



ACADEMICS AND AEI

A Scholarly Update from the American Enterprise Institute

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The **American Enterprise Institute** is a nonpartisan research institution whose purpose is to defend and improve the institutions of American freedom and democratic capitalism.

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The **National Research Initiative** offers a variety of resources to support both established and emerging scholars.

NRI offers [grants](#) to support research, writing, and publication. NRI also offers [fellowships](#). For more information, contact [NRI's project manager](#).

IN THE NEWS

Why Did Welfare Caseloads Collapse? The Mystery of Diversion

AEI event, November 14, 2008



Lawrence M. Mead

Lawrence M. Mead (AEI and New York University), **Demetra Nightingale** (Urban Institute and Johns Hopkins University), **Stephen Camp-Landis** (New York University), **Jason DeParle** (*New York Times*), and other leading field researchers will discuss the forces that transformed welfare, the effects of diversion on welfare caseloads, and the implications of these findings on future social policy. [\[Read more\]](#)

CONTENTS

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS with the National Research Initiative (NRI).

IN THE NEWS: [Mead, Nightingale, Camp-Landis, DeParle, et al.](#) on the transformation of welfare.

UPCOMING EVENTS: [Hess, Enlow, Fuller, Stern, et al.](#) on the future of school choice programs; [Mansfield](#) on Alexis de Tocqueville and "rational control."

BOOK: [Brooks](#) on social entrepreneurship.

ARTICLES: [Brill, Brooks, and Viard](#) on Obama's tax plan and marginal tax rates; [Mankiw](#) on the parallels between today and the Great Depression; [Biggs](#) on Obama's Social Security plan; [Lerrick](#) on the redistributive effect of Obama's tax plan.

WORKING PAPER: [Reinhart and Reinhart](#) on the effects of capital inflow bonanzas.

RECENT EVENT: [Thomas, Altshuler, Yin, Carroll, Gentry, et al.](#) on the possibility of a progressive consumption tax.

BOOK

UPCOMING EVENTS

What Is Next for School Choice?

AEI event, November 10, 2008

Frederick M. Hess (AEI), **Robert Enlow** (Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice), **Howard Fuller** (Marquette University), **Sol Stern** (Manhattan Institute), and others will discuss the impact of school choice on K-12 education and what is next for school choice following the 2008 election. [[Read more](#)]

On Religion and Rational Control

AEI Bradley Lecture, November 3, 2008

Harvey C. Mansfield (AEI and Harvard University) will discuss Alexis de Tocqueville's belief that "rational control"--the subjection of society to reason with the aim of getting us to behave better--leads to "mild despotism." He will also describe Toqueville's proposed understanding of religion that would oppose rational control and provide an alternative that is more favorable to political liberty. [[Read more](#)]

WORKING PAPER

Capital Flow Bonanzas: An Encompassing View of the Past and Present

By **Vincent R. Reinhart** and **Carmen M. Reinhart**
National Bureau of Economic Research, September 2008

Vincent R. Reinhart (AEI) and **Carmen M. Reinhart** (University of Maryland) discuss why capital inflow bonanzas are troublesome for advanced economies, in which they are associated with economic crises, and for emerging markets, in which they contribute to economic vulnerability. [[Read more](#)]

RECENT EVENT



Prentice Hall
March 2008

[[Read more](#)]

In *Social Entrepreneurship: A Modern Approach to Social Value Creation*, **Arthur C. Brooks** (AEI and Syracuse University) brings together the established pedagogy of entrepreneurship with cutting-edge nonprofit and public management tools.

ARTICLES

The Real Problem with Obama's Tax Plan

By **Alex Brill**, **Arthur C. Brooks**, and **Alan D. Viard**

Washington Post, October 29, 2008

Alex Brill (AEI), **Arthur C. Brooks** (AEI and Syracuse University), and **Alan D. Viard** (AEI) argue that Senator Barack Obama's tax plan will increase marginal tax rates, resulting in a less productive economy. [[Read more](#)]

But Have We Learned Enough?

By **N. Gregory Mankiw**

New York Times, October 26, 2008

N. Gregory Mankiw (AEI and Harvard University) examines the disturbing parallels between current events and those preceding the Great Depression. [[Read more](#)]

Progressive Consumption Taxation: Can It Be Done? Should It Be Done?

AEI and Tax Foundation event, October 24, 2008

Bill Thomas (AEI), **Rosanne Altshuler** (Rutgers University), **George Yin** (University of Virginia Law School), **Robert Carroll** (Tax Foundation and American University), **William Gentry** (Williams College), **Alex Brill** (AEI), **Alan D. Viard** (AEI), and others explored whether moving from an income tax to a consumption tax would promote saving and long-run economic growth and whether it can be implemented. [[Read more](#)]



Obama Wants Social Security to Be a Welfare Plan

By **Andrew G. Biggs**

Wall Street Journal, October 24, 2008

Andrew G. Biggs (AEI) explains how Obama's proposed cut in Social Security taxes for low earners shifts the system to a "welfare" approach and sharply increases the program's long-term deficit. [[Read more](#)]

Obama and the Tax Tipping Point

By **Adam Lerrick**

Wall Street Journal, October 22, 2008

Adam Lerrick (AEI and Carnegie Mellon University) argues that Obama's tax plan will increase the number of Americans who pay little or nothing in income taxes at the expense of U.S. economic growth. [[Read more](#)]

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