

Freedom: Because It Works or Because It's Right?

Written by Robert Higgs for The Independent Institute.

Libertarians divide into two broad classes: those who espouse a free society because it gives better results than an unfree society, and those who espouse a free society because they believe that it is wrong to deny or suppress a person's right to be free (unless, of course, that person is suppressing the equal right of others to be free). "Consequentialists versus deontologists" is the oft-encountered labeling of this difference. It is unfortunate that so much energy has been devoted to infighting between these two groups.

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