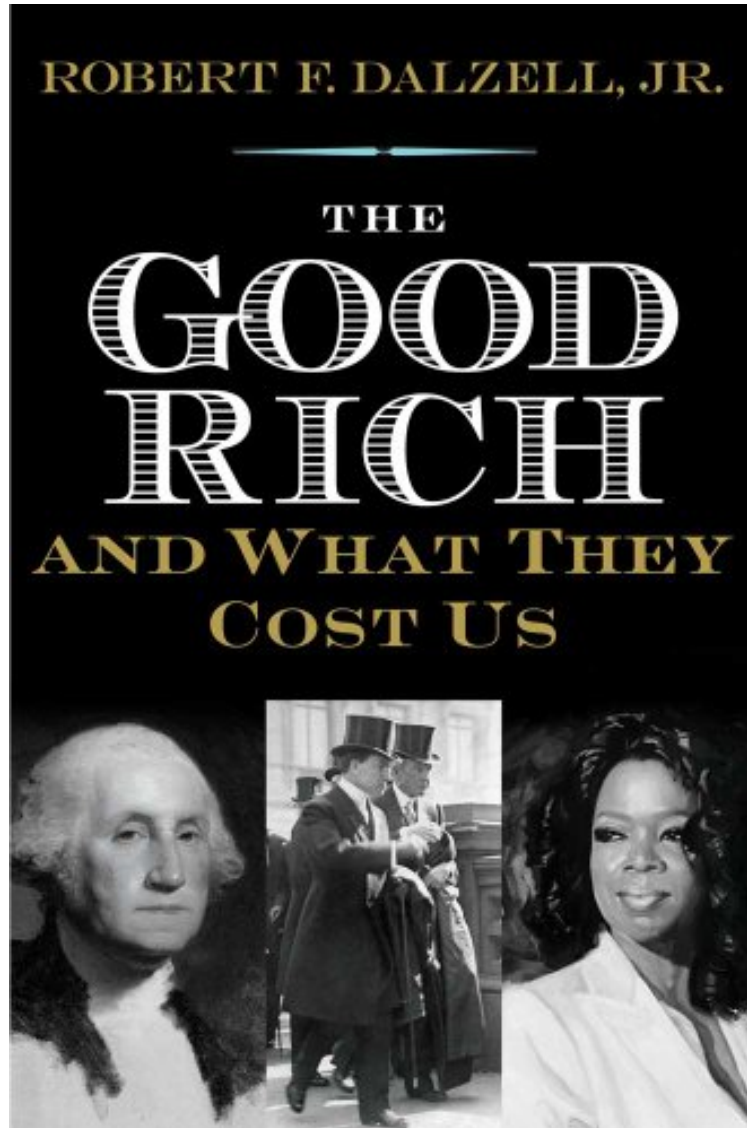


[Download] The Good Rich and What They Cost Us

The Good Rich and What They Cost Us

Robert F. Dalzell Jr.

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#2229091 in Books 2013-01-08Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.40 x .78 x 6.411, 1.04 #File Name: 0300175590208 pages | File size: 36.Mb

Robert F. Dalzell Jr. : **The Good Rich and What They Cost Us** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Good Rich and What They Cost Us:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reflects deep historical knowledge.By P. LawrenceWell grounded, incisive and a fair treatment. But the subtitle is misleading: that's really not what the book is about.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy DSevenGood read8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. American Values in ConflictBy Jean-JacquesDrawing on interesting biographical material he has addressed before.

Dalzell characterizes different charitable impulses that have motivated several great (famous and not so) American families to lead the reader into his thoughtful observations on wealthy America generally. His theses: The wealthy aren't nearly as generous as they are thought to be; Their contributions tend to serve their personal interests rather than generally accepted societal needs; Their popularity has waxed and waned significantly through our history and may be waning again in light of current economic circumstances; The "Occupy...." movement may, or may not be, the beginning of a new revulsion toward the extremely rich. Dalzell probably hurried to get the book out in the immediate wake of the "Occupy...." movements. Though they fizzled, his observations are nonetheless cogent, thought-provoking and grist for a historically based and thoughtful consideration of the issues of growing wealth inequality and its consequences. A most worthwhile read.

This timely and provocative book addresses a great paradox at the core of the American Dream: a passionate belief in the principles of democracy combined with an equally passionate celebration of wealth. Americans treasure an open, equal society, yet we also admire those fortunate few who amass riches on a scale that undermines social equality. In today's era of too big to fail investment banks, "vulture capitalist" hedge fund managers, Internet fortunes, and a growing concern over inequality in American life, should we cling to both parts of the paradox? Can we? To understand the problems that vast individual fortunes pose for democratic values, Robert Dalzell presents an intriguing cast of wealthy individuals from colonial times to the present, including George Washington, one of the richest Americans of his day, the "robber baron" John D. Rockefeller, and Oprah Winfrey, for all of whom extreme wealth is inextricably tied to social concerns. In the process Dalzell uncovers the sources of our contradictory feelings toward the very rich, how they have sought to be perceived as "the good rich," and the reality behind the widespread notion that wealth and generosity go hand in hand in America. Finally, in a thoughtful and balanced conclusion, the author explores the cost of our long-standing attitudes toward the rich.

"Among its many virtues, the book's timely message should have an impact on the current debate over wealth and inequality. . . . I much admire the author's ability to tell stories that force us to reconsider what wealth means without resorting to moral or Marxist outrage." Mark Lytle, Bard College