

We can thrive without exchange

Last week's Strategy Note 270 said we need to eliminate exchange. How might an economy completely free from exchange operate?

Let's each do the work we want to do, contribute the fruits of our work to the general supply, and help ourselves to what we want from the general supply. For work we agree needs doing but too few people want to do it, we take turns.

In other words, we expand the set of people with whom we share exchange-free relationships to include everybody.

We'll still work but we'll make useful things and provide useful services instead of just making money. We can sloganize that as "Make use value, not exchange value!"

But won't some people take advantage of that arrangement? Yes, some will at first. Generations of oppressive exchange relationships have confused some people so much that they will grab and hoard.

That tendency will gradually disappear as people see the new arrangement working reliably. Most people will soon find it works better to pick up a few bananas from the supply whenever they want than to haul a case of bananas home under each arm every time a shipment of bananas arrive.



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