

# **Capitalism**

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The word capitalist evokes the image of a in a crisply business suit, ruthlessly going after profit, exploiting to make a good deal for himself, not caring who comes in his way, but going ahead, complete disregard of morality and other ethics.

That, is the definition of capitalism as made popular by Hollywood films, Michael Douglas in Wallstreet and Daniel Day Lewis in There will be blood.

Thankfully, the reality is different, the reality as we see today is say this seminar, where owing to capitalism and creation of wealth, we have been able to have an online seminar on our PCs made by Dell and Apple powered by Microsoft and now all of us will remain connected, thanks to facebook whose founder Mark Zuckerberger is right now a millionaire at my age 22, all this thanks to capitalism!

Capitalism and capitalists are separate, one being a system and the other being a user. It is important to distinguish between the two. Capitalism is a system and capitalists are one of the many beneficiaries. Capitalism by definition includes free markets, free trade, property rights and ownership of resources of production. Capitalism translates the ideas of freedom into the reality of choice.

## **We need to bust some myths here about capitalism**

1) Poverty is caused by capitalists, the rich become richer and the poor become poorer. The difference is that sometimes there are bad capitalists, but capitalism as an economic system can not be blamed for the all the ills in the world. Poverty for example is always attributed to capitalists, but if we look at the report produced by the Fraser Institute reports that the bottom 10% of the population all across the world gets the same amount of capital as a proportion of the total income in these states be different systems is the same, be it under the communists or the conservatives.

2) Capitalists are also accused of exploiting the environment, but the system at fault is a actually the governments who hold most of the natural resources in the world which are nationalized. It is their regulatory practices and environmental regulations which are at fault.

3)As far as surprising the labour laws is concerned, there are examples, that in Latin America where some companies surpassed local laws and exploited their labour forces. But let's face it, how many of us really want a government job with less pay and no flexible working hours? We want jobs that pay us well, give us flexible working hours and job mobility and only a capitalistic environment can provide all of that.

4) Capitalism makes a zero sum game a non sum zero game! Wealth is created so that instead of splitting the same pie, one has the opportunity to expand the pie and have bigger pieces, or even have separate bigger pies: It is not about finding ways of

sharing the pie, it also about growing the pie. Not giving from one to other, but creation.

5) Capitalism has made world trade possible, and unleashed the phenomenon of globalization whose benefits are plentiful. Today, women in Bangladesh stitch clothes for brands like GAP and DKNY in the USA and make a decent income for themselves, due to a globally connected economy.

6) “History suggests that capitalism is a necessary condition for political freedom. Clearly it is not a sufficient condition”, so said Milton Friedman. Countries across the world, especially in Europe stand as examples of increased political and civil liberties owing to free markets and capitalistic practices.

Capitalism is a way by which human beings come together to create a better world for themselves. Capitalism captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit. The point is, ladies and gentlemen, that capitalism is good. Capitalism is right. Capitalism works.