

Thoughts on anarchism and capitalism

Antonios Kreouzis

April 22, 2020

Part I Definitions

I believe that anarchism is the rejection and skepticism towards authority. This begs the question, what is authority? Authority is any body or organization that creates rules, laws, or any mandatory behavior altering measure to control individuals for the benefit of said authoritative body.

A society is a group of individuals that have collected in order to coexist. People within a anarchist society do not necessarily have rights due to the lack of an authoritative body to protect them. However this does not mean that they are not able to take action in order to better their situation in relation to the society and the other people within it.

Capitalism is an economic system that is based on private ownership of land. By private ownership I mean that a piece of land, and any objects within the land, are at full disposal of the person who owns the land. This creates the consequence that any factory within the land that the person belongs to the person and they reserve the right to fully modify any aspect of said factory and land.

A wage is the materials a person obtains from another person due to any disclosed reason. In modern society, a person earns a wage in the form of a currency that an authoritative body has declared to have an arbitrary value; however, this definition of a wage is not restricted by such factors. Instead a wage is able to take any form that provides help towards the individual that is receiving said wage.

A coup of a certain body will be referenced to on multiple occasions in this article. Therefore, I feel that defining what a coup is crucial. A coup is any attempt to overthrow a certain body, whether that body is a government or an employer. A coup may be accomplished using violence, in which case it will be referred to as a revolution. If a revolution creates a divide within people of a society, then it will be referred to as a civil conflict.

A consequential right is any right that occurs due to a consequence of the situation an individual is in. This right is independent of other properties that do not directly cause said right to exist.

A totalitarian regime is any system that is headed by a majorly powerful state. This state is able to dictate the lives of the citizens within it, and most likely disregards people's rights in order to remain in power.

A good is any physical material that is desired or needed by a person or collective. Goods are able to be traded and are one of the two primary products a business can provide.

A service is any non-physical action that is desired by a person or collective. Services can be traded with goods and are the other two primary products a business provides to its customer.

Lastly, taxes are a wage that an individual or a collective have to pay to a government. It is a mandatory part of most modern countries and not paying them may lead to jail time

Part II

Anarchism in society

Since anarchism is the rejection towards authority. The people within the society will have to take action to protect themselves. This can be demonstrated by emergent behavior, and people's tendency to behave in a way that protects the status quo.

The lack of a government will mean that there is no official and regulated judicial body. This will create the opportunity for people to personally protect the good of the society without having to go through a government regulated body.

An authoritative body would be able to disregard people's rights in the name of security and counter-terrorism. Although, multiple governments over the world have proved that a state will not take immediate action even if there is a surplus of evidence to expose a terrorist. Furthermore, said body would also tax the people in order to pay for its function even if the individual or collective does not wish to pay. Instead of not providing services to the people who do not, a body such as this will jail the person and strip the of their rights. This is not a necessary expense in an anarchist society as there is no body to tax the people.

This is the reason that a citizen based non-official judicial system is favorable. It allows for swift justice in

order to preserve the peace, and acts in the name of evidence instead of a private bias. This can be guaranteed because a crowd that has a private bias will be exposed and may have action taken against it. Consequently, a mixed and representative decision will be made through multiple iterations of justice.

An anarchist society could be created through a coup. However assuming a totalitarian regime is in place, a coup will most likely turn into a civil conflict. This is create a rift in the society that could potentially allow for the overthrowing of said regime.

Part III

Capitalism within society

A capitalist society would be private company based and would have individuals possess the materials. This contrast communism, which is a system in where there is no private property, instead property is collectively owned.

Laissez-faire capitalism is the only social system based on the recognition of individual rights and therefore, the only system that bans force from social relationships - Ayn Rand

Capitalism within a society protects the consequential right of people to set up their own government; although this government will only be in power within the owner's land.

This is not a problem as the person who owns the land has full ability to modify or create anything within the land they own. Said government, however, does not have

to be listened to by anyone outside of its influence. This demonstrates the individuality of a capitalist society.

Any means of production will have to be made within a privately owned piece of land. This creates the consequence that the owner of the good or service can set any price on their product.

Part IV

How capitalism fits in an anarchist society

Capitalism is a individual based economic system. This means that an individual's economic level is greatly valued. Moreover this complements anarchism as it also focuses on the individual's consequential rights.

Since there is no central body to regulate a currency, most likely the economy will be trade based and will focus on goods. However, the lack of a government means that there will be no-one to protect your private land. This means that the individual will have to hire an enforcer to protect their private property. This may take in the form of a private police force, and may result in the theft of another person's land.

Moreover since privatized industries will exist, people may have to pay in order to get provided with services such as health care. Although, this does not mean that the health care receiver cannot force the provider to help them. This may cause outrage in which people enact collective justice and return peace to the society.

The taxation of a person's wage will also cease as there is no government to tax the individual or collective. Instead, work in order to preserve the interest of the society would be outsourced to a private company. This is because the interests of companies are similar to the collective. This is shown as a shared goal, to increase convenience. This convenience could be in the form of roads in order to increase the efficiency of travel between companies, and the providing of electricity as it relates to a good that a company can profit from. Therefore, a company can be commissioned to increase the convenience of a company which in turn would provide the company with a new facet of profit. Therefore increasing the people's quality of life.