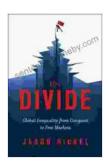
# Global Inequality: From Conquest to Free Markets

Global inequality is one of the most pressing issues facing the world today. The gap between the rich and the poor has been growing for decades, and it is now at its widest point in history. This inequality is not only a moral outrage, but it also has a number of negative consequences for economic growth, social stability, and environmental sustainability.



#### The Divide: Global Inequality from Conquest to Free

Markets by Jason Hickel

4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 7182 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

X-Ray : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length



: 344 pages

In this book, I argue that the roots of global inequality lie in the unequal distribution of power and resources between different groups of people. This inequality has been exacerbated by the rise of capitalism and the global free market economy. I conclude by offering a number of policy recommendations to address global inequality and promote a more just and equitable world.

### The Historical Roots of Global Inequality

The history of global inequality is long and complex. It can be traced back to the era of European conquest, when European powers seized control of vast territories in Africa, Asia, and the Americas. These conquests resulted in the displacement and enslavement of millions of people, and they also led to the establishment of a global economic system that benefited the European powers at the expense of the colonized peoples.

The rise of capitalism in the 19th century further exacerbated global inequality. Capitalism is an economic system based on the private ownership of property and the profit motive. It has led to great wealth for some, but it has also resulted in widespread poverty and inequality.

The global free market economy, which emerged in the late 20th century, has further accelerated the growth of global inequality. The free market economy is based on the idea that the free market is the most efficient way to allocate resources. However, the free market economy has also led to a number of negative consequences, including increased inequality, environmental degradation, and financial instability.

### The Consequences of Global Inequality

Global inequality has a number of negative consequences for economic growth, social stability, and environmental sustainability.

**Economic growth:** Global inequality can lead to slower economic growth. This is because the poor are often unable to afford to buy the goods and services that they need, which can lead to a decrease in demand and a slowdown in economic growth.

**Social stability:** Global inequality can also lead to social instability. This is because the poor are often frustrated and angry about their lack of opportunities, which can lead to social unrest and violence.

**Environmental sustainability:** Global inequality can also lead to environmental degradation. This is because the poor are often forced to live in environmentally hazardous areas, and they are also more likely to be exposed to pollution and other environmental hazards.

## **Policy Recommendations**

There are a number of policy recommendations that can be made to address global inequality and promote a more just and equitable world. These recommendations include:

Increasing investment in education and healthcare: Investing in education and healthcare is one of the most effective ways to reduce inequality. This is because education and healthcare help to increase people's earning potential and improve their quality of life.

Raising the minimum wage: Raising the minimum wage is another effective way to reduce inequality. This is because it helps to ensure that everyone can earn a living wage.

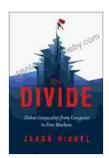
**Providing tax breaks for low-income families:** Providing tax breaks for low-income families is another way to help reduce inequality. This is because it helps to put more money in the pockets of those who need it most.

**Increasing the supply of affordable housing:** Increasing the supply of affordable housing is another important way to reduce inequality. This is because it helps to ensure that everyone has a place to live.

**Investing in renewable energy:** Investing in renewable energy is an important way to address climate change and reduce inequality. This is because it helps to create jobs and reduce the cost of energy.

**Promoting fair trade:** Promoting fair trade is another important way to reduce inequality. This is because it helps to ensure that farmers and workers in developing countries are paid a fair price for their products.

Global inequality is a serious problem that has a number of negative consequences for economic growth, social stability, and environmental sustainability. There are a number of policy recommendations that can be made to address this problem, including increasing investment in education and healthcare, raising the minimum wage, providing tax breaks for low-income families, and increasing the supply of affordable housing. By working together, we can create a more just and equitable world for all.



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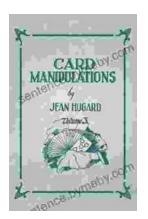
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