

An Agorist Manifesto in 95 Theses

Guest post by Human Advancement.

Suitable for nailing to an appropriate door near you...

agora (1) - n. A place of congregation, an ancient Greek marketplace.

agora (2) - n. A market free of forceable regulation, taxation, and government

(The) Agora - The aggregate of all such markets of any size.

95 Theses

1. Free, unregulated, untaxed, and unmonitored trade is the natural right of all human beings

2. In a voluntary trade, both parties receive more than they give up, otherwise neither would trade.

3. Nobody gets taken advantage of through mutually voluntary trade.

4. Taxation forces people to pay for things that aren't worth the cost

5. Government regulation forces people to abstain from trades they would otherwise voluntarily make.

6. Markets collect, organize, and distribute information more rapidly, accurately, fairly, and efficiently than any central authority could ever do, even with superior resources.

7. Prices are information.

8. Force distorts market information.

9. Governments' only means of action is force.

10. Governments operate blindly because they only see information distorted by force. The more information they gather, the less clear their vision becomes.

11. Aggression is a reaction to unpleasant or unwanted information. Its motto is "kill the messenger".

12. A market is smarter than any of its participants. A government is stupider than most of its participants.

13. Governments require markets for their survival; markets thrive in the absence of government.

14. The more efficient a government is, the more dangerous it is.

15. Markets improve the material well-being of all people. Governments improve the material well-being of some people at the expense of other people.

16. Markets are more powerful than governments.

17. Human survival and well-being require free markets.

18. Human survival and well-being require the absence of government.

19. The best humanitarian aid that can be brought to impoverished people is to allow them access to the Agora, usually by removing their governments.
20. Productivity is the application of intelligence to labor for creating something of value to someone.
21. Labor is equivalent to value in the same way crude oil is equivalent to a vacation.
22. The non-productive have always and will always try to live off the value created by the productive.
23. The productive will by right decide how much, if any, to allow it.
24. Charity is offered and received face-to-face, or it is no longer charity.
25. Wealth is the natural and honorable reward from trading value for value.
26. Wealth is a store of productivity, not a store of value.
27. In the Agora, the rich have already given back far more than they received. That's the only way to get rich in the Agora.
28. Those who get rich outside the Agora could never give back all they have taken.
29. Money laundering is an invented crime, the concept cannot exist in the Agora.
30. Price gouging is an invented crime, the concept cannot exist in the Agora.
31. Unfair competition is either not one, or not the other, or not in the Agora.
32. Market price is an observation of history.
33. Market price is related to value in the same way news photographs are related to current events.
34. "Intrinsic value" is a lie told by parasites to try to steal from producers.
35. Companies advertising their product as "an \$XX value" are lying to you.
36. Fiat currency is theft by fraud.
37. Gold and silver are usually the bases for real money because they have properties that best serve that purpose.
38. Paper is the basis for fiat currency because it has properties that best serve that purpose.
39. Communication strengthens markets and undermines governments.
40. Markets are the way communities stay organized when they are too large for face-to-face interaction.
41. All resources are human. The term "human resources" is demeaning to the nature of both humans and resources.
42. Competition is not the purpose of a market, it is one of its methods.
43. Natural selection in the Agora is more Lamarckian than Darwinian.
44. Natural selection in the Agora does not destroy resources, it reallocates them.
45. Natural selection in the Agora does not kill people, it frees them to be more productive.

46. "Dog eat dog" is a feature of governments, not of markets.
47. Monopolies can only be created and sustained by governments.
48. Freedom to fail is every bit as important as freedom to succeed.
49. The Agora guarantees neither, and resists the perpetuation of both.
50. Markets don't have goals, values, or ambitions. Markets are a tool for human beings to pursue those things.
51. "Market Failure" is an oxymoron. People sometimes fail to use markets properly.
52. Innovation is an inherently Agorist activity, even when it happens outside the Agora.
53. A primary goal of government is to restrain innovation.
54. Raw materials in the ground are not resources until they are brought to market.
55. The owners of private property tend not to destroy it. Commons are routinely destroyed or exhaustively consumed.
56. Agorist exploitation of the environment increases resources, and protects the environment. Government "protection" of the environment reduces resources, and harms the environment.
57. No species is endangered when it is owned. The best way to keep a species from extinction is to allow it to be property in the Agora.
58. "Public property" is an oxymoron, and privatization of profits is not privatization.
59. Property is authority. It's not a market without private property and private authority.
60. Where there is private property authority, there is an agora..
61. Private property let open to the public is not a commons.
62. Shortages do not exist in the free market, government obfuscation of price information is the only way to achieve a general shortage.
63. Being unable to buy something at the price you want to pay is not a shortage.
64. Markets are, in part, a process of voluntary rationing.
65. Corporations are evil only to the extent they rely on government power. Corporations with a monopoly are branches of government.
66. Markets rely on trust. Markets rely on suspicion.
67. Individuals in the Agora expect suspicion and earn trust. Governments demand trust, and earn suspicion.
68. A government truly of the people, by the people, and for the people would have no powers whatsoever.
69. If the measure of virtue for a society is how it treats the least among it, then the Agora is the most virtuous society ever known to man.
70. Governments thrive on opposition, antagonism, provocation, confrontation, and defiance. What they cannot tolerate is to be ignored.

71. The central idea behind the Agora, and one of the things it does best, is to ignore governments.
 72. The effectiveness of the Agora's self-regulation is proportional to the extent to which external regulation is absent.
 73. The Agora cannot be managed, controlled, regulated, or destroyed. It can only be interfered with.
 74. Voting is nothing more than an expression of the voter's preferred way to interfere with the Agora.
 75. The Agora is a network, and like all networks, it routes around damage.
 76. Government is damage.
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77. Public education is an oxymoron.
 78. One of government education's primary functions is to instill fear of the Agora.
 79. The Agora is all around you. It's nothing to be afraid of.
 80. The Agora is peaceful. Violence and war are results of failure to embrace the Agora.
 81. Guns are often required to deal with people who operate outside the Agora, because guns are the primary way people outside the Agora operate.
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82. The Agora does not require permission.
 83. Anyone with the power and inclination to grant the Agora permission is a threat to all honest men.
 84. Anyone offering the Agora permission will be ignored.
 85. Most true heroes end up in prison or murdered. This is even more true for Agorist heroes.
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86. The Agora ignores creed and color.
 87. When it comes to markets, black is beautiful.
 88. Wherever there are human beings, there is an agora. It may be hiding, but it is there.
 89. The Agora is a select community – the strict qualification for membership is to want it. Most people don't.
 90. The Agora does not recognize borders or artificial boundaries. It is everywhere, and it is no where.
 91. The Agora welcomes you, but does not need you.
 92. You need the Agora. Even if you oppose it, you benefit from it.
 93. An Agorist movement is an oxymoron. Agorism is the natural state of humanity.
 94. Practicing agorism is the only way to achieve agorism. Isolated networks will eventually find each other.
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95. Governments are on notice the world over: your days are numbered.