

Evolutionary Economics

If the world goes through constant change and technology exponentially increases, would it not make sense that Economics & Capitalism should go through the same shift? If those who have the most money have the most power, would it not be safe to assume that those who have the most money also have the most political power; especially since money equals free speech confirmed by the Supreme Court via Citizens United rulingⁱ in 2009? Granted if those who have the most money also have the most political power and ability to set up the economic system in their favor, how may a new laws be put in place that still favors hard work and dedication while limiting ‘trust fund babies’? Are politics, the law, and the economy this closely intertwined? Let’s see if we can discuss this briefly and what the future holds.

The study of economics usually analyzes perfect scenarios, with little extraneous data – yet this is not the world that we live in. Not only are systems and laws in place that prevent ideal behavior from being practical, but humans’ own irrational logic is to blame in many cases as well. Dan Ariely, Israeli Behavioral Economist, found that 86% of people paid a bribe when it was affordable, and this made people behave more dishonestly because 81% of the sample population lied about it.ⁱⁱ How could it be possible to reframe some of the rules of the economic system, when those that make the rules have the most political power and financial resources naturally?

Evolutionary Economics

The first change that must happen is the overturn of the Citizens United Supreme Court ruling in 2009. Under this case, political contributions are a form of “freedom of speech” and cannot be restricted by any corporation.ⁱⁱⁱ This was only ruled on six years ago, and lobbyists have already turned Washington DC upside down (we will go more into this in a later Case Study). However it is very logical to believe that until corporations are not “considered people”^{iv} and not allowed to contribute to political campaigns without restrictions, little change is possible because normal people do not have extra money to contribute for their political preferences. Additionally if we vote online, more of the American public would be reached. Why can we bank online, but not vote online? It just does not seem possible that each state is able to tally all their citizens’ votes, before the Electoral College cast theirs; logically it does not make sense to even the smartest of us in 2016 with the Internet and social media we still vote in a cardboard box in someone’s garage down the block – and granted the Internet is not taken control of next.

Guaranteed basic income is an idea that has been trolling the Internet during the election season, and after some in-depth review, may have some good points in theory. This would lead to the removal of most public assistance programs and would be a good start; however I do believe this is truly unrealistic with today’s political and public mentality. What needs to be

Evolutionary Economics

done slowly is raise the interest rates – making the economy benefit ‘savers’ rather than ‘debtors’. The average American household owes more than \$15,000 in credit card debt and \$50,000 in student loan debt.^v If the Fed raised interest rates, this would create less economic spending so people can become ‘savers’ once again, just slowly. The way that the economy has changed in the last 20 years is exasperating, and only highlighted when you personally talk to parents, economists, and friends about what the mentality and ‘good ‘ol days’ were once like. Is the war in this country against the rich, or the ‘rising rich’ when the average 27 year old healthy American making \$27,000 a year pays more than \$300 per month on Obamacare?^{vi}

Evolutionary Economics



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Brett is the founder, motivator and visionary behind Econ Evidence. He started his consulting career as a peer-to-peer consultant and his outstanding, global success within the biotech area launched him into corporate consulting. Prior to starting Econ Evidence, Brett was a Senior Portfolio Analyst & Operations Consultant for a Fortune 500 Clinical Research Organization and later received his MBA from the Rady School of Management.

With years of international clinical consulting experience, in various countries across Europe and Asia, performing complex financial planning and optimization, he is the ideal leader for Econ Evidence. Contact Us today for Brett Blazys' CV.

ⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizens_United_v._FEC

ⁱⁱ <http://danariely.com/experiments/explore/the-price-of-a-bribe/>

ⁱⁱⁱ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizens_United_v._FEC

^{iv} https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizens_United_v._FEC

^v

<https://www.google.com/search?q=average+debt&oq=average+debt&aqs=chrome..69i57.1831j0j1&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

^{vi} http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/26/upshot/rising-obamacare-rates-what-you-need-to-know.html?_r=0