



# THE TROUBLE WITH CAPITALISM

I am a capitalist. I have made a lot of money being one. But to me, capitalism is only a game, and the money is just for keeping score. Given the fact that capitalism has been quite good to me, I criticize the system with great reluctance.

There is no question that capitalism is one reason why America has been the most successful country on the planet. Even so, capitalism is not without its problems. Unregulated, it is capable of doing great harm. It can even destroy the other reason America has become the envy of the world: our democracy.

Bush and his minions have spent the past seven years pushing unrestricted capitalism. As a result, we have lost our manufacturing base; jobs have fled south (and east and west); our middle

class has been trashed; our food, water and air poisoned. Struggling to make ends meet, America's workers feel the sting of capitalism unfettered.

Most troubling, our politicians—both on the left and right—say nothing about this pressing issue. Yet if our democracy is to survive, we need to humanize our system by taming what President Franklin Delano Roosevelt called the “economic royalists.” A system that punishes its citizens is un-American.

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