

Adam D. Vass Gal

Generational Poverty

An Economic Look at the Culture of the Poor

“Provocative and enlightening, this book forces you to reexamine what you think you know, and to question the common narrative.”

Susan Woodhouse, Novelist

“Adam Vass Gal shows how liberty can address the heartbreaking problem of intergenerational poverty. An engrossing read.”

Jeff Deist, President of the Mises Institute

“An invaluable glimpse into the tragedy of the underclass. Vass Gal, an economist, ably describes a problem whose causes and solutions transcend economics.”

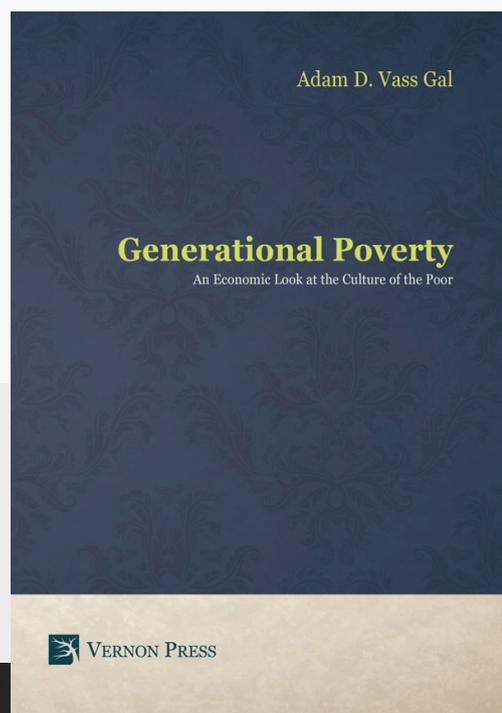
Tom Woods, Author and Host of the Tom Woods Show

About the author

Adam Vass Gal has worked in financial services for 12 years, 10 of which he has served as an Investment Officer with the Oakley Group. This investment group has been named a Barron's top 1,000 advisor for the last 5 years as well as the top advisor in Nashville during that time. He has also taught macro and microeconomics at Belmont University since 2003. Adam holds a BBA in economics and MS in finance, both from Mississippi State University.

Summary

Why is progress in environmental protection slow and faltering? Is it because we misunderstand our place in nature? This book argues that it is the normative implications of Darwinism and their powerful grip on collective social consciousness that are partly responsible for the tardiness. For all its positive explanatory power and undoubted veracity, the normative implications of Darwinist thinking for our environmental predicament are stark: If we are children of Mother Nature equipped by her with a human nature, the responsibility for the deterioration of nature is partly Hers. This book takes a different standpoint. We are indeed children of Nature, but not primarily of the green nature or animal world but of the nature of language. We can understand how through the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein, who states that “Language is a graft on instinctive behavior.” In our instinctive use of words we are parts of nature in a way resembling mice, frogs and giraffes. We are not as free as we think when we talk about our “free will”, because language uses us when we use it, hence our double roles as victims and instigators. The main thesis of this book is that rather than merely possessing language, we are language. If accepted, this realization may point the way to a more optimistic future for environmental protection and lay the foundations for a new analytical perspective on modern social behavior.



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SUBJECTS Institutional Economics, Cultural Economics, Economic Ethnography

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