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The Capitalism Papers: Fatal Flaws of an Obsolete System

Jerry Mander

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JERRY MANDER

The

CAPITALISM
PAPERS

*Fatal Flaws
of an Obsolete System*

"A cogent rally cry and eloquent assessment of America's—and the world's—current predicament, dismal prospects, and hope for a way out."
—*Publishers Weekly*



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Jerry Mander : The Capitalism Papers: Fatal Flaws of an Obsolete System before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Capitalism Papers: Fatal Flaws of an Obsolete System:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As with his previous work, Mr. Mander absolutely "gets it."By Richard HansonJust as demonstrated in "In the Absence of the Sacred" so many years ago, Jerry Mander is a brilliant analyst here and absolutely clear, concise and always engaging in writing style and substance. I wish I wrote non-fiction as well as he.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Right on PointBy David WeightmanThis book describes so accurately the purposes and nature of global corporate capitalism that i hope that many people read it. It is

clear that an alternative to global based capitalism in which wealth is so obscenely skewed towards the few at the expense of the many is needed for a variety of reasons. We need a egalitarian economic system based on social justice, fair distribution of wealth, and environmental sustainability. It starts with a redefining of what wealth actually is. This book is brilliant. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is an excellent book! My only complaint is that Mander has ...By ACT I This is an excellent book! My only complaint is that Mander has too much optimism regarding the human future. He gives attention to the global warming problem, but doesn't seem to realize that our species will likely soon join the 150 - 200 species that are going extinct EACH DAY! Arctic climate scientist John Davies--writing a year after this book was published--stated in an article his belief that our species will be extinct BY 2040! That is a highly plausible projection--given that the prevailing mentality (in the US especially) is such that any actions taken by our "leaders" to address this problem are likely, rather, to ACCELERATE our demise!

In the vein of his bestseller, *Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television*, nationally recognized social critic Jerry Mander researches, discusses, and exposes the momentous and unsolvable environmental and social problems of capitalism. Mander argues that capitalism is no longer a viable system: "What may have worked in 1900 is calamitous in 2010." Capitalism, utterly dependent on never-ending economic growth, is an impossible absurdity on a finite planet with limited resources. Climate change, together with global food, water, and resource shortages, is only the start. Mander draws attention to capitalism's obsessive need to dominate and undermine democracy, as well as to diminish social and economic equity. Designed to operate free of morality, the system promotes permanent war as a key economic strategy. Worst of all, the problems of capitalism are intrinsic to the form. Many organizations are already anticipating the breakdown of the system and are working to define new hierarchies of democratic values that respect the carrying capacities of the planet.

Praise for "The Capitalism Papers" "Refreshing and informative, these papers are a cogent rally cry and eloquent assessment of America's--and the world's--current predicament, dismal prospects, and hope for a way out." -- "Publishers Weekly" Praise for "The Capitalism Papers" "In Mander's provocative newest, the environmentalist, social critic, and author of "1977's *Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television*" predicts the impending failure of the capitalist "experiment," one based on infinite expansion and unable to meet the challenges of climate change, peak oil, finite resources, and a rising global population. Mander lambasts the "intrinsic amorality" of capitalism, arguing that its focus on amassing wealth at any cost has abetted the rise of the incredibly lucrative military-industrial complex, and the practice of "so-called democratic governments...catering to and facilitating the interests of the ultra-rich." Arguing that "cooperation must replace competition," Mander's concerns transcend party lines and established ideologies. As such, he closes with a compelling discussion of four ideas that he believes might blaze a trail away from capitalism and toward sustainable economic models: he suggests a refocusing on the limits of our planet, an emphasis on localization (as opposed to globalization), improved corporate structures, and a dismissal of the current black-and-white notion of capitalism vs. socialism. Refreshing and informative, these papers are a cogent rally cry and eloquent assessment of America's--and the world's--current predicament, dismal prospects, and hope for a way out." -- "Publishers Weekly" Praise for "The Capitalism Papers" "In Mander's provocative newest, the environmentalist, social critic, and author of "1977's *Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television*" predicts the impending failure of the capitalist "experiment," one based on infinite expansion and unable to meet the challenges of climate change, peak oil, finite resources, and a rising global population. Mander lambasts the "intrinsic amorality" of capitalism, arguing that its focus on amassing wealth at any cost has abetted the rise of the incredibly lucrative military-industrial complex, and the practice of "so-called democratic governments...catering to and facilitating the interests of the ultra-rich." Arguing that "cooperation must replace competition," Mander's concerns transcend party lines and established ideologies. As such, he closes with a compelling discussion of four ideas that he believes might blaze a trail away from capitalism and toward sustainable economic models: he suggests a refocusing on the limits of our planet, an emphasis on localization (as opposed to globalization), improved corporate structures, and a dismissal of the current black-and-white notion of capitalism vs. socialism. Refreshing and informative, these papers are a cogent rally cry and eloquent assessment of America's--and the world's--current predicament, dismal prospects, and hope for a way out." -- "Publishers Weekly" "This is a bold, much-needed book. On a subject where others are too often abstract or strident, Jerry Mander writes with a down-to-earth common-sense wisdom. I particularly like the way he weaves together his own experience in business and advertising with a large-spirited awareness of so many dimensions of the fragile planet we live on." --Adam Hochschild, author of "King Leopold's Ghost" "Jerry Mander's "The Capitalism Papers" is a book of astonishing clarity and all-too-rare honesty. In an age where our major institutions are in collapse as our environment crumbles About the Author Called the the patriarch of the anti-Globalization movement by The New York Times, Jerry Mander was Founder and is a Distinguished Fellow of the International Forum on Globalization. He also spent 15 years in the advertising business as president of Freeman, Mander Gossage, including producing the famous Sierra Club campaigns of the 1960s that saved the Grand Canyon. He has BS and MS degrees in international

economics, and he lives in Northern California.