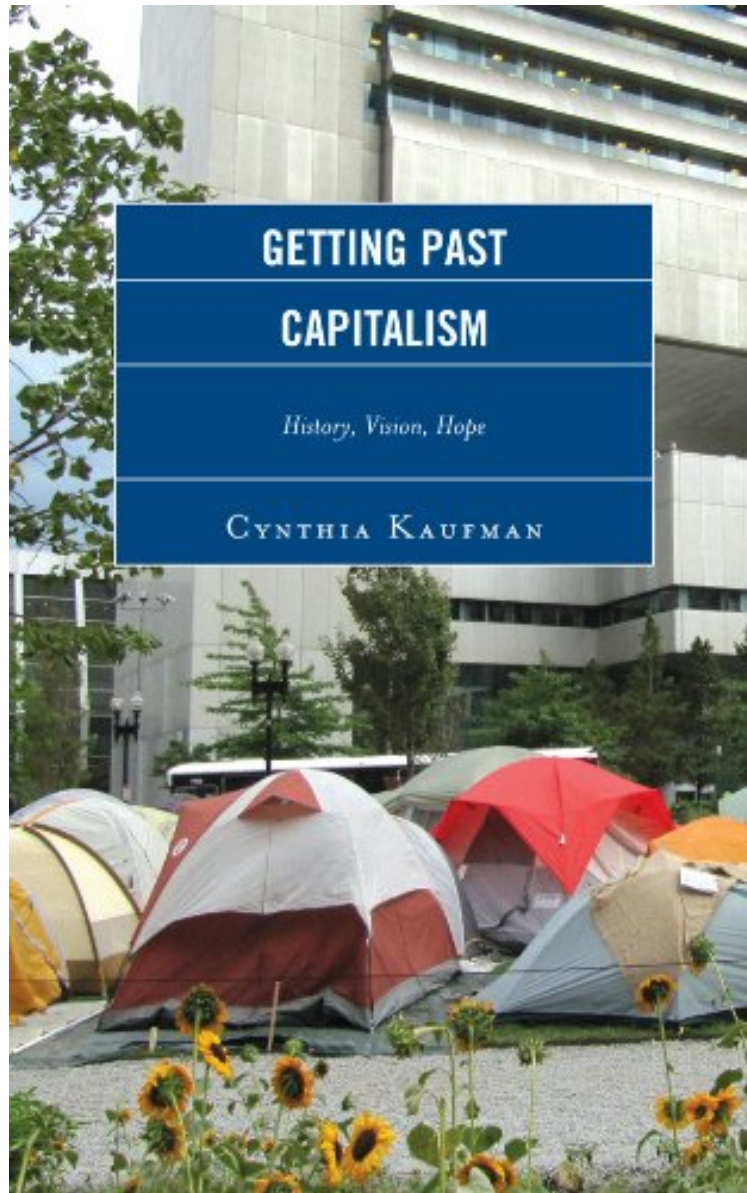


(Download) Getting Past Capitalism: History, Vision, Hope (Critical Studies on the Left)

## Getting Past Capitalism: History, Vision, Hope (Critical Studies on the Left)

*Cynthia Kaufman*

*DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#2267459 in eBooks 2012-08-25 2013-01-04 File Name: B00B60DQ4U | File size: 17.Mb

**Cynthia Kaufman : Getting Past Capitalism: History, Vision, Hope (Critical Studies on the Left)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Getting Past Capitalism: History, Vision, Hope (Critical Studies on the Left):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. One of the best books on corporate-capitalism i have ever readBy

Mark P. Pellegrin I'm a 56 year-old former elementary school teacher, and for the last fifteen years a public-defender, in West Virginia. I'm an old leftist :) Over the years I've read Chomsky to Zinn and everyone in between. I have never read a better, more accessible, more insightful, more useful, book on capitalism than this one. Period. I have no connection to this author, and no economic interest in 'selling' the book ; i have no conflict of interest here. I have been reading political books since i was a teenager -- this is in the top five. No writer i know of, addresses the "revolution vs reform" problem in a more nuanced, lucid, and humane manner than Kaufman. She respects the 'revolutionaries' and she respects the 'reformers' and she suggests an approach...informed by...wisdom. mark pellegrin 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Subtle, Nuanced Update for Anti-Capitalist Praxis By rebecca williams This book will not please radical purists still committed to the very limiting world view of the 19th century and its consequent failed experiments. No, Kaufman instead does a great job of updating outdated, old-left perspectives, categories, and dichotomies. She provides thought-provoking and practical direction for change by weaving the tremendous legacy of the great marxist thinkers of the past together with new radical social change thought energizing the expanded field of 21st century activism. While carefully exploring the deeper dimensions of how capitalism cultivates our subjectivity as social beings in a real context and how to address this internal colonization, she demonstrates a deep appreciation for the complexity of human cultural praxis that new social theory attempts to portray in order to equip an application towards the exponentially expanding problems that face our human community today. And she does this as a real life activist with the experience under belt to inform her work. 6 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Reformism vs Revolution. Mistakes in Getting Beyond Capitalism By Jack London This book is welcome, and many more books like it should be forthcoming. People are coming to the realization that the problem lies in the social relations, namely capitalist imperialism (monopoly capitalism). Bob Avakian here makes the best criticism of the book I can think of. He relates, from his book BASics, "There is nothing more UNrealistic than the idea of reforming this sytem into something that would come anywhere near being in the interests of the great majority of people and ultimately humanity as a whole." Kaufman has a lot of reformist notions, a confused idea as to what socialism is (she cites Denmark and Sweden as "socialist" when in fact they are both imperialist predators). She even said that the New Deal was "a victory" for the workers! Roosevelt came out of the ruling-class to prevent socialism by any means necessary, and the New Deal was a reform of capitalism. If we had had socialist revolution here, ther would not have been 5,000,000 killed in Korea, 3,000,000 killed in Vietnam, and on and on. Back to the drawing board for Cynthia Kaufman, I say!

Getting Past Capitalism begins with a critique of the impacts of capitalism on human society and the environment. It looks in new ways at what capitalism is and at how it is reproduced. That investigation opens the door to fresh ways of looking at how to challenge it. Cynthia Kaufman looks at some fundamental questions about how capitalism comes to look like a system that is unbeatable, and how people come to have desires that work to reinforce capitalism. Kaufman uses this analysis to develop ideas about how to challenge capitalism. She argues that rather than looking for the fulcrum point in a system that will make it able to be overthrown, we should try to understand what kinds of practices open more spaces for stopping the reproduction of capitalist processes, and what kinds of structures need to be developed to make capitalism a less important part of our world. Getting Past Capitalism includes a critique of capitalism and presentation of alternatives to capitalism, many of which already exist. It explores strategies for developing and strengthening those alternatives.

The global Great Recession and the deepening climate crisis have made abundantly clear that capitalism is on a collision course with human and ecological well-being. The difficult question is: what to do about it? Getting Past Capitalism is filled with rich insights and fresh proposals for answering that question. Cynthia Kaufman writes clearly and powerfully, offering readers, as her subtitle promises, 'history, vision, and hope.' (Robert Pollin, University of Massachusetts-Amherst) A powerful, instructive and moving guide to the many avenues of systemic challenge and positive movement-building energies and strategies now emerging around the world. (Gar Alperovitz, author of America Beyond Capitalism) Expresses in clear, concise language thoughts that likely have been bumping around in the minds of many of us who reject capitalism. The book is particularly powerful because of its modesty; Kaufman promises no new grand theory and instead offers insights that we all can use in our daily lives. (NationofChange) About the Author Cynthia Kaufman is the director of the Institute of Community and Civic Engagement at De Anza College, where she also teaches philosophy.