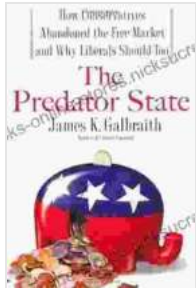


# How Conservatives Abandoned the Free Market and Why Liberals Should Too



## The Predator State: How Conservatives Abandoned the Free Market and Why Liberals Should Too

by James K. Galbraith

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 459 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
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Conservatives have long claimed to be the champions of the free market. They argue that free markets are the most efficient way to allocate resources and that they lead to greater economic growth and prosperity. However, in recent years, conservatives have increasingly abandoned their commitment to the free market. They have supported government interventions in the economy, such as tariffs, subsidies, and bailouts. They have also embraced policies that undermine the free market, such as occupational licensing and rent control.

There are a number of reasons why conservatives have abandoned the free market. One reason is that they have become increasingly beholden to special interests. These special interests benefit from government interventions in the economy, and they have been able to use their

influence to convince conservatives to support policies that favor them. For example, the pharmaceutical industry has lobbied for laws that make it more difficult for generic drugs to enter the market, and the banking industry has lobbied for laws that make it more difficult for new banks to enter the market.

Another reason why conservatives have abandoned the free market is that they have become increasingly distrustful of the poor and the middle class. They believe that these groups are lazy and irresponsible, and that they need to be forced to work harder and save more money. This distrust has led conservatives to support policies that make it harder for the poor and the middle class to get ahead, such as cuts to social programs and tax breaks for the wealthy.

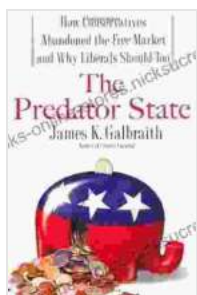
Liberals should abandon their faith in the free market too. The free market has failed to deliver on its promises of economic growth and prosperity. In fact, the free market has led to increasing inequality and instability. Liberals should embrace a more interventionist approach to the economy, one that focuses on promoting economic growth and protecting the poor and the middle class.

There are a number of policies that liberals should support to promote economic growth and protect the poor and the middle class. These policies include:

- Raising the minimum wage
- Expanding access to affordable housing
- Investing in public education

- Investing in infrastructure
- Expanding access to healthcare
- Breaking up monopolies
- Regulating the financial industry

These policies would help to create a more just and equitable economy. They would help to reduce poverty and inequality, and they would help to promote economic growth. Liberals should embrace these policies and abandon their faith in the free market.



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