

TEDGLOBAL > GENEVA

CRITICAL JUNCTURES



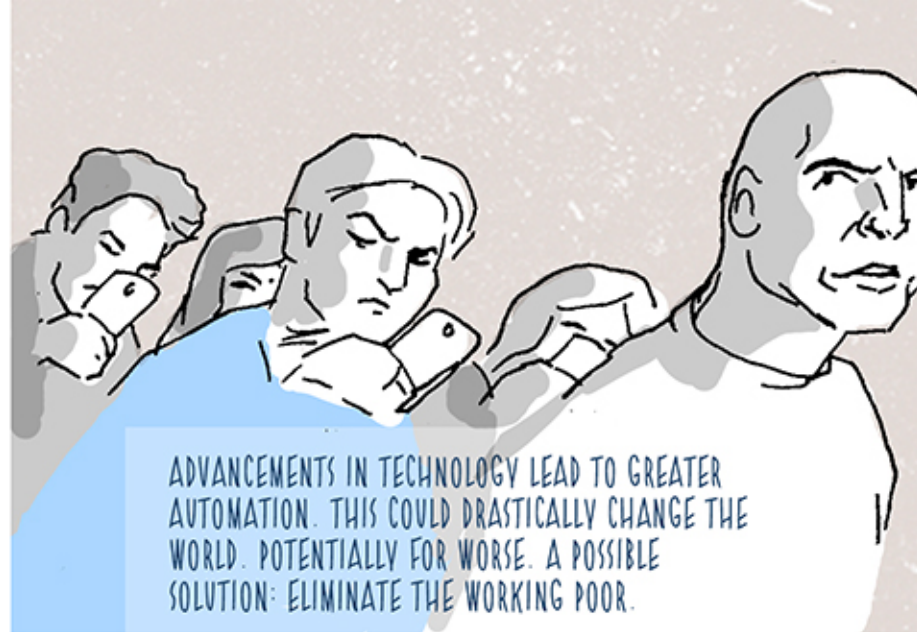
CAN WE STILL GIVE THIS WORLD
OUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION?





WE LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE ECONOMICS AND POLITICS STRUGGLE FOR POWER AND CAPITALIST INTERESTS ENCRONCH UPON DEMOCRACY.

VANIS VAROUFAKIS



ADVANCEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY LEAD TO GREATER AUTOMATION. THIS COULD DRASTICALLY CHANGE THE WORLD. POTENTIALLY FOR WORSE. A POSSIBLE SOLUTION: ELIMINATE THE WORKING POOR.



TO AVOID A TECHNOCRATIC DYSTOPIA, WE NEED TO PROTECT DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS THROUGH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES.



WHAT IF WORKERS OWNED COMPANIES AND DERIVED THEIR INCOME SOLELY FROM CORPORATE EARNINGS?



PERHAPS A GLOBAL BANK MIGHT BALANCE THE DEBT AND SURPLUS OF THE WORLD'S NATIONS?



COULD INTERNATIONAL, COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS TO FUND GREEN TECHNOLOGY PRESERVE OUR FUTURES?



IF WE ACCEPT THAT CAPITALISM AND DEMOCRACY ARE NOT INEXORABLY LINKED, THAT THE FIRST DOESN'T PRODUCE NECESSARILY THE SECOND, THEN WE NEED TO REDEFINE THE SYSTEM.

DAMBISA MOYO



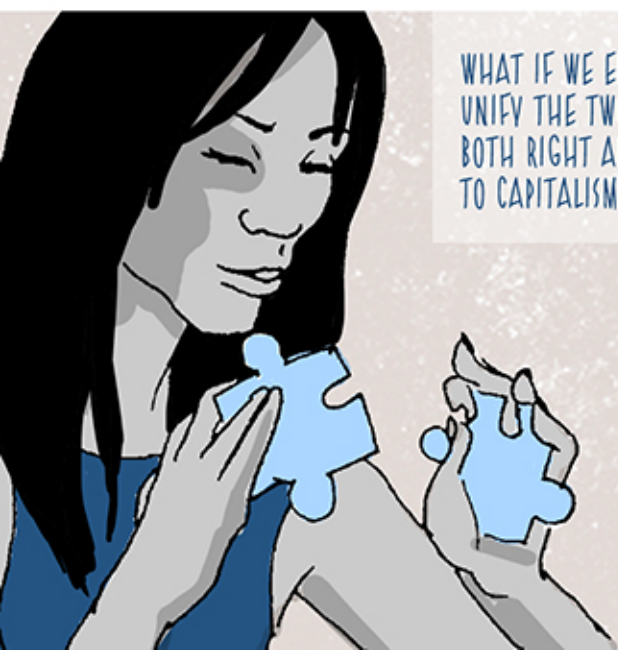
ECONOMIC GROWTH RATES HAVE FALLEN AROUND THE WORLD AND IF THESE RATES CONTINUE TO DROP, WE WILL STRAIN NATURAL RESOURCES AND EXACERBATE INEQUALITY. HOW DO WE BUILD AND SUSTAIN GROWTH?

CAPITALISM HAS BEEN OUR BEST ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION. IT HAS MOVED THE MOST PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY IN THE LEAST AMOUNT OF TIME.



CAPITALISM HAS ITS PROBLEMS THOUGH AND OFTEN, IT OVERLOOKS IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUES.

CAPITALISM IS A SPECTRUM, SPANNING STATE AND PRIVATE OWNERSHIP. WHAT KEEPS US FROM RETHINKING CAPITALISM TO ADDRESS SOCIAL ISSUES IS AN IDEOLOGICAL BATTLE BETWEEN LEFT AND RIGHT.



WHAT IF WE ELIMINATE DOGMA AND UNIFY THE TWO SIDES AND APPLY BOTH RIGHT AND LEFT WING POLICIES TO CAPITALISM.



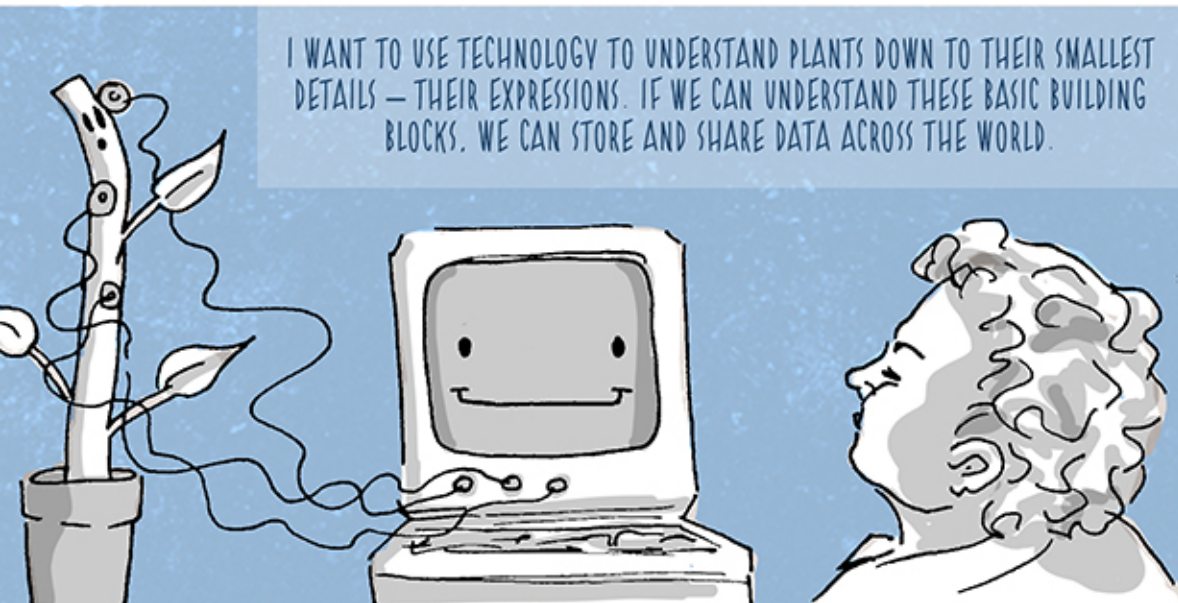
- INCENTIVISE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS WITH MONEY
- GIVE THE PRIVATE SECTOR MORE SPACE IN TACKLING SOCIAL ISSUES
- IDEOLOGY IS THE ENEMY OF GROWTH

WOULD THAT ALLOW US TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE, GLOBAL GROWTH WHILE PUSHING FOR SOCIAL GOOD?

CALEB HARPER



THIS GENERATION IS LOSING INTEREST IN FARMING AND IN SO DOING, LOSING VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE. HOW DO WE USE THE TECHNICAL RESOURCES OF OUR AGE TO FOSTER INTEREST IN FARMING AND COLLECT DATA?



I WANT TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO UNDERSTAND PLANTS DOWN TO THEIR SMALLEST DETAILS — THEIR EXPRESSIONS. IF WE CAN UNDERSTAND THESE BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS, WE CAN STORE AND SHARE DATA ACROSS THE WORLD.



WE CAN DESIGN CONTAINED ENVIRONMENTS THAT HELP PLANTS IMPROVE IN TERMS OF VARIETY, NUTRITION, AND LONGEVITY.

WE CAN CREATE AN INTERNET OF PLANTS. A GLOBALLY ACCESSIBLE DATABASE THAT HOLDS OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION, AND UNLOCK THE KEY TO FEEDING THE WORLD.



MAKING PLANT INFORMATION MORE COMPREHENSIBLE AND MORE ACCESSIBLE IS ALSO SURE TO INTEREST YOUNG PEOPLE AND HOPEFULLY REINVIGORATE FARMING FOR GENERATIONS.



