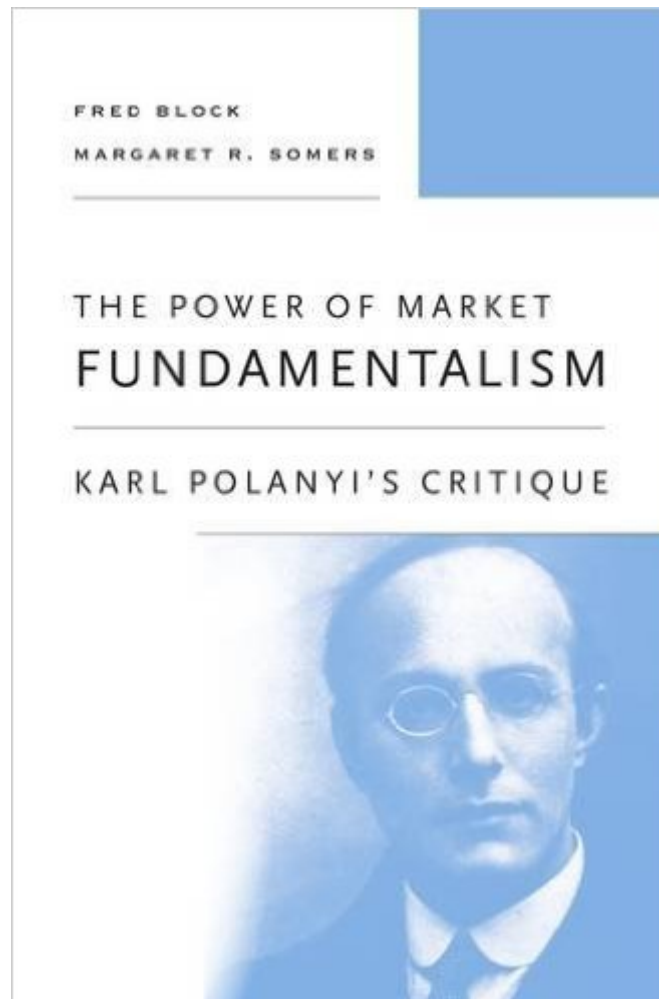


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The Power Of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi's Critique



Synopsis

What is it about free-market ideas that gives them staying power in the face of such failures as persistent unemployment, widening inequality, and financial crises? *The Power of Market Fundamentalism* extends economist Karl Polanyi's work to explain why these dangerous utopian ideas have become the dominant economic ideology of our time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book deserves to be a part of the national discussion, as do Polanyi's thoughts. I read Polanyi some years ago and was looking for a refresher when I came across this book. This book not only reviews Polanyi's work and places it in the context of modern economic and sociological research, but also adapts many of his theories to the current times. Along the way the authors offer useful insights into Polanyi's life and how his experiences shaped his thoughts. Pros- Well written, clear, and concise for an academic book. Does an excellent job of bringing Polanyi's thoughts up to date. Cons- The authors (two highly regarded professors) appear to have a very leftist bent. This isn't a bad thing, in my opinion, but some readers may be turned off by that. UPDATED: I wanted to write a longer review on this book once I had time to reflect on it. I intended to write the typical academic style "summarize and critique" review but realized I can add more value to potential readers by explaining why this book is an important read. Have you been noticing how politics is becoming increasingly polarized? If you hop over to look at the reviews for Piketty's "Capital in the 21st Century" you'll notice that literally 100's of ideological zealots have been attacking the book.

Not reading and critiquing, but posting bad reviews even though they've never read it. Ever wonder why people act like this? Why Market Fundamentalism has become so strong? This book will help you think on and answer these questions. Isn't it odd that we have been pursuing neo-liberal policies for 30 years, even though they have already proven to be a failure?

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