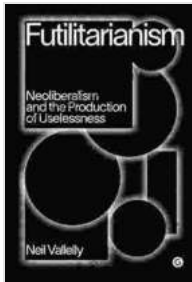


Neoliberalism and the Production of Uselessness: A Critical Examination



Futilitarianism: Neoliberalism and the Production of Uselessness (Goldsmiths Press / PERC Papers)

by Neil Vallely

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1224 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 248 pages



In his seminal work, "Neoliberalism and the Production of Uselessness," Eric A. Stanley embarks on a rigorous exploration of the pervasive consequences of neoliberal policies on contemporary society. This thought-provoking book delves into the ways in which neoliberalism, as an ideology and a set of economic practices, has led to the creation of a vast and growing population of "useless" individuals.

Defining Uselessness

Stanley begins by defining uselessness not simply as unemployment or labor market exclusion but as a multifaceted condition characterized by social, cultural, and political dimensions. He argues that neoliberalism has

fostered a society in which the value of individuals is increasingly measured by their productivity and profitability within a capitalist system.

Neoliberal Policies and the Production of Uselessness

The book meticulously examines how key neoliberal policies have contributed to the production of uselessness. These policies include:

- **Privatization:** The transfer of public assets and services to private entities has led to job losses, decreased social mobility, and the erosion of safety nets.
- **Deregulation:** The reduction of government regulations on businesses has weakened labor protections, increased worker exploitation, and made employment more precarious.
- **Free Trade:** The lowering of trade barriers has accelerated globalization, leading to job outsourcing and increased competition for low-wage labor.
- **Austerity Measures:** Government spending cuts in response to economic downturns have disproportionately impacted social programs, exacerbating unemployment and poverty.

The Consequences of Uselessness

Stanley vividly depicts the devastating consequences of uselessness on individuals and society as a whole. Uselessness breeds poverty, social exclusion, and mental and physical health problems. It erodes social cohesion, undermines democracy, and perpetuates cycles of despair.

Challenging the Myth of Meritocracy

The book challenges the prevailing myth of meritocracy, which suggests that individuals are rewarded based on their talent and hard work. Stanley argues that neoliberalism has created a system where success is often determined by factors beyond individual control, such as socioeconomic background, access to education, and luck.

Alternatives to Neoliberalism

While exposing the flaws of neoliberalism, Stanley also offers glimpses of hope by exploring alternative economic and social models that prioritize human well-being over profit maximization. He advocates for policies that promote job creation, reduce income inequality, strengthen labor protections, and expand access to essential services.

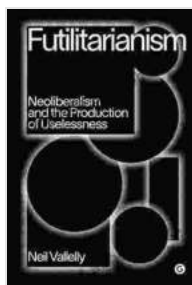
Eric A. Stanley's "Neoliberalism and the Production of Uselessness" is a groundbreaking work that provides a critical analysis of the devastating impact of neoliberal policies on our society. It challenges the dominant narrative of meritocracy, exposes the roots of uselessness, and offers a compelling vision for a more just and equitable future. This book is an essential read for anyone seeking to understand the complex dynamics of contemporary capitalism and its consequences for human well-being.

Call to Action

Join the conversation about neoliberalism and the production of uselessness. Share your thoughts and experiences in the comments section below. Together, we can work towards creating a society that values all individuals, regardless of their productivity or market value.

Book Free Download

To delve deeper into the groundbreaking insights of "Neoliberalism and the Production of Uselessness," Free Download your copy today from Goldsmiths Press.

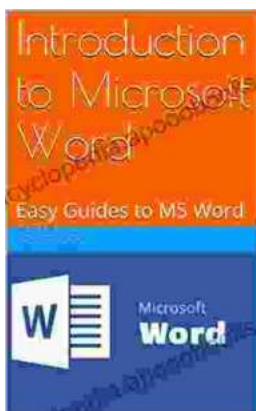


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