

Contents

Preface	ix
PART ONE. YOU SHOULD BECOME A HUMANE TRUE LIBERAL	
1. Modern Liberals Recommend Both Golden Rules, That Is, Adam Smith's Equality of Opportunity	3
2. Liberalism Had a Hard Coming	8
3. Modern Liberals Are Not Conservatives, Nor Statists	13
4. Liberals Are Democrats, and Markets Are Democratic	20
5. Liberals Detest Coercion	25
6. Liberalism Had Good Outcomes, 1776 to the Present	29
7. Yet After 1848 Liberalism Was Weakened	34
8. The "New Liberalism" Was Illiberal	41
9. The Result of the New Illiberalism Was Very Big Governments	47
10. Honest and Competent Governments Are Rare	52

11. Deirdre Became a Modern Liberal Slowly, Slowly	60
12. The Arguments Against Becoming a Liberal Are Weak	64
13. We Can and Should Liberalize	70
14. For Example, Stop "Protection"	77
15. And Stop Digging in Statism	83
16. Poverty Out of Tyranny, Not "Capitalist" Inequality, Is the Real Problem	87
17. Humane Liberalism Is Ethical	93
PART TWO. HUMANE LIBERALISM ENRICHES PEOPLE	
18. Liberty and Dignity Explain the Modern World	103
19. China Shows What Economic Liberalism Can Do	107
20. Commercially Tested Betterment Saves the Poor	113
21. Producing and Consuming a Lot Is Not by Itself Unethical	119
22. Trickle Up or Trickle Down Is Not How the Economy Works	124
23. The Liberal Idea, in Short, Made the Modern World	130
PART THREE. THE NEW WORRY ABOUT INEQUALITY IS MISTAKEN	
24. Forced Equality of Outcome Is Unjust and Inhumane	143

25. Piketty Is Mistaken	151
26. Europe Should Resist Egalitarian Policies	156
27. Piketty Deserves Some Praise	165
28. But Pessimism About Market Societies Is Not Scientifically Justified	169
29. The Rich Do Not in a Liberal Society Get Rich at the Expense of the Rest	177
30. Piketty's Book Has Serious Technical Errors	185
31. The Ethical Accounting of Inequality Is Mistaken	192
32. Inequality Is Not Unethical If It Happens in a Free Society	197
33. Redistribution Doesn't Work	204

PART FOUR. AND THE OTHER ILLIBERAL
IDEAS ARE MISTAKEN, TOO

34. The Clerisy Had Three Big Ideas, 1755–1848, One Good and Two Terrible	213
35. The Economic Sky Is Not Falling	216
36. The West Is Not Declining	220
37. Failure Rhetoric Is Dangerous	224
38. The Word "Capitalism" Is a Scientific Mistake	231
39. Marxism Is Not the Way Forward	236
40. Some on the Left Listen	243
41. But They Have Not Noticed the Actual Results of Liberalism	251
42. And Are Unwilling to Imagine Liberal Alternatives	257

43. A Post-Modern Liberal Feminism Is Possible and Desirable	264
44. Imperialism Was Not How the West Was Enriched	272
45. Liberalism Is Good for Queers	277
46. The Minimum Wage Was Designed to Damage Poor People and Women	282
47. Technological Unemployment Is Not Scary	287
48. Youth Unemployment <i>Is</i> Scary, and Comes from Regulation	296
49. Do Worry About the Environment, but Prudently	302
50. Illiberalism, in Short, Is Fact Free, and Mostly Unethical	307
Notes	313
Bibliography	331
Acknowledgments	371
Index	373