


EVERYONE AGREES: THE FREE MARKET WORKS!!

MICHAEL DAVIES, C.E.O., APEX STEEL

THE ECONOMY WORKS PERFECTLY WHEN LEFT ALONE!

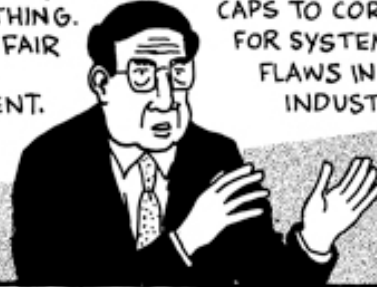
EXCEPT THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO HELP U.S. INDUSTRIES AGAINST FOREIGN COMPETITORS. THAT'S NEEDED TO CORRECT FOR OUTSIDE FORCES.



STANLEY BUHL, OWNER, THE CINCINNATI LARGE MAMMALS BASKETBALL TEAM

SURE, THE MARKET SETS THE PRICE FOR EVERYTHING. THAT'S FAIR AND EFFICIENT.

EXCEPT OBVIOUSLY WE NEED SALARY CAPS TO CORRECT FOR SYSTEMIC FLAWS IN OUR INDUSTRY.



SHEILA REITER, LABOR ECONOMIST

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT GETS INVOLVED IN THE ECONOMY, IT ONLY CREATES INEFFICIENCIES.


EXCEPT THAT WHAT I CALL THE "LABOR-GAP INTERNALITIES" CREATE THE NEED FOR EXTENSIVE WORKER PROTECTION LAWS.



TONY SHORE, MANAGER, SWEET-UM SOURBALLS

ABSOLUTELY. THE GOVERNMENT'S GOT TO STAY OUT OF PRIVATE BUSINESS. IT'S THE AMERICAN WAY.


EXCEPT MARKETS FAIL IN THE SOURBALL INDUSTRY, SO WE NEED THE STATE TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.



ERIK WALDEN, PRACTITIONER OF THE ANCIENT ART OF PUPPET MIMERY.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN THE ECONOMY'S GOT TO BE LIMITED TO THE ESSENTIALS ...

PROVIDING INFRA-STRUCTURE, ENFORCING CONTRACTS AND PROPERTY RIGHTS AND, OF COURSE, SUBSIDIZING DEAD AND DYING ART FORMS.




PETER SZPAK, PROFESSOR OF COMMUNIST HISTORY

YES, AS LONG AS BASIC ASSUMPTIONS HOLD, THE FREE MARKET DOES YIELD OPTIMAL RESULTS.

EXCEPT THAT THOSE ASSUMPTIONS ARE NEVER TRUE, SO THE STATE SHOULD OWN EVERYTHING.

RIGHT! WAIT A MINUTE...



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Cartoonists sometimes poke fun at the vagaries of economic thinking. The 1999 cartoon shown here lampoons current thinking about free enterprise. Consider its message by answering the following question...

1. In the cartoon, six individuals agree that the system of free market capitalism works best when free from government interference. However, each person identifies one exception to the rule. What do the exceptions have in common?