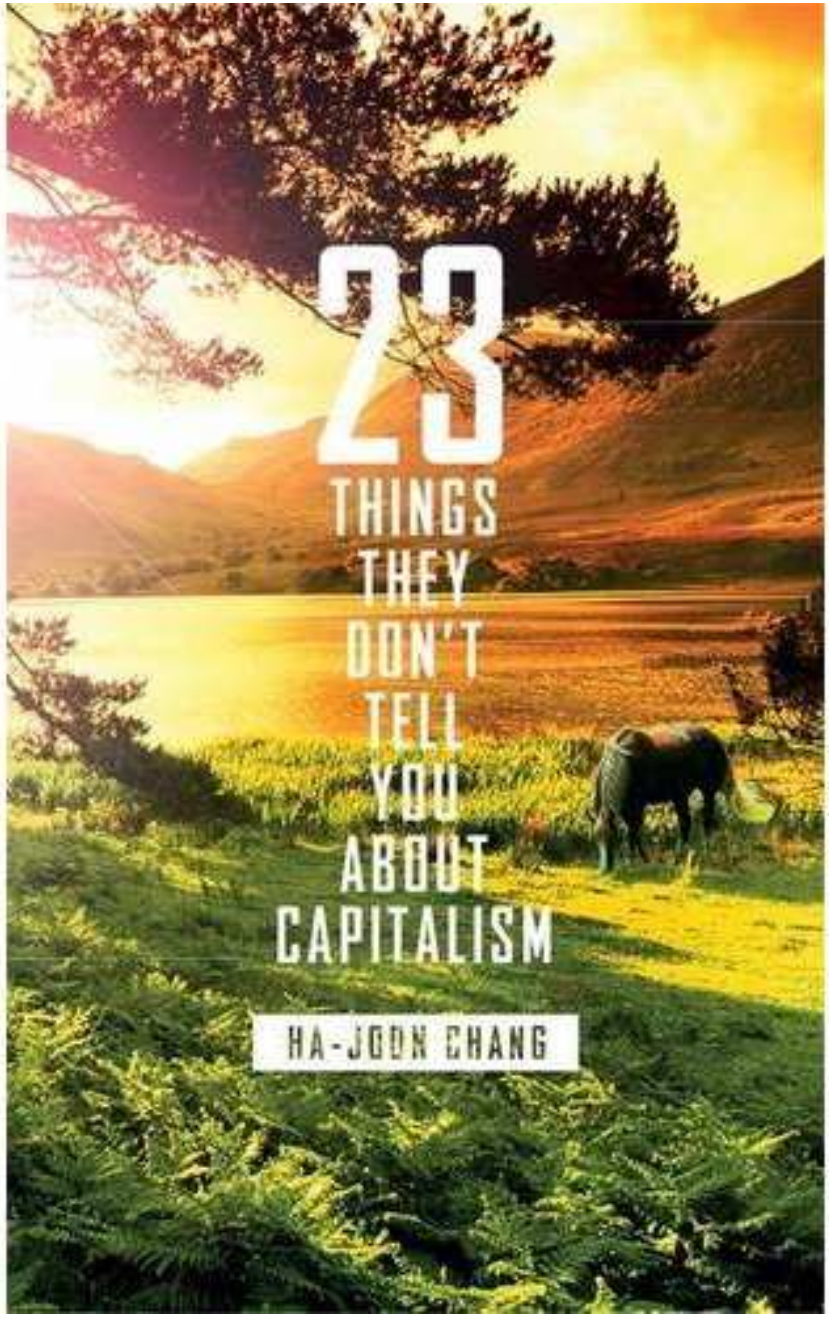
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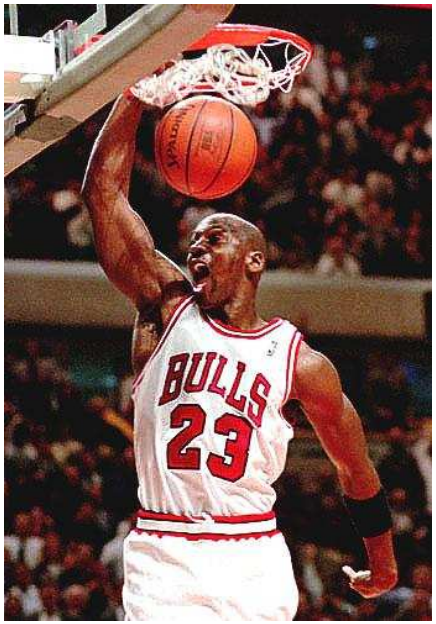
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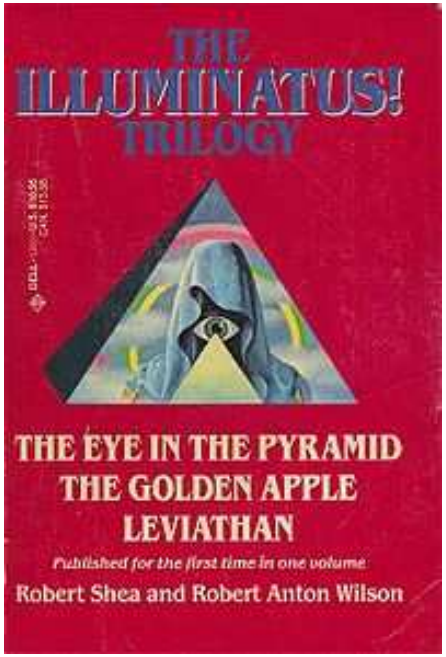
THE ILLUMINATUS! TRILOGY
THE EYE IN THE PYRAMID
THE GOLDEN APPLE
LEVIATHAN
Published for the first time in one volume
Robert Shea and Robert Anton Wilson

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MONTY PYTHON'S
AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT
DVD
THE BEST OF MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS
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“There is no such thing as a free market.”

“Companies should not be run in the interest of their owners.”

Thing 3: Most people in rich countries are paid more than they should be.

More 'Things'

- **Thing 19: Despite the fall of Communism, we are still living in planned economies.**
- **Thing 4: The washing machine has changed the world more than the internet has.**
- Thing 13: Making rich people richer doesn't make the rest of us richer.
- ***Thing 22: Financial markets need to become less, not more, efficient.***
- Thing 20: Equality of opportunity may not be fair.
- Thing 16: We are not smart enough to leave things to the market.
- ***Thing 23: Good economic policy does not require good economists.***
- **Thing 15: People in poor countries are more entrepreneurial than people in rich countries.**

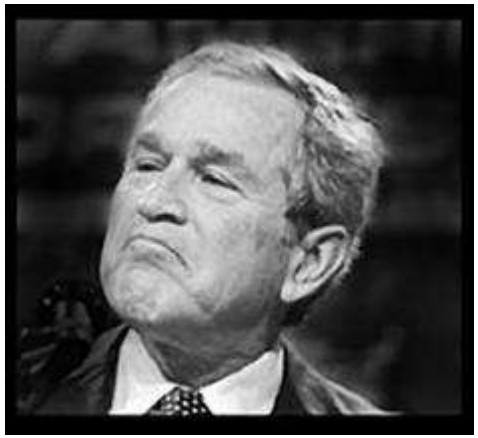
Thing 13: Making rich people richer doesn't make the rest of us richer.

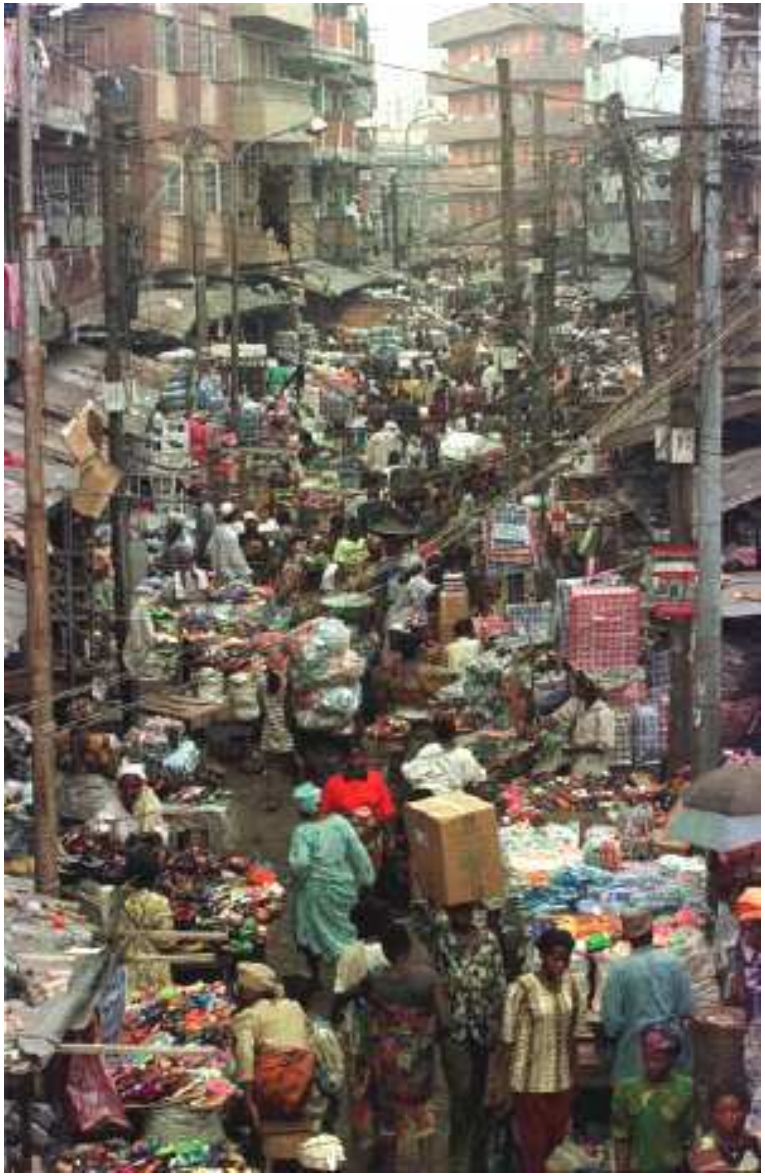
Yevgeni Preobrazhensky

Josef Stalin

David Ricardo

Thing 15: People in poor countries are more entrepreneurial than people in rich countries.





Who are the entrepreneurs? – Proportion of self-employed people

Rich countries

- Average: 12.8%
- Norway: 6.7%
- US: 7.5%
- France: 8.6% (so, Dubya's comment was a classic case of the pot calling the kettle black)

Poor countries

- Average: 30-50%
- Ghana: 66.9%
- Bangladesh: 75.4%
- Benin: 88.7%

- **Rich/Poor ratio: 2-4**
- **Bangladesh/US ratio: 10**
- **Norway/Benin ratio: 13**

Thing One. There is really no such thing as a free market.
Thing Two. Companies should not be run in the interest of their owners.
Thing Three. Most people in rich countries get paid more than they should.
Thing Four. The washing machine has changed the world more than the internet.
Thing Five. Assume the worst about people, and you get the worst.
Thing Six. Greater macroeconomic stability has not made the world economy more stable.
Thing Seven. Free-market policies rarely make poor countries richer.
Thing Eight. Capital has a nationality.
Thing Nine. We do not live in a post-industrial age.
Thing Ten. The US does not have the highest living standard in the world.
Thing Eleven. Africa is not destined for under-development.
Thing Twelve. Government can pick winners.
Thing Thirteen. Making rich people richer doesn’t make the rest of us richer.
Thing Fourteen. US managers are over-priced.
Thing Fifteen. People in poor countries are more entrepreneurial than people in rich countries.
Thing Sixteen. We are not smart enough to leave things to the market.
Thing Seventeen. More education in itself is not going to make a country richer.
Thing Eighteen. What is good for the General Motors is not necessarily good for the US.
Thing Nineteen. Despite the fall of Communism, we are still living in planned economies.
Thing Twenty. Equality of opportunities is unequal.
Thing Twenty-one. Big government makes people more, not less, open to changes.
Thing Twenty-two. Financial markets need to become less, not more, efficient.
Thing Twenty-three. Good economic policy does not require good economists.

More information

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