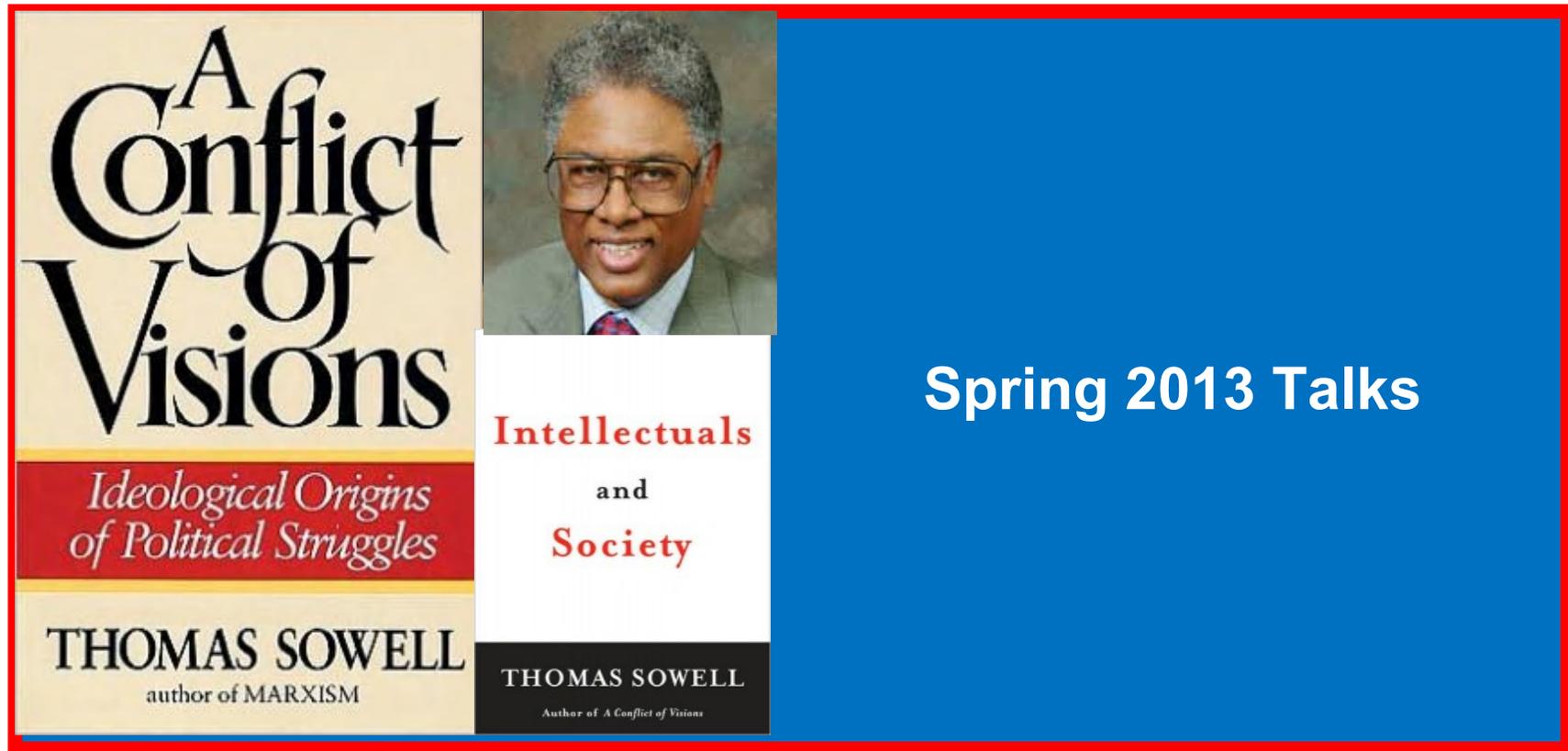


# “Teach the Children Well” Getting Liberty into the Classrooms



The image displays two book covers and a portrait of the author, Thomas Sowell. On the left is the cover of 'A Conflict of Visions: Ideological Origins of Political Struggles' by Thomas Sowell, author of 'MARXISM'. In the center is a portrait of Thomas Sowell, a man with glasses and a suit. To the right of the portrait is the cover of 'Intellectuals and Society' by Thomas Sowell, author of 'A Conflict of Visions'. The entire graphic is set against a blue background with a red border.

**A Conflict of Visions**  
*Ideological Origins of Political Struggles*  
THOMAS SOWELL  
author of MARXISM

**Intellectuals and Society**  
THOMAS SOWELL  
*Author of A Conflict of Visions*

**Spring 2013 Talks**

# **Major Themes**

- **Time for the classroom to catch up to the real world/Internet in social sciences/humanities**
- **Need “science of liberty” teaching in U.S. History, World Civ, Government, and Economics (English and natural sciences too!)**
- **Need ‘progressivist’ views to come out of the closet (power-of-opposite thinking)**
- **High schools the new university—need intellectually diverse faculty and worldview learning**

## **But not arguing ...**

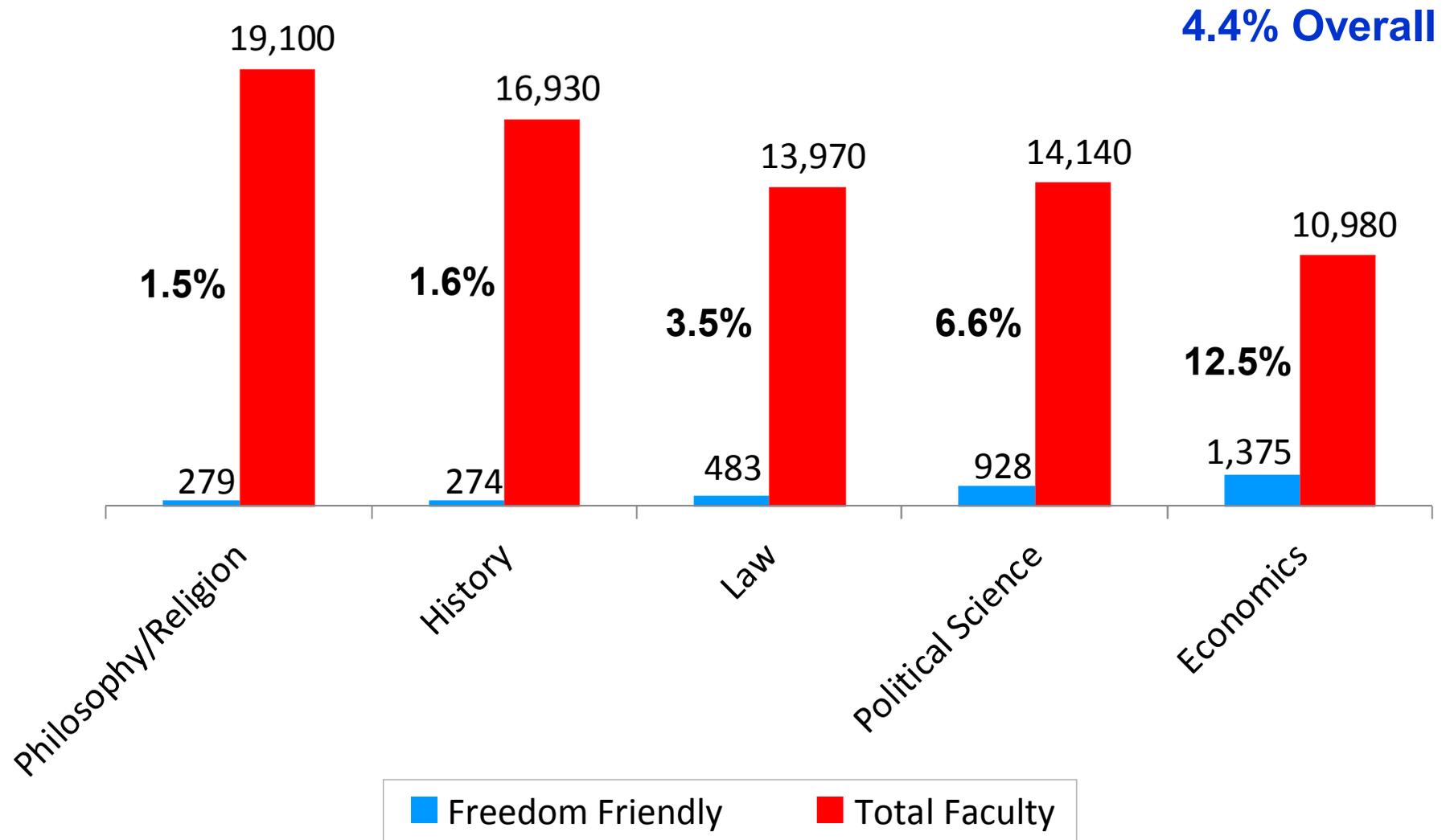
- **Against progressivism (need *more*, not less, in the classroom)**
- **For politics (*intellectual* arguments behind libertarianism, interventionism, collectivism)**
- **For faculty censorship (intellectually diverse faculty can express opinions better because it is self-regulating)**

**Let Best Ideas Compete ... Fairly**

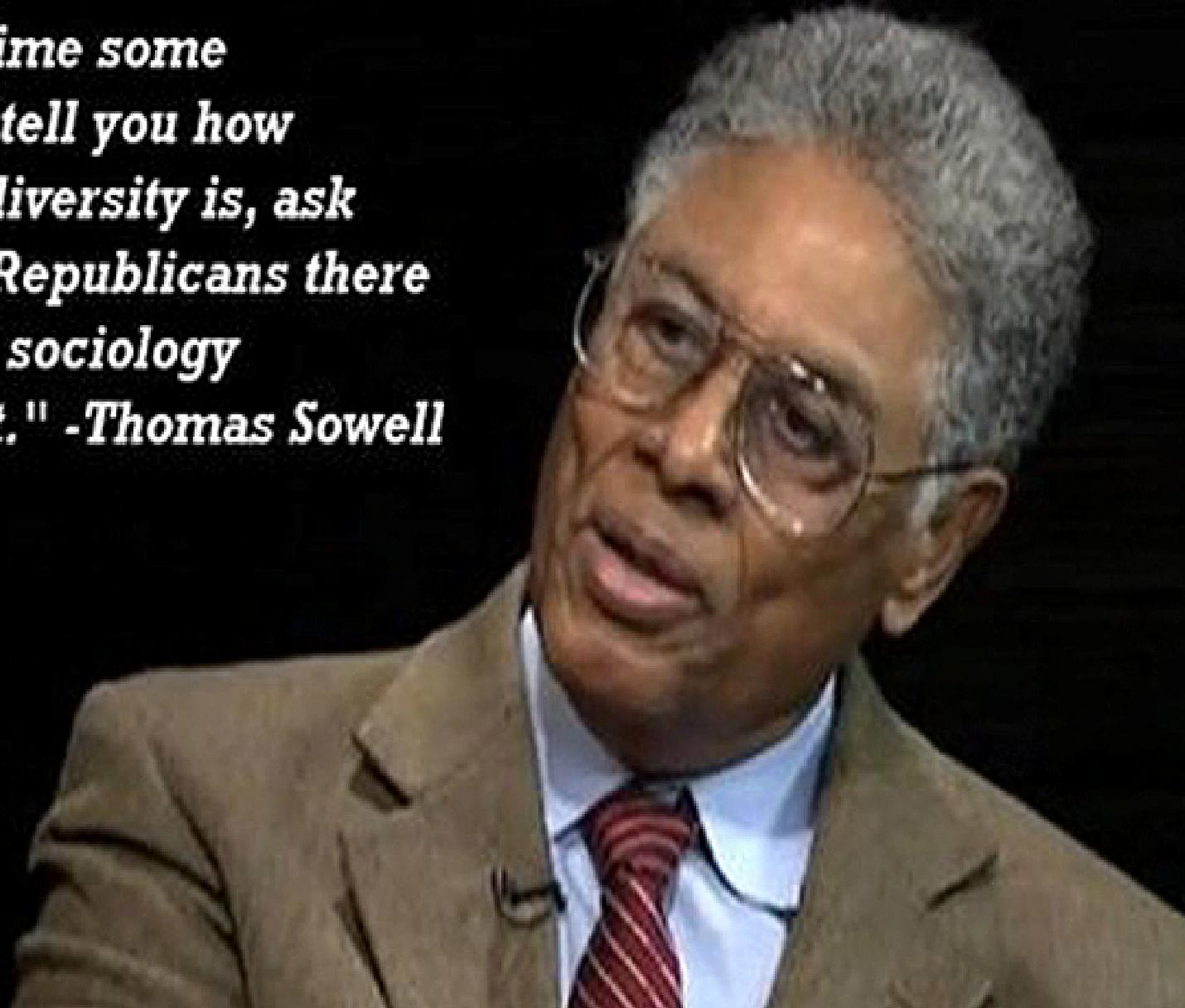
# **Radical ... or Not?**

- **‘Science of liberty’ is the worldview behind the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal***
- **“Small L” libertarian’ philosophy is in play to take over a major political party**
- **“Middle Way” between free market and collectivism is failing at home and abroad (‘exhaustion of the reserve fund’)**
- **Freedom philosophy ‘hip’ on college campuses**

# 'Freedom Friendly' Faculty: Higher Education



*"The next time some academics tell you how important diversity is, ask how many Republicans there are in their sociology department." -Thomas Sowell*



# **Conspiracy? ... No**

- **Self-selection problem: ‘pro-business’ go into business; teachers in ivory (often gov’t) tower**
- **(Biased) teachers learned from biased teachers in college and universities**
- **Habitual thought—very hard to change mind after decades (esp. after age 25)**
- **“Science of liberty” is more intellectually difficult than “good government” view (seen vs. unseen; undesigned order, expanding minerals)**

**BUT ... here comes reality (incl. the Internet)**

# **What High School Students Get ....**

- **Ancient John Locke (17<sup>th</sup> century) ... versus Rousseau**
- **Old Adam Smith (18<sup>th</sup> century) ... vs. Marx**
- **Watered down ('noncontroversial') learning (heavy on facts, light on worldviews)**
- **Surface balance: Read *WSJ* and *NYT* editorials**

**'Check the Box' balanced learning**

# **What Students Don't Get ....**

- **Modernized John Locke (libertarian social & political philosophy)**
- **Modernized Adam Smith (“invisible hand” to “undesigned order”)**
- **In-depth analysis of 20<sup>th</sup> century notables (“Freedom 6”)**
- **Real debates and ‘power of opposites’ learning**

**“We do not impart ideologies”**

---

# freeKinkaid.org

*"A scholarly website to promote intellectual diversity"*

## Course Reviews

- Economics
- Government
- U.S. History
- Interim Term
- World Civilization

## Issues

- Progressivism
- Economic Liberty
- Open Knowledge
- Interviews

## **Student Feedback: ‘Free Society’ Course (2010)**

Throughout my time in “The Free Society” I have been introduced to a number of ideas that were the direct opposite of what I had been taught all my life. Many of these contradicting viewpoints have interested me to some degree, but one has completely changed my viewpoint ... Sweatshops.

My viewpoint before “The Free Society” was that of general consensus, that sweatshops are bad: the working conditions are horrible, the pay is pathetic, and overall sweatshops are just another way of exploiting poor people. But, when I heard Mr. Bradley say something like,

“But if these sweatshops are so bad, the work so terrible, then why don’t the workers just leave? Just consider, for a moment, that sweatshops are actually an improvement for the workers ....”

The different viewpoints I was exposed to these three weeks may never be shared again during my time at Kinkaid, so, I would just like to thank you for teaching this year, and hopefully, again next year.

# freeKinkaid.org

"A scholarly website to promote intellectual diversity"

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Scholars](#)

[Q&A](#)

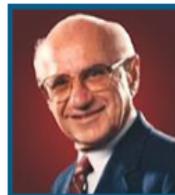
[Contact](#)



Great debates are exciting ...



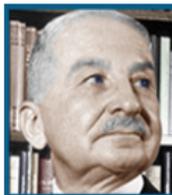
**Buchanan**



**Friedman**



**Hayek**



**Mises**



**Rand**



**Simon**

Welcome – You are visitor:

**25096**

US National Debt

**\$ 16,572,864,291,412**

Debt per Citizen

**\$ 52,557**

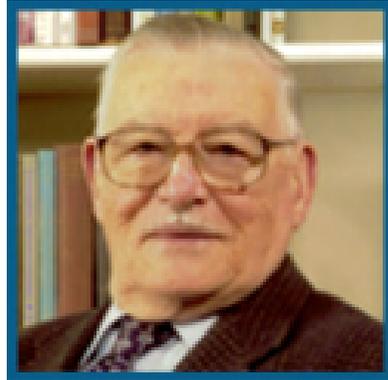
Debt per Taxpayer

**\$ 143,713**

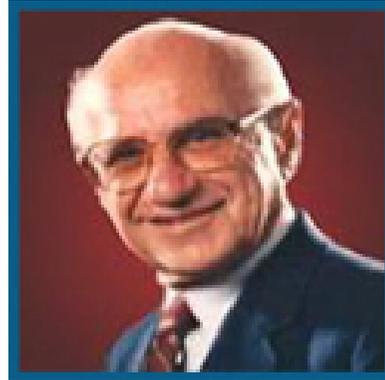
Source: USDebtClock.org  
and Rebuild-US.net

Visit us on

# The “Freedom Six” for Kinkaid



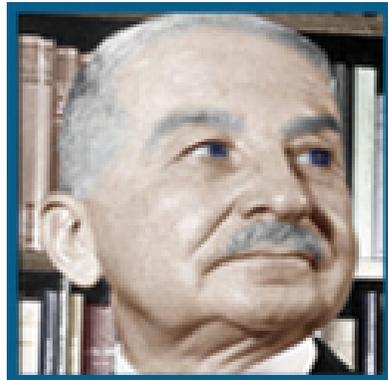
**Buchanan**



**Friedman**



**Hayek**



**Mises**



**Rand**



**Simon**

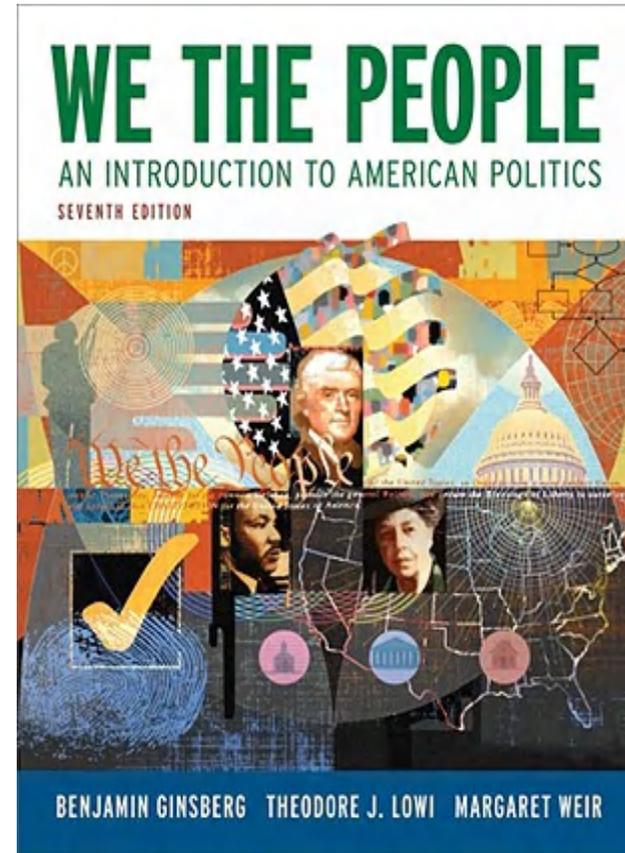
**[freeKinkaid.org](http://freeKinkaid.org)**

*“A scholarly website to promote intellectual diversity”*

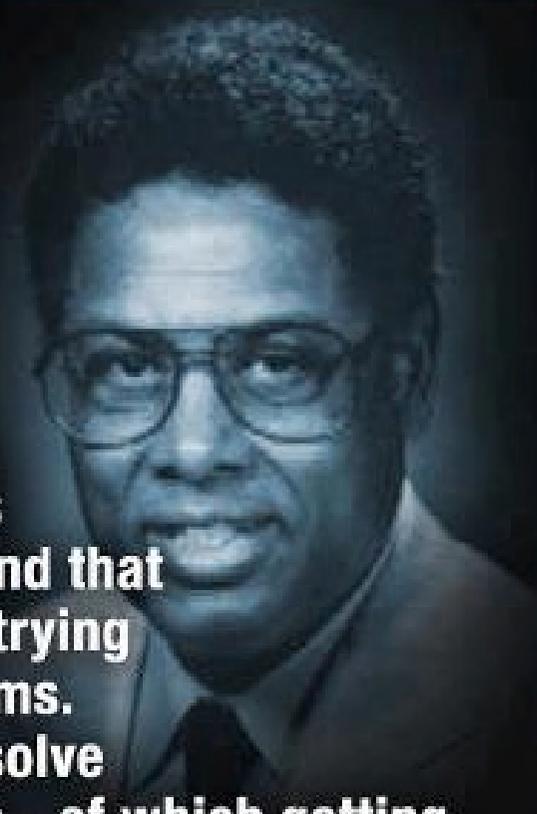
# Two Views of Government



**James Buchanan**  
“Politics without Romance”



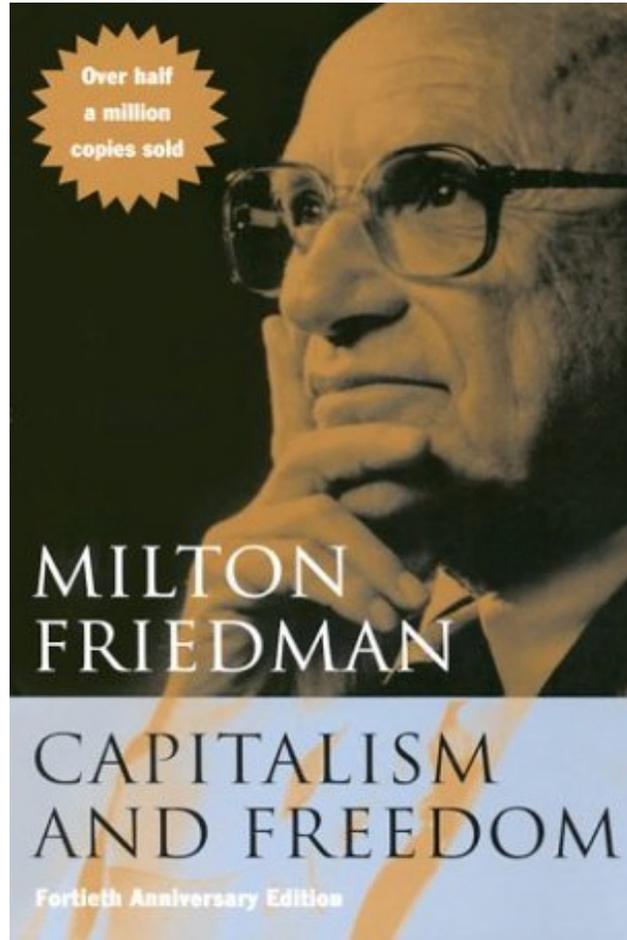
**Pluralist, Amoral View**



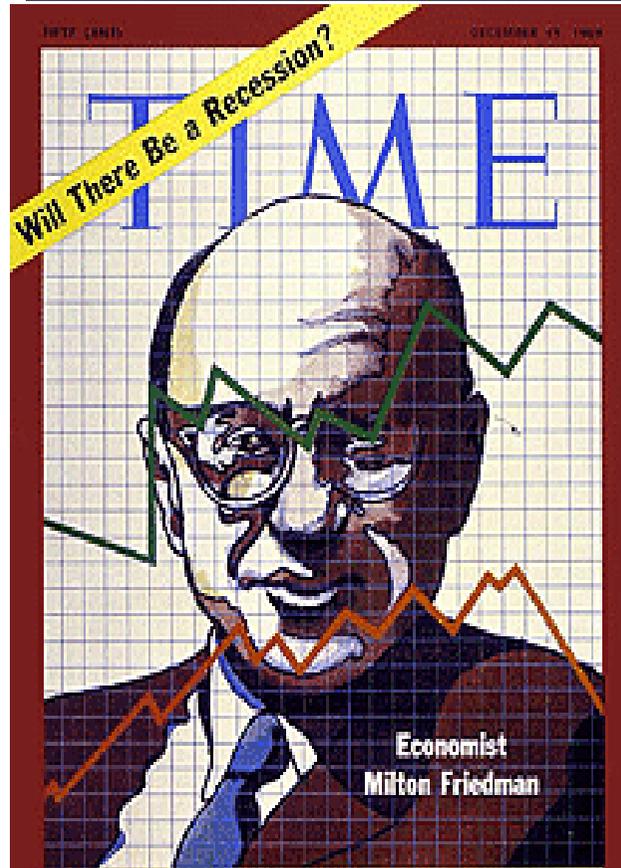
**“No one will really understand politics until they understand that politicians are not trying to solve our problems. They are trying to solve their own problems - of which getting elected and re-elected are number one and number two. Whatever is number three is far behind.”**

<http://www.picquote.com>

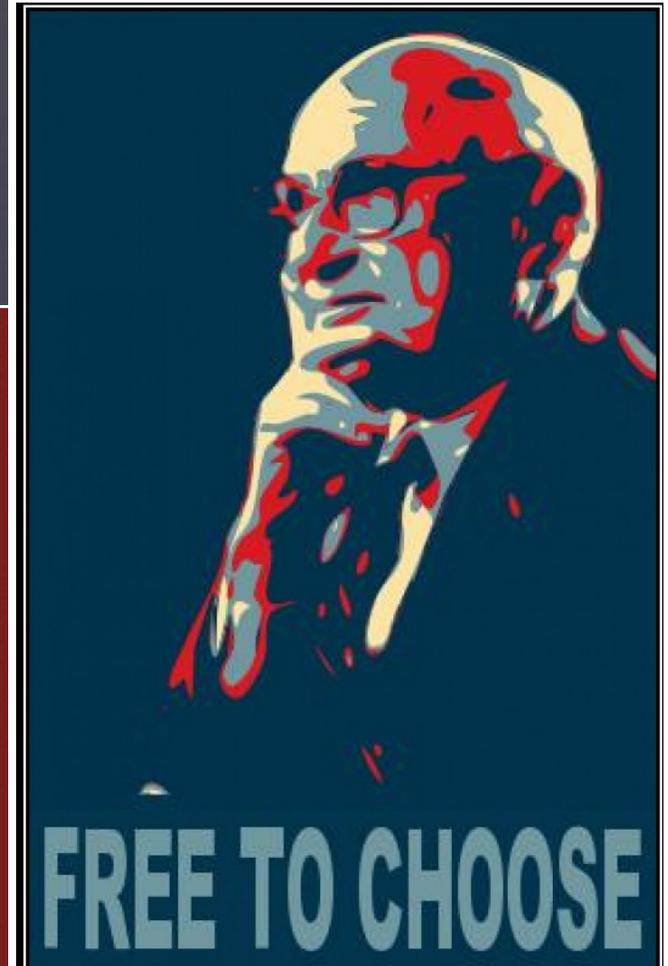
**Academic**



**Public Advisor**



**Intellectual**



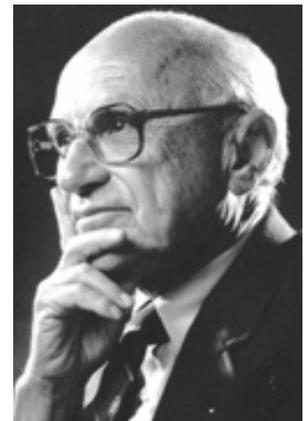
**Debater**

# Friedman on Liberty

**“Our central theme in public advocacy has been the promotion of human freedom.”**

**“[Our work has been] opposition to rent control and general wage and price controls [and] ... support for educational choice, privatizing radio and television channels, an all-volunteer army, limitation of government spending, legalization of drugs, privatizing social security, free trade, and the deregulation of industry and private life to the fullest extent possible.”**

- Milton and Rose Friedman, *Two Lucky People* (1998)



## **Friedman: Great Scholar....**

“[These] standards of scholarship—attention to detail, concern with scrupulous accuracy, checking of sources, and above all, openness to criticism—... have affected the whole of my scholarship.”

“I have a single rule. What I say to one person, I say to everyone. I never say anything off the record.”

“There is no better way of forcing yourself to think through a problem than to write it.”

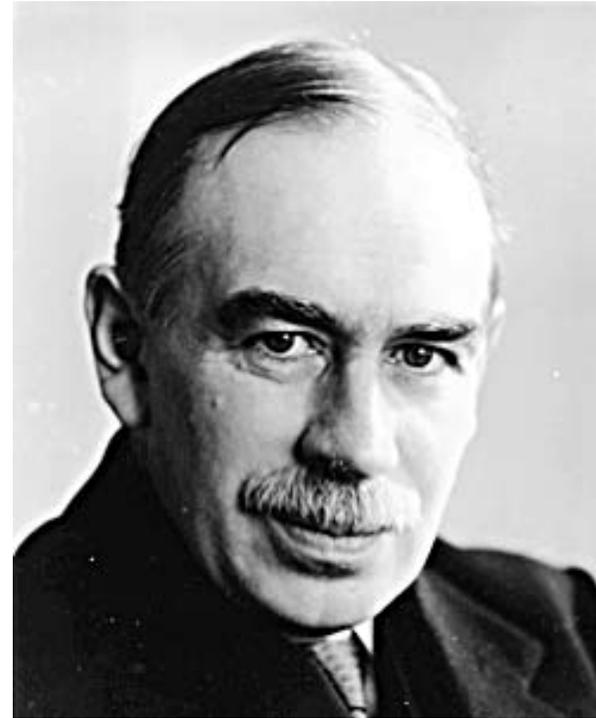
“Sloppy writing reflects sloppy thinking.”

“All learning is ultimately self-learning.”

# **‘Middle Way’ Gov’t Planning**



**F. A. Hayek**  
**Austrian-school Economics**



**J. M. Keynes**  
**Keynesian Economics**

# Undesigned Order

- A path through the woods
- Language, law, morals, customs ... money
- Houston restaurants .... The Internet ...
- Relationships ... de-boarding a plane

**“Results of human action but not of human design” (Hayek)**

SIMPLE  
RULES FOR A  
COMPLEX  
WORLD

RICHARD A. EPSTEIN

**“The proper response to more complex societies should be an ever greater reliance on simple legal rules, including older rules too often and too easily dismissed as curious relics of some bygone horse-and-buggy age.” (1995)**

# Ludwig von Mises

## Greatest Economist of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?

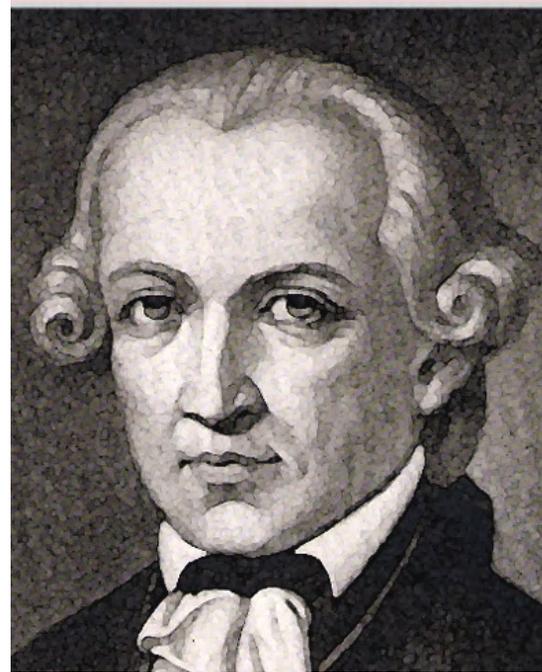


- Methodology: Why economics cannot predict future or uncover quantitative relationships (economics is a *qualitative* science)
- Refuted socialism as a rational economic system in 1920
- Theory of the business cycle via monetary and capital theory
- Refuted Keynesianism before the *General Theory* published in 1936
- “The market is a process” (not a thing or state)

# Ethics of Self-Interest



**Ayn Rand**  
**Objectivism**



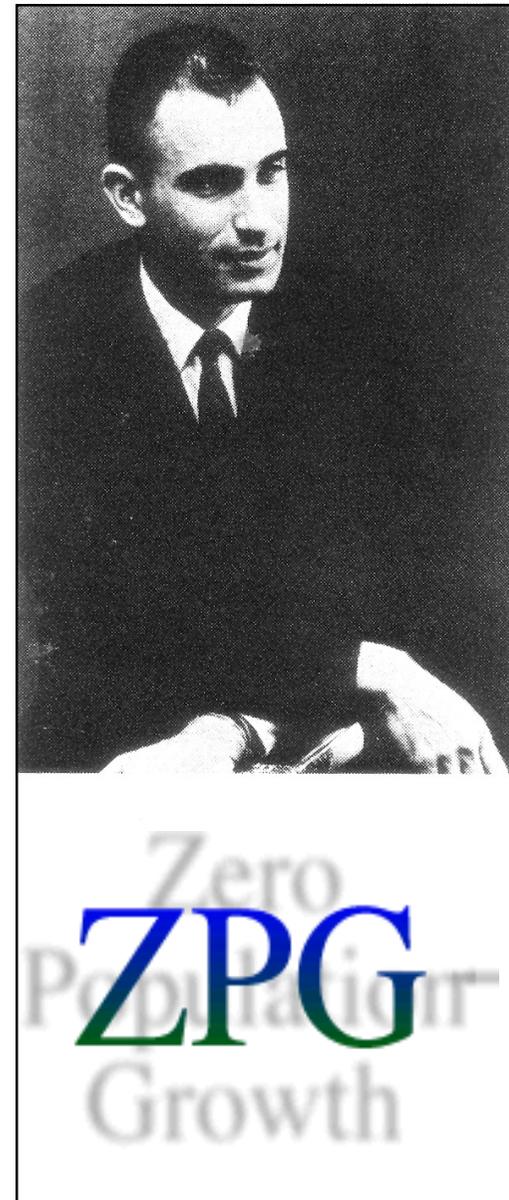
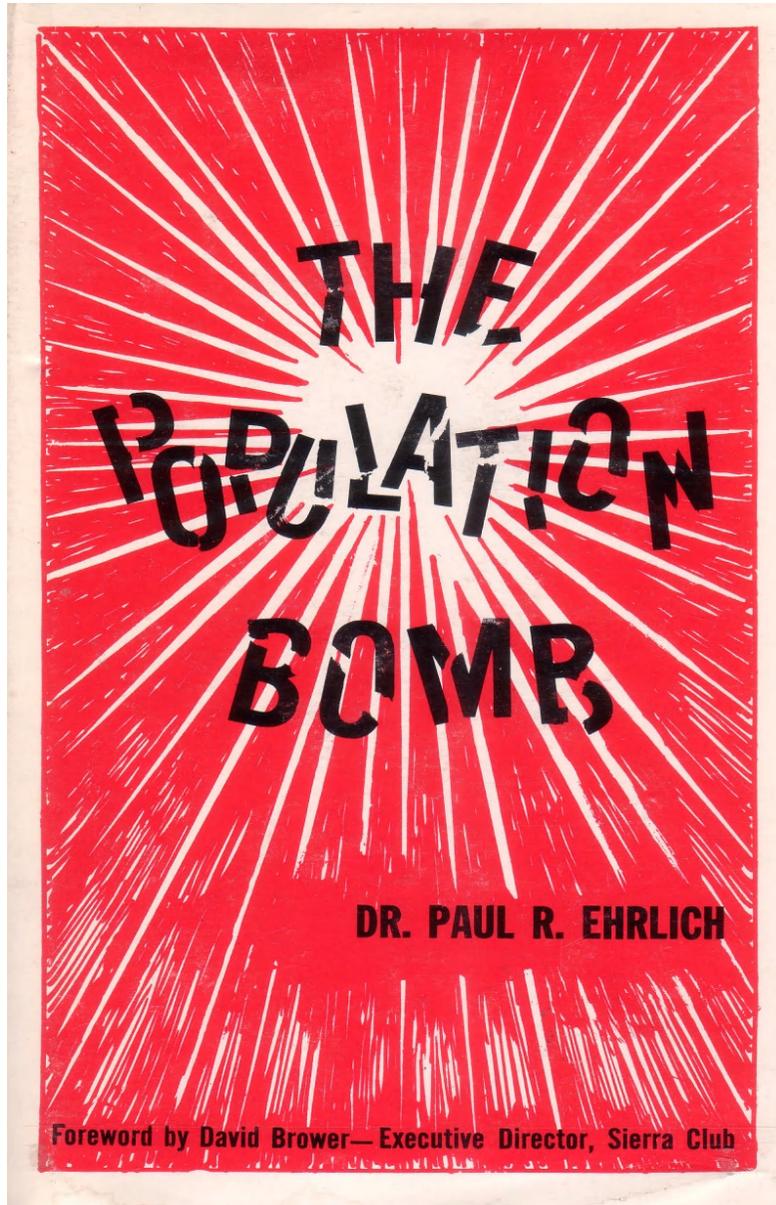
**Immanuel Kant**  
**Limits of Reason**

## Some Ayn Rand Quotes

“Observe the paradoxes built up about capitalism. It has been called a system of selfishness (which, in my sense of the term it is)—yet it is the only system that drew men to unite on a large scale into great countries, and peacefully to cooperate across national boundaries, while all the collectivist, internationalist, One-World systems are splitting the world into Balkanized tribes.”

“America’s abundance was not created by public sacrifices to ‘the common good’ but by the productive genius of free men who pursued their own personal interests and the making of their own private fortunes.”

“*Intellectual* freedom cannot exist without *political* freedom; political freedom cannot exist without *economic* freedom; *a free mind and a free market are corollaries.*”



(1968)

# Ultimate Resource Theory



**Julian L. Simon**  
(Sustainable Development)

More People

More Resources

Cleaner Environment

Greater Wealth

---

---

- **Natural resources and energy are getting less scarce.**

---

---

- **Pollution in the U.S. has been decreasing.**

---

---

- **The world's food supply is improving.**

---

---

- **Population growth has long-term benefits. . . . .**

---

**THE  
ULTIMATE  
RESOURCE**

---

---

**BY JULIAN L. SIMON**

# **Good News! Correctable Problem**

- **Liberty and ‘free friendly’ ideas are more prevalent today than ever before in and out of academia**
- **High schools do not have tenure but year-to-year contracts**
- **Huge parental demand for intellectual diversity and ‘power of opposites’ thinking**

**The students will LOVE it (‘ah, ha’ moments)**

# **Kinkaid Reform: To Do's**

- Utilize [freeKinkaid.org](http://freeKinkaid.org) as a resource (we are not your enemy but your friend!)
- Summer seminar and summer readings for strategic faculty members
- “Freedom friendly” hire (expert in, and sympathetic toward, ‘science of liberty’) for intellectual diversity

**Diverse faculty is self-regulating**



# 'Science of Liberty' Hall of Fame

