

# The “Two-cow” Basis of World Economies and Governments



**BUREAUCRACY:** You have two cows. At first the government regulates what you can feed them and when you can milk them. Then it pays you not to milk them. Then it requires you to fill out forms accounting for the missing cows.

**PURE CAPITALISM:** You don't have any cows. The bank will not lend you money to buy cows because you don't have any cows to put up as collateral.

**ENVIRONMENTALISM:** You have two cows. The government bans you from milking or killing them.

**EUROCRACY:** You have two cows. The government fines you for keeping two unlicensed farm animals in an apartment.

**FEUDALISM:** You have two cows. Because you're just a simple serf, or possibly a villain, your lord takes most of the milk.

**SOCIALISM:** You have two cows but are required to give one to your poorer neighbor.

**PURE SOCIALISM:** You have two cows. The government takes them and puts them in a barn with everyone else's cows. You have to take care of all the cows. The government gives you as much milk as you need.

**BUREAUCRATIC SOCIALISM:** You have two cows. The government takes them and puts them in a barn with everyone else's cows. They are cared for by ex-chicken farmers. You have to take care of the chickens the government took from the chicken farmers. The government gives you as much milk and eggs the regulation says you should need.

**FASCISM:** You have two cows. The government takes both, hires you to take care of them, and sells you the milk.

**PURE COMMUNISM:** You have two cows. Your neighbors help you take care of them, and you all share the milk.

**RUSSIAN COMMUNISM:** You have two cows. You have to take care of them but the government takes all the milk.

**CAMBODIAN COMMUNISM - NAZIISM:** You have two cows. The government takes both and shoots you.

**DICTATORSHIP:** You have two cows. The government takes both and drafts you.



**PURE DEMOCRACY:** You have two cows. Your neighbors decide who gets the milk.

**REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY:** You have two cows. Your neighbors pick someone to tell you who gets the milk.

**PURE ANARCHY:** You have two cows. Either you sell the milk at a fair price or your neighbors try to take the cows and kill you.

**TOTALITARIANISM:** You have two cows. The government takes them and denies they ever existed.

**SURREALISM:** You have two giraffes. The government requires you to take harmonica lessons.

**COUNTERCULTURE:** Wow, dude, there's like...these two cows, man. You have \*got\* to have some of this milk.

**LIBERALISM:** You have two cows but sell one because your pasture fails environmental impact review.

**AMERICAN DEMOCRACY:** The government promises to give you two cows if you vote for it. After the election, the president is impeached for speculation in cow futures. The press dubs the affair "Cowgate". The cows sue you for breach of contract.

**LIBERTARIANISM:** You have two bulldogs because every individual can do as they darn well please!

**POLITICALLY CORRECT:** Since either eating a cow, or drinking the milk of a cow might hurt the feelings of other cows, let's admire them for what they are and starve to death.

**POSTMODERNISM:** I have definite ideas about cows, and you have no right to attempt to alter them, however, I also know that I have no right to attempt to alter your ideas about cows, so let's just "agree to disagree" about what we should do.

**CAPITALISM: YOU HAVE TWO COWS. YOU SELL ONE AND BUY A BULL.**