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The Post-Corporate World: Life After Capitalism

David C. Korten
Berrett-Koehler Publishers (April 1999)
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Vivid imagery and original ideas make The Post-Corporate World an interesting and thought-provoking perspective of Korten's view of global society.

Korten, a former Harvard Business School professor, compares the stock market to "a sophisticated gambling casino with the unique feature that through their interactions the players inflate the prices of the stocks in play to increase their collective financial assets…" What is so wrong with that? one might ask. Korten spends the first two parts of the book convincingly explaining why the analogy, and relating how the rise of capitalism has led to excessive material self-gratification at the expense of creating a better world.

The last two sections are full of practical suggestions on how the average person of any walk of life can support the move toward a global market economy. The Post-Corporate World focuses less on the pitfalls of capitalism and more on the alternatives than his previous book, When Corporations Rule the World. What is good about this book is that it is not a spouting off of political rhetoric, but rather true observations and well thought out ideas on how to start turning around the increasing corporate bottom-line obsession.

Real life examples such as the story of the rebuilding of Malden Mills and a detailed account of biological evolution give credence to this concept as more than a futuristic pipe dream.
CINDY PATUSZYNSKI (March / April 1999)

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