

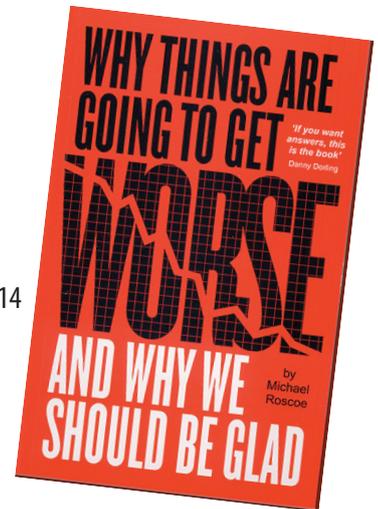
Why Things Are Going To Get Worse . . . And Why We Should Be Glad

An Inquiry into Wealth, Work and Values

By Michael Roscoe

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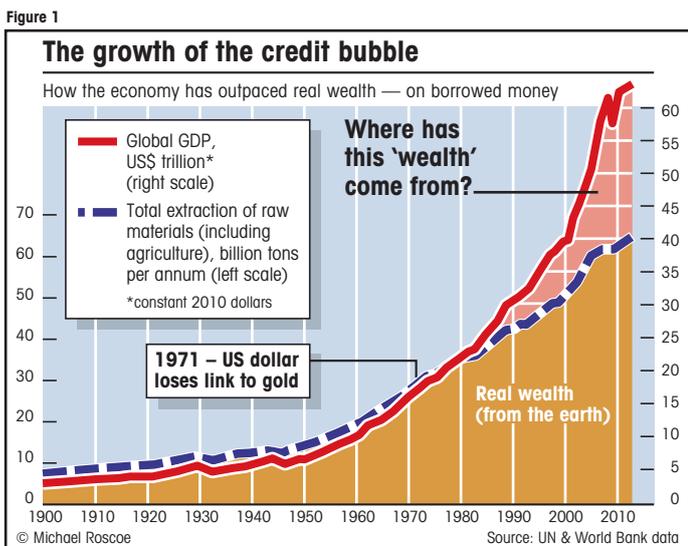
Our economic system is broken: this book explains what's really gone wrong and why we're still on the wrong track.



Six years after the financial crisis, the economy has barely picked up. Our leaders point to falling unemployment figures and rising GDP, but real jobs and wages are still in decline, debt and

problems, global warming continues unabated, yet is largely ignored. Taking a good hard look at the facts, this book explains why the easy times have gone for good and why things are going to get worse, especially in Europe.

Michael Roscoe demonstrates clearly why the free-market capitalist system is no longer working, how our obsession with GDP growth and finance – trying to make money from money – is destroying society and condemning future generations to poverty. We are building up massive debts, both financial and environmental, which our grandchildren will have to pay for, one way or another.



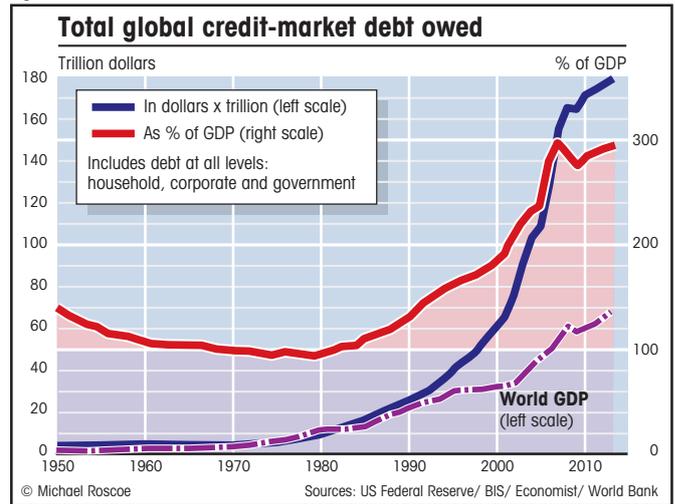
inequality are still rising and GDP is being boosted by the re-inflation of the credit bubble. In addition to these

Why should we be glad that things are going to get tougher?

Because it just isn't possible for more and more people to take more and more of the earth's finite resources in the hope of producing more goods and creating more wealth, using more energy and generally expecting more of everything forever. We are rapidly approaching the earth's natural limits – a decline in material wealth might well be the only thing that saves humanity from self-destruction. And it might even make us happier in the process.

In the third part of this investigation into work, wealth and values, Roscoe outlines some potential solutions to the problems he's identified – solutions that will require a re-evaluation of prosperity away from immediate self-gratification towards a sustainable lifestyle. It's time we acknowledged the truth so that we can set about changing our economic system to one that takes the future into consideration, putting a much greater emphasis on job creation and the kind of industry that will support a sustainable way of life and a more equal distribution of the world's natural wealth, which is ultimately the source of all our wealth.

Figure 72



What makes this book different?

With over thirty years' experience as a journalist at some of Britain's top newspapers, including the *Financial Times*, *The Economist*, the *Daily Telegraph* and *The Independent*, Michael Roscoe uses his knowledge of economics and statistics to convey data in graphic form, presenting his arguments in clear and concise text, illustrated by 130 charts that show what's really happening in the global economy.

For anyone who wants to understand why things are getting tougher and what we should be doing about it, this book should prove invaluable.

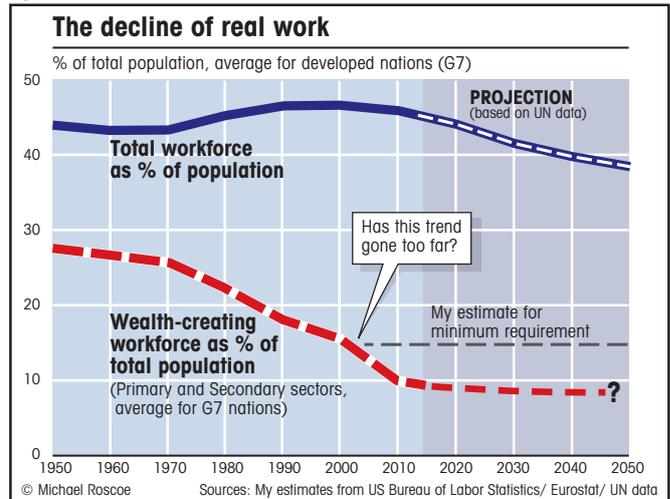
In the words of Danny Dorling, Professor of Geography at Oxford University: ***"If you're in search of answers and are not afraid of hard truths, this is the book for you."***

Amongst other things, the author shows that:

- The financialization of the economy, helped by the digital revolution, is destroying real jobs and making the majority poorer.
- Over 60% of all wealth in the world today has come from the world's oil and gas fields.
- Marx was right when he said that labour is the source of all value – when machines do all the work, society becomes poorer.
- We need a global currency, and there is a way this can be made to work – a new gold standard that doesn't require gold.
- The credit bubble is back and is bigger than ever – around one third of the world's supposed wealth doesn't actually exist. We can expect an adjustment in the next crash.

The book analyses the implications of these observations, and offers insights into other areas of interest – things we should be thinking about if we want to give future generations a decent chance of a better world.

Figure 130



Even the bankers know that the game is almost over:

“If you want to gain a better understanding of macro economics and the relationship between money, wealth and work, read this book. The author brings new ideas into an old subject, supporting his arguments with real data.”

– Michael Crawshaw, Former Head of European Research, Citigroup.

To interview Michael Roscoe or to request a review copy of the book, please contact:
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