Grasping Reality with Both Hands

The weblog of Brad DeLong. Since 1999. Comments (mostly) welcome. Or email me at delong@hey.com with "delong-weblog" as the subject. RSS feed. Also on twitter @delong.

Briefly Noted for 2020-08-15

Briefly Noted:

Hamilton Project: Black Households & COVID-19: Impediments to Economic Security https://www.hamiltonproject.org/events/black_households_covid_19_impediments_to_economic_security: 'how COVID-19 has exacerbated racial economic inequality... Maya Rockeymoore Cummings... Jevay Grooms... Bradley Hardy... Trevon Logan... Stephanie Rawlings-Blake... & Danyelle Solomon...

Philip Stephens: An Election to Decide America's Place in be World https://www.ft.com/content/876ba013-65d1-47aa-b8b0-79445efa7f71: 'November's contest will be as consequential for the world as any since Franklin D Roosevelt...

Ashley Nunes: *Ride-hailing's Collapsing House of Cards* https://ftalphaville.ft.com/2020/08/13/1597305329000/Ride-hailing-scollapsing-house-of-cards/: 'Ride-hailing's profitability aspirations ultimately conflict with its desire to upend the global auto market. These companies have a choice. By the virtue of raising or lowering fares they can either excite investors or thrill consumers. But they can't do both...

Jim Sleeper: The Inevitability of Defending Henry Kissinger https://newrepublic.com/article/158897/barry-gewen-kissingernixon-foreign-policy: 'Kissinger's and Nixon's bloody maneuvers—in Cambodia, in Vietnam—weren't as necessary or inevitable as their admirers and apologists assert. Gewen cites the condemnations not so much to engage with them as to give his own assessments an aura of truth-seeking candor...

Andrew J.Jalil & al.: Eating to Save be Planet: Evidence From A Randomized Controlled Trial Using Individual-Level Food Purchase Data https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306919220301548?via%3Dihub: 'Climate change-health educational intervention reduces meat consumption.... "Win-win" message (EAT-Lancet Commission) leads to sustainable dietary change.... International food policy debate on interventions to meet global climate change goals...

Cecile Gaubert & Oleg Itskhoki: Superstar firms & pe Comparative Advantage of Countries https://voxeu.org/article/superstarfirms-and-comparative-advantage-countries: 'We find that large individual firms appear to be a quantitatively important force in driving the comparative advantage of countries and its evolution over time. The granular structure of the world economy arguably offers incentives for governments to adopt trade and industrial policies targeted at individual firms...

Lacedaemonia as tourist trap: **Plutarch**: *Life of Lycurgus*

http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/Texts/Plutarch/Lives/Lycurgus*.html: 'The boys make such a serious matter of their stealing, that one of them, as the story goes, who was carrying concealed under his cloak a young fox which he had stolen, suffered the animal to tear out his bowels with its teeth and claws, and died rather than have his theft detected. And even this story gains credence from what their youths now endure, many of whom I have seen expiring under the lash at the altar of Artemis Orthia...

Plus:

Joel E. Cohen: How to Count Humans https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/lancet-population-growth-study-july-2020by-inel-e-cohen-2020-08: 'the global population is likely to peak in 2064 at 9.7 hillion, before declining to 8.8 hillion by 2100.

countries at most half their 2017 size by 2100 By contrast, Nigeria's population is expected to grow 3.8-fold between 2017 and 2100: Stein Emil Vollset & al. : Fertility, Mortality, Migration, & Population Scenarios For 195 Countries & Territories From 2017 To 2100 https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30677-2/fulltext	
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