THE SUPER-HAPPY ANARCHO FUN PAGES!!
#8
Fall 06 - winter 06-07

Tick Tick Tick

- Gift Economics
- Jaded Individualism
- Logic Explained by the Bad Brains

FREE!
Sorry about how SHAFP has become twice-yearly instead of seasonal. I have no proper excuse.

I love hearing from readers, and Dr. Science-0 is always available to answer any pressing concerns. Anyhow, here's where I encourage you to copy this comic and give it away. We put up a new, fancy website, www.tangledwilderness.org, so you can download PDFs already formatted for printing, or you can request copies or flats of any of our zines by writing us at Strangers@nsued.net.

We also have
- 3 bands
- theory zines
- one good novella
- soon: a fiction zine
- soon: posters etc. etc.
(all free)

What are you listening to, Fantasy Metal?

♫ the long beat of swords... ♫

♫ we kill with axes! ♫

♫ we kill unicorns! ♫

No way. Dragons are lame. This is Viking Metal! It's about Vikings!

♫ we kill like levers change my clothes? ♫

But you're wearing a "fantasy metal" shirt!
GIFT Economics 101

In order to best understand the gift economy, we need to understand some competing economic theories.

So meet Eric, the capitalist.

Hi, Kids!

Tell us about your theory, Eric.

Well, kind of. I believe in the sanctity of property.

You see, I've had to work, sorta. For everything I own.

And since there isn't enough to go around, I hoard things.

Hrm... or is that the other way around?

Anyhow, the things I own are my capital.

And I use capital to make more money.

For example, I own this house, so people have to pay me to live there.

Actually an outer space alien.

How is that like work?

Uh... well... I had to invest in the house.

But what I'm getting at is that if you touch my stuff I'll hire someone to kill you.

And that is capitalism.
Next we'll look at communism.

Dude! Where is my favorite shirt? I'm going on a date tonight!

Weah there, Mr. Property. You can't like, own a T-shirt.

Yeah, man, property is theft.

Okay, okay, where is the shirt that I often wear?

Well, uh...

We, uh...

We used it to clean up dog poo.

Dog poo?

Look, just take a shirt off the pile, comrade.

Selling newspapers is good!

*to be fair, Proudhon, who originally said this, wasn't a communist— he was a misogynist, an economic model we looked at in issue #3.
next, barter

hey, I need a T-shirt. I have these boots.

I don't need boots.

maybe if you traded your boots for some cotton and then the cotton for a bike wheel, cause I need a bike wheel. 26 inch.

this is stupid, let's print currency.

syndicalism.

look, it's quite simple. I, the representative of the T-shirt syndicate, will take your interests to our council meeting.

whereupon, we'll come to consensus about whether or not we ought to fulfill the request from your syndicate.

can't I just get a T-shirt? I like the one with all the skulls on it, that one right behind you.

no.

how about you just close your eyes for a moment? I won't tell anyone.

primitivism - okay, we're not going to analyze primitivist economics as much as take cheap shots at primitivism.

what's "economics"?

Sounds speciesist, if you ask me.

grunt
So then, What is the Gift Economy?

The Gift Economy is an economy based on giving. Everyday is like X-mas, only with-out gods!

when everything is stripped of monetary value, things are left with only their intrinsic value.

I like this hat, my grandpa knitted it!

Since things cannot be bartered, hoarding becomes useless.

But unlike a communistic system, no one forces you to give things away.

No, you can't have my toothbrush.

Community needs are important, sure, but no one can force you to share with everyone.

unrelated drawing of a potted plant

I have 16,000 T-Shirts!

get over yourself.

Aww... I guess I'm cool.

So the economic model becomes "don't be a jerk."

look at me! I'm better than everyone!

good luck with that.

People will work because no one will feed a freeloader for long, but people will be free to contribute in ways that suit them.

Responsibility and Freedom. They go together like... uh... two things that ought to go together.

God love me
But if you give things away, how do you know you'll get something in return?

It's not about direct reciprocation, but rather a faith in your neighbors to also be generally giving. If they are not, no one will give them things anymore.

Faith in the goodwill of humanity, huh? Next you'll claim that Anarchy could work.

Gift economics, like anarchism, take a certain amount of faith in chaos, in organic structuring...

But both can work on a small decentralized level.

Fine, what-evs. But this whole thing is too much for me. I don't want to have to be nice to people.

Okay, okay?

Yup. Don't join, that doesn't bother us.

Unlike state capitalism or state socialism, we don't care if other people don't practice the same model as us.

We're happy getting presents everyday, and we think your suckers, but that's all.

You know, this comic wasn't very funny.
hey people, I'm going to the corner store to get some juice.
wait up!

I'll come with. uh... okay / just let me get my shoes

I'll come too, just a moment.
but... can't find my other boot...
Say I need to walk my dog anyway...

seriously, where is that boot?


umm... I'm just getting some juice...

Adventure, we're going on an adventure!

An hour later...

umm... the store is the other way...
I know, we're going to the park.

well, I'm going to the store.

geez, you're so anti-social.

and capitalist.

playing ball in the park

you know, what I love about our life is how every day holds new adventures.

whoop.
What are you up to?
I’m fed up. I’ve become a jaded individualist.

Count me in. What’s the plan?

I’m going to protest the next house meeting.
If we’re all in this together, then I’m leaving.

Oh. A protest sign. Way to think outside the box. Only not.

Wry grin

We’re not going to blow up the house meeting with dynamite.

get any better ideas?

spoilsport.

So if we can’t just protest our problems away...

and we can’t blow them up...

I guess we’ll actually have to build the alternative.

Not me. I’m just going to draw comics.
So, what would you like for dinner?

oh, I dunno, anything.

Free range steak?

oh, no, I don't eat beef.

can we just talk about food?

chicken?

nope.

are you vegetarian?

well, I don't eat meat.

So, maybe some eggs?

I don't eat eggs.

grilled cheese?

no way. dairy is oppressive.

So you're vegan then?

hey! don't try to label me.

unlike some people, I don't define myself by my diet.

So you want a glass of wine with dinner?

nah...

beer?

don't touch it.

oh, so you're...

glace

sigh, nevermind.
"Dear Dr. Science-O, Satan help you if you ever run into me on some dark night. I'll hold your attention at the point of a broken 40oz bottle and explain logic."

"Basic logical arguments can be expressed in the form of two premises and a conclusion."

"Your conclusion that primitivists = liberals is a fallacy due to a simple converse error."

"you see:"
- If you are a liberal, you argue such and such way.
- Primitivists argue such and such way
- Therefore primitivists are liberals."

"this is like saying:"
- If you are Julia (the author of this letter), you are punk as fuck.
- The Bad Brains are punk as fuck
- Therefore The Bad Brains are Julia"

"you can write it out with variables, too:"
- If 'p' then 'q'  
- 'x' has quality 'q' 
- 'x' does not = 'p'"

"So logic and science have not failed, Dr. Science-O has failed."
- Julia"

"I think I can speak for all of us here at SHAFF when I say just how honored we are that The Bad Brains have chosen to write us."

*see SHAFF #6*
I get it now! I invest in capital and then exchange something intangible and renewable for money.

excellent!

So, like, I bought this gun for $150, but now I'm robbing you, exchanging your continued life without the interference of bullets for the contents of your wallet!

soon, my boy, you'll move up to insurance!

❤️ the people who have gifted couch, floor, tent and guest-bed space to me this year

❤️ to the people who pick up hitch-hikers.

www.tangledwilderness.org
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