

# METHEXIS

A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW APPROACH TO TECHNOLOGY

BY  
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FLOATING IN THE WILD  
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## 0.1 Motivations and Theories

### 0.1.1 Small is Beautiful

E.F. Schumacher, author of *Small Is Beautiful*, was a dedicated atheist, but converted to Catholicism. From <https://www.religion-online.org/article/small-is-beautiful-and-so-is-rome-surprising-faith-of-e-f-schumacher/>:

one of the most frequently cited chapters [of *Small is Beautiful*], “Buddhist Economics”, almost made it appear as if he were deeply involved in Eastern religions. But wasn’t this chapert, I inquired, really more informed by the Catholic writings and thinkers he mentioned so frequently elsewhere in the book – the papal encyclicals, Newman, Gilson and, above all, Thomas Aquinas?

Schumacher emphasizes that the Christian message is a very profound and quite specific one.

I foudn that in England almost any old nonsense was being written and passed off as Christianity, even by bishops. And so I finally decided that the Catholic tradition was the one where I felt most at home, and where the essentials of Christianity were best preserved.

Schumacher is quite adamant that Catholicism must be a *social* affair, that it must manifest in community and continuity. Dr. John Coleman, professor of religion and society at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, stated,

By this I mean the stream of Catholic thought that build on Thomistic principles, as particularly reapplied in the work of Jacques Martain. Its adherents stressed that human institutions ought to be manageable in size, respectful of the human scale, and sanely run so that they did not damage the people involved in them.

Coleman continues:

The problem with social Catholicism, is that it has been mainly enunciated rather than acted upon.

This text is not aimed at pontificating or producing particularly new profound ideas. The aim of this text is to grapple with the existing ideas and begin putting them into practice.