

Synopsis

The Decisive Future: Building Societies That Succeed

The future begins now. The decisions we make today will have a lasting impact. Some will be irreversible.

In an unsentimental, yet compassionate assessment of economics, politics, religion, and environmentalism, I will describe the challenges we face and lay out a moral and practical system for making decisions that protect us from failure and strengthen the foundation and functioning of our worlds. Using case studies, current theories, hard data, and novel perspectives, I will synthesize knowledge from a variety of disciplines to enlighten and challenge readers. Much of the work will be original research and analysis.

A great deal has been written about each of the issues I will examine, providing an extensive and valuable body of knowledge from which to work. The investigations and commentaries, though – particularly the books that have been written, have not seriously ventured beyond a particular specialty in terms of how decisions are and should be made. In addition to contributing new information in specific areas, my goal is to deliver broad-based, ground-breaking insights for changing individual, corporate, and government decision-making so our world can become a better place in which to live.

In the end, a successful future depends on making self-interest and morality compatible. To do so in a world where even simple decisions do not follow a straight line from problem to solution, we need to overcome our presumptions: the “impartiality” of economics, the social control of organizational thinking, the fantasy of libertarianism and its twin anarchy, the religious comfort of exclusion, the perverse entitlement of totalitarianism, the predatory freedom of our lifestyles, and the vain desire to impose a mythical past on others.