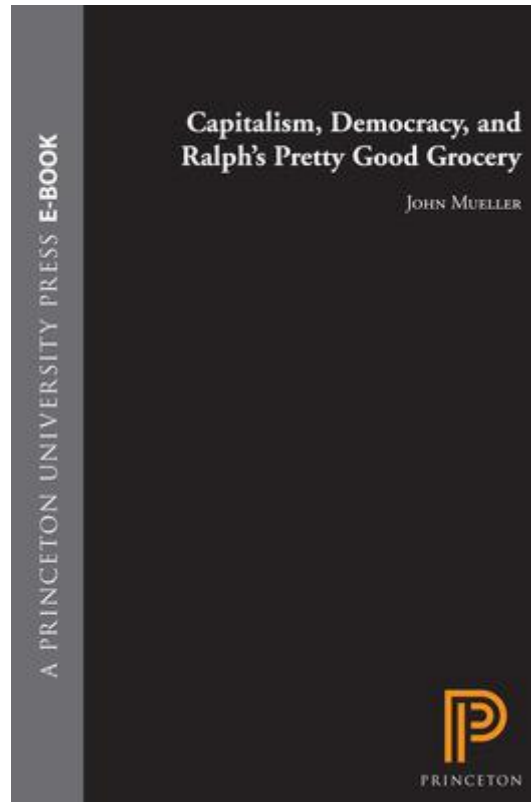


# Capitalism, Democracy, And Ralph's Pretty Good Grocery - John Mueller



[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

Democracy is overrated. Capitalism, on the other hand, doesn't get enough credit. In this provocative and engaging book, John Mueller argues that these mismatches between image and reality create significant political and economic problems--inspiring instability, inefficiency, and widespread cynicism. We would be far better off, he writes, if we recognized that neither system is ideal or disastrous and accepted instead the humdrum truth that both are "pretty good." And, to Mueller, that means good enough. He declares that what is true of Garrison Keillor's fictional store "Ralph's Pretty Good Grocery" is also true of democracy and capitalism: if you can't get what you want there, "you can probably get along without it." Mueller begins by noting that capitalism is commonly thought to celebrate greed and to require discourtesy, deceit, and callousness. However, with examples that range from car dealerships and corporate boardrooms to the shop of an eighteenth-century silk merchant, Mueller shows that capitalism in fact tends to reward behavior that is honest, fair, civil, and compassionate. He argues that this gap between image and reality hampers economic development by encouraging people to behave

dishonestly, unfairly, and discourteously to try to get ahead and to neglect the virtuous behavior that is an important source of efficiency and gain. The problem with democracy's image, by contrast, is that our expectations are too high. We are too often led by theorists, reformers, and romantics to believe that democracy should consist of egalitarianism and avid civic participation. In fact, democracy will always be chaotic, unequal, and marked by apathy. It offers reasonable freedom and security, but not political paradise. To idealize democracy, Mueller writes, is to undermine it, since the inevitable contrast with reality creates public cynicism and can hamper democracy's growth and development. Mueller presents these arguments with sophistication, wit, and erudition. He combines mastery of current political and economic literature with references to figures ranging from Plato to P. T. Barnum, from Immanuel Kant to Ronald Reagan, from Shakespeare to Frank Capra. Broad in scope and rich in detail, the book will provoke debate among economists, political scientists, and anyone interested in the problems (or non-problems) of modern democracy and capitalism. Author: Mueller, John Publisher: Princeton University Press Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Capitalism, Democracy, and Ralph's Pretty Good Grocery Pages: 00000 (Encrypted PDF) On Sale: 2001-07-30 SKU-13/ISBN: 9780691090825 Category: Philosophy : Political

[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

### Similar manuals:

[Home For Persons Seeking Political Asylum, Hamburg, Germany](#)

[Home For Persons Seeking Political Asylum, Hamburg, Germany](#)

[Symbolic Picture, No More Politikvertrauen Ger. For Trust In Politicians And The Political System](#)

[Traffic With An Arrow Pointing To The Right - Move To The Political Left, West](#)

[Traffic With An Arrow Pointing To The Right - Move To The Political Right, East](#)

[Knowledge Of Life: Essays In Thomistic Philosophy, New And Old - Georges Canguilhem](#)

[The Creative Retrieval Of Saint Thomas Aquinas: Essays In Thomistic Philosophy, New And Old - W. Norris Clarke](#)

[The Unpolitical: On The Radical Critique Of Political Reason - Massimo Cacciari](#)

[Nietzsche's Animal Philosophy: Culture, Politics, And The Animality Of The Human Being - Vanessa](#)

[Lemm](#)

[Saintly Influence: Edith Wyschogrod And The Possibilities Of Philosophy Of Religion](#)

[MEDIA MADNESS: THE CORRUPTION OF OUR POLITICAL CUL: The Corruption Of Our Political Culture - James Bowman](#)

[Making A Killing: The Political Economy Of Animal Rights - Bob Torres](#)

[Scales Of Justice: Reimagining Political Space In A Globalizing World - Nancy Fraser](#)

[The Hero And His Shadow: Psychopolitical Aspects Of Myth And Reality In Israel, Revised Edition - Erel Shalit](#)

[Servant Leadership Across Cultures: Harnessing The Strength Of The World's Most Powerful Leadership Philosophy - , Ed Voerman](#)

[Gorkha Land, Lettering On A Wall, Gorkhaland Autonomy Movement, Political Statement, Darjeeling, West Bengal, Lesser Himalaya, India, South Asia, Asia](#)

[Metaphysics Of The Profane: The Political Theology Of Walter Benjamin And Gershom Scholem - Eric Jacobson](#)

[Freedom And Neurobiology: Reflections On Free Will, Language, And Political Power - John Searle](#)

[Nancy Cunard: Heiress, Muse, Political Idealist - Lois Gordon](#)

[Neuroscience And Philosophy: Brain, Mind, And Language - , Daniel Dennett](#)

[Against A Hindu God: Buddhist Philosophy Of Religion In India - Parimal G. Patil](#)

[Yoga, Karma, And Rebirth: A Brief History And Philosophy - Stephen Phillips](#)

[Contributions To Philosophy \(Of The Event\) - Martin Heidegger](#)

[Contesting Democracy: Political Ideas In Twentieth-Century Europe - Jan-Werner Muller](#)

[The Olympics And Philosophy](#)

[Medicine, Morality, And Political Culture: Legislation On Venereal Disease In Five Northern European Countries, C.1870-c.1995 - Ida Blom](#)

[The Columbia History Of Western Philosophy](#)

[Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy - Avrum Stroll](#)

[A Conflict Of Visions: Ideological Origins Of Political Struggles - Thomas Sowell](#)

[To Shake Their Guns In The Tyrant's Face: Libertarian Political Violence And The Origins Of The Militia Movement - Robert H Churchill](#)

[Ethnic Cues: The Role Of Shared Ethnicity In Latino Political Participation - Matt Barreto](#)

[Finance Capitalism Unveiled: Banks And The German Political Economy - Richard Edward Deeg](#)

[The Sopranos And Philosophy: I Kill Therefore I Am](#)

[Poker And Philosophy: Pocket Rockets And Philosopher Kings](#)

[Harley-Davidson And Philosophy: Full-Throttle Aristotle - Bernard E. Rollin](#)

[U2 And Philosophy: How To Decipher An Atomic Band](#)

[James Bond And Philosophy: Questions Are Forever](#)

[Philosophy Looks At Chess](#)

[Transformers And Philosophy: More Than Meets The Mind](#)

[The Golden Compass And Philosophy: God Bites The Dust](#)

[The Rolling Stones And Philosophy: It's Just A Thought Away](#)

[What Philosophy Can Tell You About Your Lover](#)

[Neil Gaiman And Philosophy: Gods Gone Wild!](#)

[The Walking Dead And Philosophy: Zombie Apocalypse Now](#)

[Philosophy Of Social Science - Alexander Rosenberg](#)

[Philosophy Of Science: An Introduction - Thomas Ph.D. Hickey](#)

[The Quotable Atheist: Ammunition For Nonbelievers, Political Junkies, Gadflies, And Those Generally Hell-Bound - Jack Huberman](#)

[Political Woman: The Big Little Life Of Jeane Kirkpatrick - Peter Collier](#)

[The Complete Guide To Yin Yoga: The Philosophy And Practice Of Yin Yoga - Bernie Clark](#)

[Simone De Beauvoir, Philosophy, And Feminism - Nancy Bauer](#)