



**Saving Lives,
Enriching Life:
Freedom as a
Right
And a Moral
Good***

To promote freedom for
everyone is to promote a
better life for all
----This book

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I am especially indebted to Judson Knight, who with great care and good humor edited a draft of this book. I had no intention of writing this book when he contacted me about this web site, and the resulting interaction between us finally led to what you read here. I hasten to add that I alone am responsible for whatever misdeeds appear here, especially since it is several versions beyond that which he edited.

PREFACE

What is This Book About?

Overview

Humanity now has a practical cure for foreign and civil war, genocide and mass murder, famine and mass hunger, mass impoverishment, and gross gender and economic inequality. Our accumulated scientific and scholarly knowledge, and the results of vast social and economic experiments involving billions of people over three centuries, now enable us to claim, with even more confidence than saying that orange juice is good for you, that we can create perpetual peace, long life and secure lives, abundant food, wealth, and prosperity.

This is no dream, no utopian claim. This is the well-established fruit of the free market and human rights, of democratic freedom. The knowledge of this exists among economists and political scientists working on these problems, and even some of the highest officials, such as former President Clinton, knew of, and acted on, the

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most surprising claim that freedom is a cure for war. However, as incredibly important as this knowledge is, it is widely unknown by the public, including the major media, and most professionals outside the relevant research areas.

In Saving Lives, Enriching Life: Freedom as a Right and Moral Good I intend to communicate this knowledge to the public in a way that they not only assimilate it, but understand why they have a right to freedom, and why freedom is so powerful in saving lives and enriching life.

I have packaged the various threats to human life against which the freedom of a people protects them by the idea of human security. Human insecurity then involves:

- poverty and economic insecurity,
- economic and gender inequality,
- malnourishment and famine,
- poor health and disease,
- domestic turmoil and civil war,
- foreign war,
- genocide and mass murder.

Though the various chapters of this book and an appendix providing new systematic statistical analyses of 190 nations for over 70 variables, I will show that freedom is a solution to all these threats, that democratic freedom produces human security

What Themes Run Through This Book?

There are several themes on which the chapters will focus and that I will repeat through out the book. These concern the power of freedom to end or lessen threats to human security and to drive human and economic development. These are:

- Freedom is a basic human right recognized by the United Nations and international treaties, and is the heart of social justice ([Chapter 2](#)).
- Freedom-free speech and the economic and social free market-is an engine of economic and human development, and scientific and technological advancement ([Chapter 4](#), [Appendix](#)).
- Freedom ameliorates the problem of mass poverty ([Chapter 4](#), [Appendix](#)).
- Free people do not suffer from and never have had famines, and by theory, should not. Freedom is therefore a solution to hunger and famine ([Chapter 4](#)).
- Free people have the least internal violence, turmoil, and political instability.

[\(Chapter 5\)](#)

- Free people have virtually no government genocide and mass murder, and for good theoretical reasons. Freedom is therefore a solution to genocide and mass murder; the only practical means of making sure that "Never again!"

[\(Chapter 6\)](#)

- Free people do not make war on each other, and the greater the freedom within two nations, the less violence between them ([Chapter 7](#))
 - Freedom is a method of nonviolence-the most peaceful nations are those whose people are free ([Appendix](#)).
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