People, Religious, Democracy, Ifs, Men, Thinking, Culture, Economy, Long, Way, Individual, Mean, Interesting, Socialist Economy, Hands, America, Economic, Today, Example, Becoming

One can't understand the Christian Right and similar movements unless one sees them as reactive - they're reacting to what they call secular humanism

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~Peter L. Berger
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A few years ago, a priest working in a slum section of a European city was asked why he was doing it, and replied, 'So that the rumor of God may not completely disappear.

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~Peter L. Berger
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Let me say again that the relationship is asymmetrical: there's no democracy without a market economy, but you can have a market economy without democracy.

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~Peter L. Berger
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Unlike puppets we have the possibility of stopping in our movements, looking up and perceiving the machinery by which we have been moved. In this act lies the first steps towards freedom.

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~Peter L. Berger
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If you are good for nothing else, you can still serve as a bad example.

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~Peter L. Berger
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In acute suffering the need for meaning is as strong or stronger than the need for happiness.

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~Peter L. Berger
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Even if one is interested only in one's own society, which is one's prerogative, one can understand that society much better by comparing it with others.

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~Peter L. Berger
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He who has the bigger stick has the better chance of imposing his definitions of reality.

~Peter L. Berger

The past is malleable and flexible, changing as our recollection interprets and re-explains what has happened.

~Peter L. Berger

Religion is the human attitude towards a sacred order that includes within it all being-human or otherwise-i.e., belief in a cosmos, the meaning of which both includes and transcends man.

~Peter L. Berger

The negative side to globalization is that it wipes out entire economic systems and in doing so wipes out the accompanying culture

~Peter L. Berger

Even in a society as tightly controlled as Singapore's, the market creates certain forces which perhaps in the long run may lead to democracy

~Peter L. Berger

We also have a cultural phenomenon: the emergence of a global culture, or of cultural globalization

~Peter L. Berger

Some people seem to gravitate from one fundamentalism to another, from some kind of secular fundamentalism into a religious fundamentalism or the other way around, which is not very helpful.

~Peter L. Berger

In a market economy, however, the individual has some possibility of escaping from the power of the state

~Peter L. Berger

In science, as in love, a concentration on technique is likely to lead to

impotence.

~Peter L. Berger

East Asia confirms the superior capacity of industrial capitalism in raising the material standard of living of large masses of people.

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~Peter L. Berger
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Language is capable of becoming the objective repository of vast accumulations of meaning and experience, which it can then preserve in time and transmit to following generations.

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~Peter L. Berger
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The problem with liberal Protestantism in America is not that it has not been orthodox enough, but that it has lost a lot of religious substance ~Peter L. Berger

In all advanced industrial societies, education has become the single most important vehicle of upward mobility.

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~Peter L. Berger
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Some people think that as the Chinese economy becomes more and more capitalistic it will inevitably become more democratic

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~Peter L. Berger
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There is an intrinsic linkage between socialism and economic inefficiency.

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~Peter L. Berger
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An economy oriented toward production for market exchange provides the optimal conditions for long-lasting and ever-expanding productive capacity based on modern technology.

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~Peter L. Berger
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I'm sure Putnam is right that there's been a decline in certain kinds of

organizations like bowling leagues. But people participate in communities in other ways.

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~Peter L. Berger
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But we don't have an example of a democratic society existing in a socialist economy - which is the only real alternative to capitalism in the modern world.

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~Peter L. Berger
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If you say simply that pressures toward democracy are created by the market, I would say yes

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~Peter L. Berger
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It has been true in Western societies and it seems to be true elsewhere that you do not find democratic systems apart from capitalism, or apart from a market economy, if you prefer that term

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~Peter L. Berger
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India is the most religious country in the world, Sweden is the most secular country in the world, and America is a country of Indians ruled by Swedes.

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~Peter L. Berger
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If the cultural elite has its way, the U.S. will be much more like Europe ~Peter L. Berger

To be located in society means to be at the intersection point of specific social forces. Commonly one ignores these forces one also knows that there is not an awful lot that one can do about this.

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~Peter L. Berger
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If a socialist economy is opened up to increasing degrees of market forces, a point will be reached at which democratic governance becomes a possibility.

~Peter L. Berger

So I think one can say on empirical grounds - not because of some philosophical principle - that you can't have democracy unless you have a market economy.

~Peter L. Berger

F. A. Hayek is probably the most prominent advocate of capitalism in the present period.

~Peter L. Berger

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