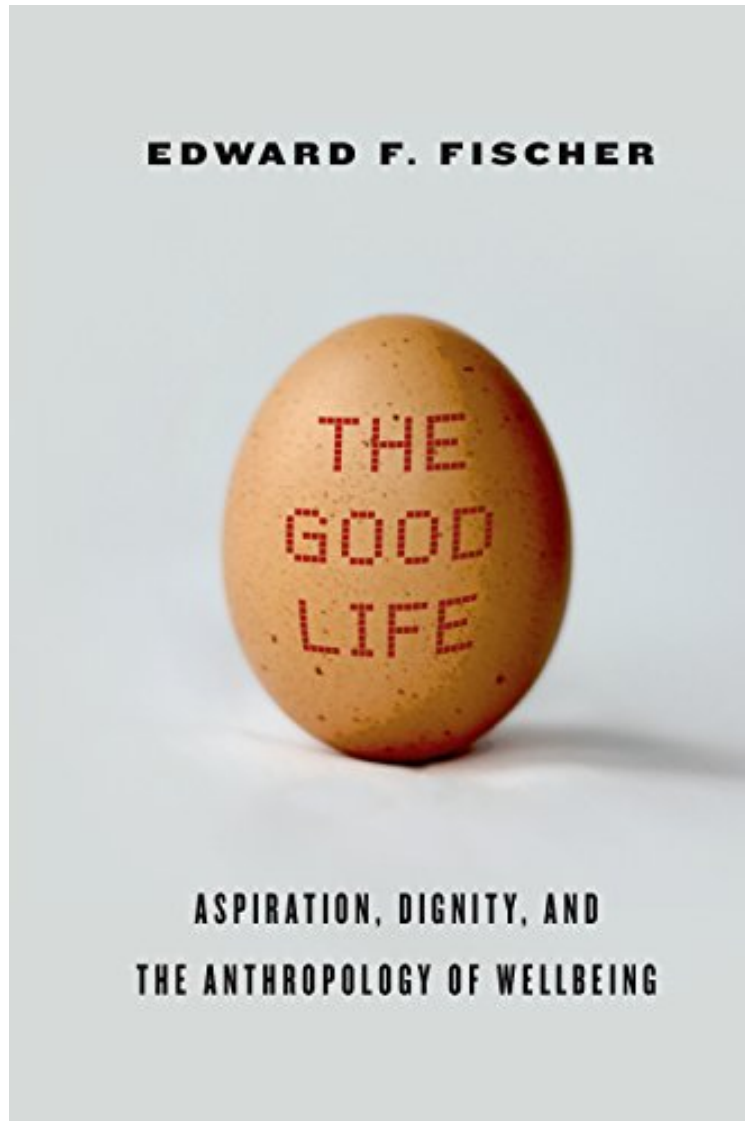


[Ebook free] The Good Life: Aspiration, Dignity, and the Anthropology of Wellbeing

The Good Life: Aspiration, Dignity, and the Anthropology of Wellbeing

Edward F. Fischer

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Edward F. Fischer : The Good Life: Aspiration, Dignity, and the Anthropology of Wellbeing before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Good Life: Aspiration, Dignity, and the Anthropology of Wellbeing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. he also champions the idea that the key to living the good life may also include modifying social structures By alisecortez What a thoughtful and enlightened perspective on how people from such seemingly diverse countries as Germany and Guatemala mindfully participate in the economy in order to

drive toward a more deeply purposeful life. I think Dr. Fischer has not only provided an informed glimpse into the international economy, he also champions the idea that the key to living the good life may also include modifying social structures. At the end of the day, Professor Fischer helps us understand that though people live through decidedly different socioeconomic playing fields, we all still tend to want aspiration and opportunity, dignity and fairness, and commitment to a larger purpose. There are so many disciplines and groups of people that could benefit by reading this book - anyone interested in economics, sociology, anthropology, meaning in life, futuristic thinking all come to mind. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read
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By RB KauffmanGreat book.

What could middle-class German supermarket shoppers buying eggs and impoverished coffee farmers in Guatemala possibly have in common? Both groups use the market in pursuit of the "good life." But what exactly is the good life? How do we define wellbeing beyond material standards of living? While we all may want to live the good life, we differ widely on just what that entails. In *The Good Life*, Edward Fischer examines wellbeing in very different cultural contexts to uncover shared notions of the good life and how best to achieve it. With fascinating on-the-ground narratives of Germans' choices regarding the purchase of eggs and cars, and Guatemalans' trade in coffee and cocaine, Fischer presents a richly layered understanding of how aspiration, opportunity, dignity, and purpose comprise the good life.

"Fischer has carved out an important piece of the wellbeing puzzle . . . It will be interesting to see how positive anthropology develops as a new branch of the discipline. That is where anthropology can get exciting." (Benjamin N. Colby American Anthropologist)"In this excellent book, Ted Fischer introduces us to Guatemalan farmers and German consumers and shows us how culturally-held values enter into economic decision-making, exposing the similarities that exist even while investigating separate corners of the world. An important contribution to economic anthropology that will be of interest to anyone concerned with the ethical dimensions of economic life." (Jens Beckert Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies)"In the burgeoning literature on markets and moralities, *The Good Life* is a benchmark exercise in reconciling well-being, rationalities and in balancing the study of economic externalities with ethical internalities. It will be of great interest to ethnographers of the economy and to all thinkers concerned with the value of values." (Arjun Appadurai New York University)"Homo economicus, the representative rational actor assumed in economists' models, is a social moron. Fischer's keen eye for social detail reveals how markets populated by actual people often behave very differently from those portrayed in economics textbooks. This delightful book helps explain why policy makers around the world are increasingly attentive to the important distinction between well-being and per-capita income." (Robert H. Frank Cornell University)"A fine anthropological addition to the growing interdisciplinary project of happiness and well-being studies . . . Highly recommended." (B. Weston Choice)About the AuthorEdward F. Fischer is Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University. He is the author, with Peter Benson, of *Broccoli and Desire: Global Connections and Maya Struggles in Postwar Guatemala* (Stanford 2006). He is also the founder of Maniacute;+, a social enterprise combating malnutrition.