



The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth

By Benjamin M. Friedman

Download now

Read Online 

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman

From the author of *Day of Reckoning*, the acclaimed critique of Ronald Reagan's economic policy ("Every citizen should read it," said *The New York Times*): a persuasive, wide-ranging argument that economic growth provides far more than material benefits.

In clear-cut prose, Benjamin M. Friedman examines the political and social histories of the large Western democracies—particularly of the United States since the Civil War—to demonstrate the fact that incomes on the rise lead to more open and democratic societies. He explains that *growth*, rather than simply a high standard of living, is key to effecting political and social liberalization in the third world, and shows that even the wealthiest of nations puts its democratic values at risk when income levels stand still. Merely being rich is no protection against a turn toward rigidity and intolerance when a country's citizens lose the sense that they are getting ahead.

With concrete policy suggestions for pursuing growth at home and promoting worldwide economic expansion, this volume is a major contribution to the ongoing debate about the effects of economic growth and globalization.

 [Download The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth ...pdf](#)

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth

By Benjamin M. Friedman

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman

From the author of *Day of Reckoning*, the acclaimed critique of Ronald Reagan's economic policy ("Every citizen should read it," said *The New York Times*): a persuasive, wide-ranging argument that economic growth provides far more than material benefits.

In clear-cut prose, Benjamin M. Friedman examines the political and social histories of the large Western democracies—particularly of the United States since the Civil War—to demonstrate the fact that incomes on the rise lead to more open and democratic societies. He explains that *growth*, rather than simply a high standard of living, is key to effecting political and social liberalization in the third world, and shows that even the wealthiest of nations puts its democratic values at risk when income levels stand still. Merely being rich is no protection against a turn toward rigidity and intolerance when a country's citizens lose the sense that they are getting ahead.

With concrete policy suggestions for pursuing growth at home and promoting worldwide economic expansion, this volume is a major contribution to the ongoing debate about the effects of economic growth and globalization.

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #325350 in Books
- Brand: Friedman, Benjamin M.
- Published on: 2006-09-12
- Released on: 2006-09-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.01" h x 1.00" w x 5.18" l, 1.06 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 592 pages

 [Download The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Ever feel like you just can't get ahead with the bills? You're not alone. More than half of Americans believe the American dream has become impossible for most people to achieve. And two-thirds think this goal will be even harder for the next generation. (One reason for the gloominess--average full-time income has fallen 15 percent since 1975.) All this has Benjamin Friedman worried. In his hefty, 549-page tome, *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth*, the acclaimed Harvard economist and advisor to the Federal Reserve Board says economic stagnation is bad for the moral health of a nation. Friedman, a former chair of Harvard's economics department, argues that economic growth is vital to social and political progress. Witness Hitler's Germany. Without growth, people look for answers in intolerance and fear. And that, Friedman warns, is where the U.S. is headed if the economic stagnation of the past three decades doesn't soon reverse. It's not enough for gross domestic product to rise, he says. Growth also has to be more evenly distributed. The rich shouldn't be the only ones getting richer.

Friedman's arguments are provocative but at times lack rigor. In his comparisons of various countries, he offers no objective data to measure their levels of social progress, relying instead on his own--sometimes selective--interpretation of historical events. He glosses over the fact that China, where the economy has grown sevenfold since 1978, has seen little political change in that time. He also acknowledges that the Great Depression--which brought Americans together to achieve great social and political progress--tends to disprove his theory. Friedman makes a good case that the economy sometimes influences social movements, but the jury is still out on exactly when and how that happens. --*Alex Roslin*

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. This probing study argues that, far from fostering rapacious materialism, economic growth is a prerequisite for the creation of a liberal, open society. Harvard economist Friedman, author of *Day of Reckoning: The Consequences of American Economic Policy in the 1980s*, contends that periods of robust economic growth, in which most people see their circumstances palpably improving, foster tolerance, democracy and generous public support for the disadvantaged. Economic stagnation and insecurity, by contrast, usher in distrust, retrenchment and reaction, as well as a tightfisted callousness toward the poor and—from the nativism of 19th-century Populists to the white supremacist movement of the 1980s—a scapegoating of immigrants and minorities. Exploring two centuries of historical evidence, from income and unemployment data to period novels, Friedman elucidates connections between economic conditions, social attitudes and public policy throughout the world. He offers a nuanced defense of globalization against claims that it promotes inequality and, less convincingly, remains optimistic that technology will resolve the conflicts between continual growth and environmental degradation. Friedman's progressive attitude doesn't extend to his cautious approach to promoting growth in America; a critic of Bush's tax cuts and deficits, he advocates fiscal discipline to free savings for investment, along with educational initiatives, including "school choice," to boost worker productivity. Its muted conclusion aside, Friedman's is a lucid, judiciously reasoned call for renewed attention to broad-based economic advancement. (Oct. 25)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [The New Yorker](#)

Friedman, a Harvard economist well known for his criticism of Reagan-era fiscal policies, employs broad historical and geographical perspectives to argue that a nation's democratic institutions flourish best in times of stable economic growth. Americans, on the whole, are richer and freer than just about anyone else in the

world, but the gap between rich and poor is higher today than it has been at almost any other time since the Great Depression, and most Americans don't feel better off than they did five or six years ago. Drawing comparisons with emerging economies, and citing authorities as diverse as Adam Smith and Jonathan Edwards, Friedman argues for decisive steps to limit budget deficits and for investment in programs that support broad-based growth. He warns that "any nation, even one with incomes as high as America's, will find the basic character of its society at risk if it allows its citizens' living standards to stagnate."

Copyright © 2005 *The New Yorker*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ernest Keeler:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be upgrade about what going on or data even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which can be always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what kind you should start with. This *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth* is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Rita Kirby:

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information currently can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a expertise or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider if those information which is inside the former life are hard to be find than now's taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one often the resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you have it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth* as the daily resource information.

Carolyn Foley:

The actual book *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth* has a lot of information on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of help. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research ahead of write this book. That book very easy to read you will get the point easily after reading this article book.

Willie McCorkle:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always try and and must have the spare time or they will get lot of stress from both way of life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to you of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you

have read is *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth*.

Download and Read Online *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth* By Benjamin M. Friedman #5MDZ016X42K

Read The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman for online ebook

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman books to read online.

Online The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman ebook PDF download

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman Doc

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman Mobipocket

The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth By Benjamin M. Friedman EPub