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Progress or Collapse: The Crises of Market Greed

Roberto De Vogli

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Roberto De Vogli : Progress or Collapse: The Crises of Market Greed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Progress or Collapse: The Crises of Market Greed:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Final Call For HumanityBy dudovich9Climate change, economic crises, banksters, peak oil - those are some of the buzzwords of our time. In fact, they are so buzzy that we want to cover our ears once we hear them. We read the term "climate change" and we immediately imagine a polar bear that desperately tries to find a balance on a floating piece of ice that once was a part of the Arctic.We read some articles on the Great recession and we imagine filthy rich banksters who use our savings and pension funds to increase their own

capital gains - as if they needed more. We read editorials about the "peak oil" crisis and we connect it with the oil drills in the Middle East - who knows, perhaps that is why we will send our troops to Iran to start yet another war? But apart from what we hear, here and there, about these issues, what do we REALLY know about those buzzwords? Are we aware that, if we do not take action soon, not only the polar bears will desperately float on the top of an iceberg, but we may find ourselves, one day, forced to float on the top of the Empire Square Building or the Big Ben? Do we know that before this happens, however, there is a high chance that hundreds of million people, especially in the developing world, will die due to food crises and lack of drinking water? And have you ever wondered how many people have lost their lives because of the social and economic injustices committed by the top 1% that created the 2008 economic crisis? And have you ever asked yourself why bankrupt institutions such as Goldman Sachs are influencing the policies of the world and continue to generate one economic bubble after another by using their unique skill of making money out of thin air? And by the way, have you ever wondered why corporate media such as Fox News do not report facts accurately and even mislead public opinion? Well, that's yet another crisis of market greed that "Progress or Collapse" uncovers. One may think that this book is too apocalyptic, almost as if it was an exercise in science fiction. Unfortunately, it is not. Roberto De Vogli's book "Progress or Collapse: The Crises of Market Greed" is filled with serious analyses, references and hard evidence that document and expose the multiple crises caused by the ideology of rational selfishness and free "markets." And it would be nice if De Vogli ended there. But there is more. According to his view, crises such as climate change, economic instability and peak oil are ultimately linked with the social, cultural and mental degradation of our time. The book shows how brainless consumerism, civic apathy and selfish materialism do not only generate ecological destruction, inequalities and economic crises, but also undermine human happiness and social relationships. However, the author argues, things do not have to be this way. De Vogli proposes a set of well-thought out and reasonable policy solutions to change - or even save - the world from these impending multiple global crises. Instead of reading tonnes of articles juggling the buzzwords of our time without actually explaining what they really mean, how they are related and what are the causes that unite them, read De Vogli's book. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Modern version of Monopoly Capital? By dennis pocekay Dr. De Vogli synthesizes disparate information to make a strong case that NEGATIVE growth, LOWER incomes, and an excellent SOCIAL SAFETY NET can make us all happier and healthier. No, scratch that; they are our ONLY HOPE!

Human progress is heading toward collapse. There are converging ecological crises looming on the horizon: climate change, peak oil, water shortages, fish depletion and food scarcities. The world is on a collision course against the limits of the ecosystem. Modern societies are consuming, polluting and growing as if there is no tomorrow. Indeed, there may not be one. In Progress or Collapse, Roberto De Vogli guides us through the multiple converging global crises of economic progress. He explores the connections between the environmental crisis and the psychological, social, cultural, political and economic emergencies affecting modern societies. It is not a coincidence, the author argues, that global ecological destruction is occurring in tandem with other crises: rising mental disorders, mindless consumerism, rampant conformism, status competition, civic disengagement, startling social inequalities, global financial instability, and widespread political impasse. In this hard-hitting analysis, Roberto De Vogli identifies the root cause of all these symptoms of societal breakdown: neoliberalism, defined as market greed. He argues that in recent decades, modern societies have been dominated by a suicidal economic doctrine based on two articles of faith: the greed creed and the market God. The greed creed states that people are nothing but selfish profiteers in a perpetual search for status and wealth. The market God is the belief that all societal and human affairs are best regulated as market exchanges. What is to be done? Can we stop progress toward collapse? Given the current distribution of power and wealth, and the state of psychological and political inertia in which we are trapped, our chances of redefining progress around alternative values and embracing a new philosophy of life are slim. Yet, the history of human emancipation has often been shaped by giant leaps forward. In the past, civic struggles have overcome "the limits of the possible". Whether this will happen again in the future is the central question of our time. This book will be of interest to researchers and students of ecology, psychology, public health, epidemiology, human development, political philosophy, economics, sociology and politics.

'Concerned for the future of humanity? Then read this book. Others cover just one aspect of the political, social, environmental and economic challenge facing humanity. But the transformation we so urgently need must start from an understanding of the interlocking system as a whole. With his breadth of vision, fearlessness and unerring eye for the truth, this is what De Vogli provides.' ? Richard Wilkinson, Author of 'The Spirit Level' 'If you think the world's current economic problems are just a blip, with normal service soon to be resumed, think again. As De Vogli brilliantly and succinctly reveals in this wide-ranging panorama of a book, the way we live now is simply not sustainable. In the absence of desperately urgent action that redefines our relationship with the planet, the future looks endlessly bleak; that is, of course, if we have any future at all.' ? Bill McGuire, Author of 'Seven Years To Save the Planet' 'De Vogli is one of the new ecological thinkers who show that climate change is the most dangerous product of

Western corporate capitalism. In a masterful and highly accessible historical review of the development of corporate globalization, he shows that any struggle to save the planet requires a direct confrontation with the Wall Street elites and neo-liberal ideologues who created and now rule our unsustainable world economy. De Vogli shows that the world's prospects for survival depend now on repudiating the 'market greed' driving our elites and our own psyches, recanting the religion of growth, and crafting a new post-consumerist economy based on equality and our non-market needs for social fulfillment.' ? Charles Derber, Author of 'Greed to Green' 'The story of our generation is the social destructiveness of markets 'to operate in the interests of the few rather than under the control of society as a whole. In Progress or Collapse that story is told and analyzed with insight, revealing the depth and breadth of what we have lost due to subservience to the ideology of consumerism and greed. Anyone who hopes for a reversal of the current descent into market barbarism should read this book.' ? John Weeks, Author of 'Capital, Exploitation and Economic Crises' 'Roberto De Vogli has written a brilliant book that unveils the destructive nature of the so-called 'free market' and neoliberal doctrines so widely admired in mainstream economic circles. Progress or Collapse is a scary, but also stimulating essay that invites reflections, critical thinking and, above all, civic outrage.' ? Thom Hartmann, Author of 'The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight' About the Author Roberto De Vogli is Associate Professor in Social Epidemiology at the University of California Davis, USA. He is also Senior Lecturer in Social Epidemiology and Global Health at University College London, UK.