



How Sweden Transformed into a Wealthy Capitalist Economy After Socialist Policies and High Taxes Failed

Johan Norberg's new documentary, 'Sweden: Lessons for America', should be required for Democratic Socialists in America because it describes the high taxes and social problems that faced Sweden in the 1970s and 80s during the socialist experiment. Although socialism is the word commonly used to describe the system in Sweden during those years, it is the wrong word. The government never owned the means of production. Instead it regulated production and consumption and heavily taxed the people – which is the model of fascism. Nevertheless, Sweden reversed course and adopted free-market capitalism in the 1990s by reforming pensions, education, healthcare, and taxes. Even utilities were deregulated. Norberg says that, if America wanted to follow Sweden's successful turnaround, the US would need to adopt free trade, deregulate more markets, reform Social Security, lower corporate taxes, remove all taxes on property and inheritance, and switch to private-school vouchers. [Marxists will never agree to that, even if they thought it would be good for the economy because, to them, control over the people is more important than prosperity.] -GEG