

Friendships against exchange

Strategy Note 319 said that we should develop replacements for failing exchange relationships.

Reduce your dependence on the brittle exchange economy through friendships, especially friendships with people who can do useful things (grow food, make things, fix things, tend injuries, raise healthy children, teach valuable skills, help people work well together). People in the current working class have such skills more often than people who rely on their wealth to hire us.

People with such skills learned them. You can also learn more useful skills. Practice those skills of production and coordination.

Nobody, however, can learn all the skills needed. So build many friendships. Support each other in practices of production and coordination.

That might sometimes mean buying locally even though you could buy more cheaply online or from a big chain store. Most of all it means not buying, selling, or using any other form of exchange. It means giving and accepting freely.

Also talk about *why* we do these things. We need to talk about how exchange creates oppressive systems, some less bad than others but none of them good for us.

Practice skills. Build relationships. Especially build relationships beyond exchange. Talk about why.

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