

*The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research and  
the J. Dennis Hastert Center for Economics, Government and Public Policy invite you to*

# IS CAPITALISM WORTH SAVING?

## A Discussion on the Case for Free Enterprise

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 7:30a.m.—10:00a.m.

The Tower Club, Lyric Opera Building  
20 North Wacker Drive, 39th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606

The economic events of the past year have raised several significant questions. Is our current situation a failure of capitalism? Does a free enterprise system shortchange the poor and middle class? Is capitalism worth saving? As government decision-makers stand ready to replace private citizens and free-markets as the drivers of the economy, Americans must decide which system can best promote and ensure their values and ideals.

To answer these questions at this joint American Enterprise Institute and J. Dennis Hastert Center event, AEI president Arthur Brooks will provide an overview of the new culture war developing in America over free enterprise and describe the choice Americans must face. J. Dennis Hastert Center Director Javier Comboni will discuss the foundations for market capitalism and free entrepreneurship. The event will conclude with a panel describing how capitalism not only creates wealth for everyone, including the poor, but also inspires and requires virtue among both producers and consumers. Question and answer sessions will follow discussions.

- 7:15 a.m.      Registration and Breakfast
- 7:30            *Introduction: "The Fight for Free Enterprise"*  
Arthur Brooks, AEI
- 7:45            *Roundtable Discussion: "Capitalism: Fix the Machine  
or Change the Behavior?"*  
Arthur Brooks, AEI  
Javier Comboni, Hastert Center
- 9:00            *Panel Discussion: "My Brother's Keeper: Why Capitalism  
Is Good for the Poor"*  
C. William Pollard, Hastert Center  
Kevin Hassett, AEI  
Seth Norton, Hastert Center
- 10:00          *Adjournment*

Please register online at [www.aei.org/chicago](http://www.aei.org/chicago) or by contacting the Hastert Center (630.752.5975; [hastertcenter@wheaton.edu](mailto:hastertcenter@wheaton.edu)) or Erin Hoekstra ([ehoekstra@aei.org](mailto:ehoekstra@aei.org); 202.862.7172). All seats are complimentary.

*About the*  
AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE  
*for* PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

Located in Washington, DC, the American Enterprise Institute is one of America's oldest and most influential think tanks. It is a community of scholars and supporters committed to expanding liberty, increasing individual opportunity, and strengthening free enterprise. AEI pursues these unchanging ideals through independent thinking, open debate, reasoned argument, and the highest standards of fact-based research. Without regard for politics or prevailing fashion, we dedicate our work to a more prosperous, safer, and more democratic nation and world. For additional information about AEI, visit our website, [www.aei.org](http://www.aei.org).

*About the*  
J. DENNIS HASTERT CENTER FOR ECONOMICS,  
GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY  
*at Wheaton College*

The J. Dennis Hastert Center for Economics, Government and Public Policy was established at Wheaton College (IL) in 2008. The mission of the Center is to advance the training of Wheaton College students and the surrounding greater community in the understanding of market economics and representative democracies. The Hastert Center's activities are designed to focus public discussion on the core institutions and nexus of market economies, representative democracies, limited government, and human action with individual responsibility. The framework for these activities is a biblical worldview, as the Hastert Center seeks to integrate Christian faith with analysis and action in public policy. For additional information about the Hastert Center, visit our website, [www.wheaton.edu/hastertcenter](http://www.wheaton.edu/hastertcenter).

## SCHOLAR BIOGRAPHIES

**Arthur C. Brooks** became the president of AEI on January 1, 2009. Previously, he was Louis A. Bantle Professor of Business and Government Policy at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and an AEI visiting scholar. Mr. Brooks is the author of *Who Really Cares* (2006), which examines American charitable giving; the widely acclaimed *Gross National Happiness* (2008); and a textbook on social entrepreneurship. His next book on the coming culture war in America over free enterprise will be published in 2010.

**Javier Comboni** is the director of the J. Dennis Hastert Center for Economics, Government and Public Policy at Wheaton College. Previously, Dr. Comboni served as the minister of finance in Bolivia, where he reported directly to the president of Bolivia. He has also served on the board of governors for the Central Bank of Bolivia, as well as an economic advisor to many Latin American governments. Dr. Comboni holds a PhD in Economics from Boston University. His major academic interests are in economic policy, financial markets and microfinance, international political economics, debt relief and poverty reduction.

**Kevin Hassett** is the director of economic policy studies and a senior fellow at AEI. His research areas include the U.S. economy, tax policy, and the stock market. Previously, Mr. Hassett was a senior economist at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, a professor at Columbia University, and policy consultant to the Treasury Department during the George H. W. Bush and Clinton administrations. He also served as a top economic advisor to the George W. Bush and John McCain presidential campaigns.

**Seth Norton** is the Norris A. Aldeen Professor of Business at Wheaton College. Dr. Norton holds a PhD in Economics and Industrial Organization and Finance from the University of Chicago. Dr. Norton's current academic interests include the study of the breadth and varieties of competition and the philosophic foundations of market institutions and the religious foundations of human behavior.

**C. William Pollard** is an entrepreneur and business leader. From 1990–2002, Mr. Pollard served as chairman of ServiceMaster Inc., an organization that was recognized by the *Financial Times* as one of the most respected companies in the world. Mr. Pollard is a graduate of Wheaton College and he received a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law. He is the author of numerous books including the best-selling, *The Soul of the Firm*. Mr. Pollard also has been recognized for his leadership in business, ethics, and corporate governance, including receiving the Hesburgh Award for Business Ethics and two honorary doctorate degrees.