

CONCLUSION

Throughout this book I have been emphasizing a central theme which I do not believe has been emphasized enough in books on basic economics:

The most fundamental motivating force for prosperity is people being allowed to provide as much stuff for each other as they want and need.

Everything else is details. The beauty of the free market is that each person, through voting with their dollars, ends up determining what people want and need.

And, in case you have not noticed by now, at the core of the system is *freedom*. Freedom to own property of all kinds, and freedom of people to personally benefit in proportion to the value of their good ideas to the rest of society.

Other issues such as limited resources, prices, efficiency, marginal costs, credit, interest rates, supply and demand, etc., are all taken care of automatically by the free market in response to the fundamental motivation to provide for each other's needs and wants.

While this is not an entirely new concept, I believe it has not been emphasized enough by other writers on the subject of basic economics. Most economists - including those who write for a general readership - tend to focus on the detailed components of a successful economy.

I instead wanted to simplify the discussion to emphasize the energizing force that pushes us toward ever increasing levels of prosperity – *freedom*.

I take issue with those who claim the motivation of the free market is suspect since it is based upon profit or selfishness. In the free market, business profits are created and a person only