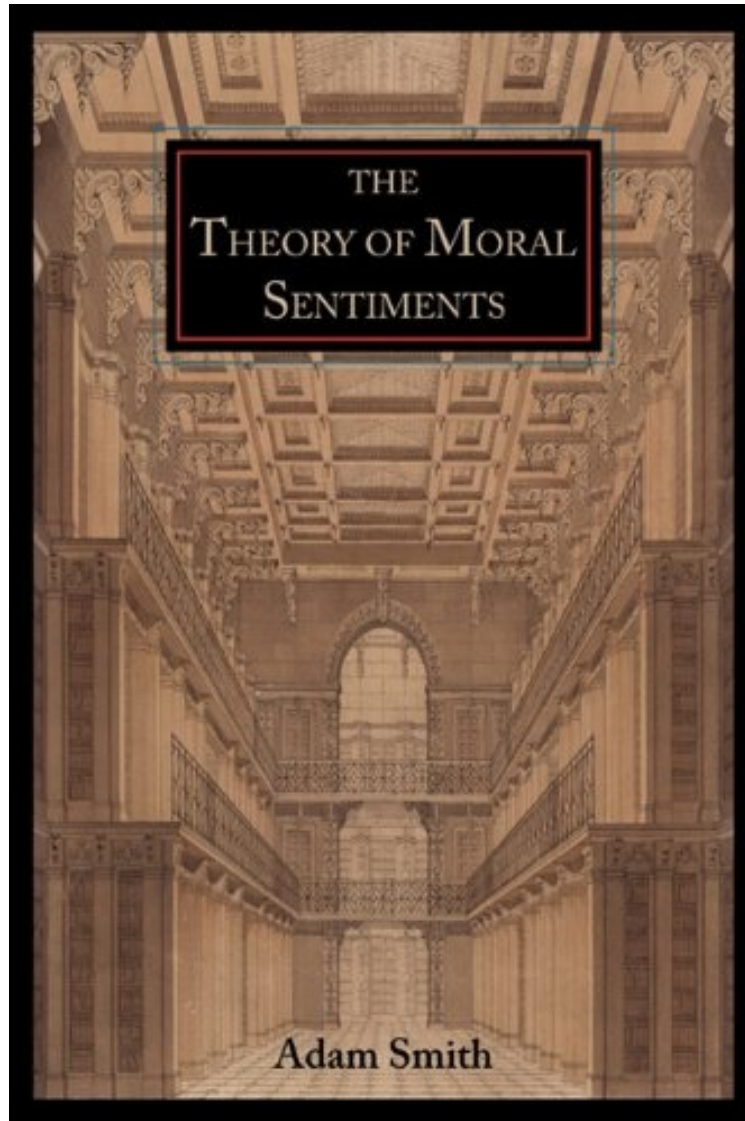


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The Theory of Moral Sentiments

Adam Smith

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Adam Smith : The Theory of Moral Sentiments before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Theory of Moral Sentiments:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Want to understand people? By B. McGregor Difficult read but worth it. Bought it for reference to Russ Roberts book that simplifies it. Want to understand people? This is it. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Throwback By Mark Pastin Firstly, this is a remarkably clear exegesis of an empirical theory of ethics that was highly influential in its time, but is little read today. It is clear and interesting and

makes a good argument for the idea that there is a moral sense. It is, in fact, surprising how well the writing and reasoning stand the test of time. This is an accurate and complete edition without many of OCR problems which seem to plague other editions. If you are a professional philosopher or just enjoy ideas, this is a very sound edition for you. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Required Reading for Everyone By M. J. Shulman This book pre-dates the economist's bible of capitalism, *The Wealth of Nations* and with respect to other reviewers it is not an adjunct to that work; it is the foundation of Smith's theories on capitalism. And it is arguably the best attempt to create a secular, humanistic basis for a moral life ever written. Bottom line: the pinheads and blow-dried pundits who spout about capitalism typically have not read Smith in any form and if they had they would be shocked. Smith, in this work, lays the groundwork for capitalism in the form of a moral man - the participant in the marketplace is a moral man moved by the suffering of others and deriving great satisfaction from alleviating that suffering. If you doubt this interpretation you need only read the first THREE pages of this work.

2011 Reprint of 1790 London Edition. Today Adam Smith's reputation rests on his explanation of how rational self-interest in a free-market economy leads to economic well-being. It may surprise those who would discount Smith as an advocate of ruthless individualism that his first major work concentrates on ethics and charity. In fact, while chair at the University of Glasgow, Smith's lecture subjects, in order of preference, were natural theology, ethics, jurisprudence, and economics, according to John Millar, Smith's pupil at the time. In *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Smith wrote: "How selfish soever man may be supposed, there are evidently some principles in his nature which interest him in the fortune of others and render their happiness necessary to him though he derives nothing from it except the pleasure of seeing it." *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* establishes the intellectual framework for all of Smith's later work, including the monumental *Wealth of Nations*.

"One of the truly outstanding books in the intellectual history of the world...A global manifesto of profound significance to the interdependent world in which we live. It is indeed a book of amazing reach and contemporary relevance." -Amartya Sen, from the Introduction From the Back Cover "In *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Smith assigned himself a difficult and dangerous task: to establish for educated men in an increasingly revolutionary age the reasonableness of morality and the necessity of the fruits of virtue - illustrated by the wisdom of the classical authors of antiquity. This book, Adam Smith's first, is, then, proof to skeptics of the importance of morality; and an antidote to those who think that free-market economics can be divorced from a moral society." --BOOK JACKET. About the Author Adam Smith (1723-1790) was a Scottish political economist and moral philosopher.