

Visionary Writers on the Future of Work



Beacon works from two hundred years of economic thinking

Visionary Writers on the Future of Work

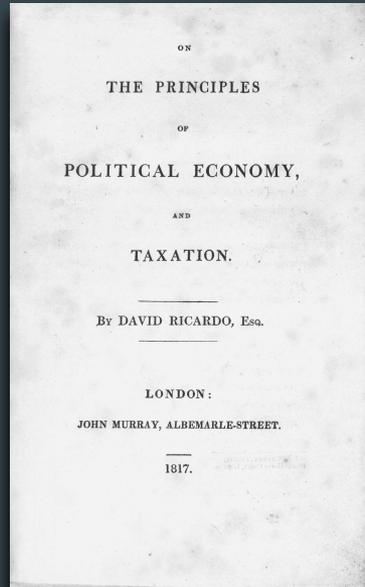
- The following “beacon” works have sought to address the prospects of labor displacement with advances from technology (machinery) in productive processes.
- Into 1940 +/- the effect was manifest in a span of economic scarcity.
- Post WW-II the effects are manifest in a period of economic surplus (discretionary) goods and services.
- These works illumine a necessary transition in the political economy for labor.

Visionary Writers on the Future of Work

- 1817 David Ricardo: *On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation*
- 1936 John Maynard Keynes: *The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money*
- 1972 Donella Meadows, Dennis Meadows, Jørgen Randers, William W. Behrens III: *The Limits to Growth. A Report for the Club of Rome's Project on the Predicament of Mankind*
- 1995 Jeremy Rifkin: *The End of Work: The Decline of the Global Labor Force and the Dawn of the Post-Market Era*
- 2009 Timothy Jackson: *Prosperity Without Growth*
- 2013 Carl Benedikt Frey, Michael Osborne: *The Future of Employment: How susceptible are jobs to computerization?*
- 2014 Wolfgang Price: *Beyond Jobs*
- 2016 Martin Ford: *Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future*
- 2018 Darrell West: *The Future of Work*
- 2020 Daniel Susskind: *A World Without Work: Technology, Automation, and How We Should Respond*
- 2021 Timothy Jackson: *Post-Growth*

1817 David Ricardo

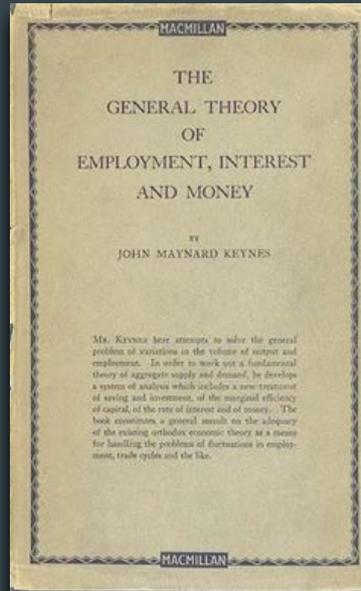
On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation



“ Suppose two men employ one hundred men each for a year in the construction of two machines ... During the second year they will have employed the same quantity of labour, but the goods ... will be the result of the labour of two hundred men...

1936 John Maynard Keynes

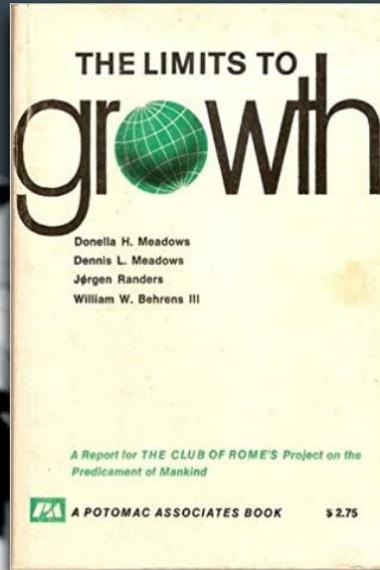
The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money



“The outstanding faults of the economic society in which we live are its failure to provide for full employment and its arbitrary and inequitable distribution of wealth and incomes.

1972 Club of Rome

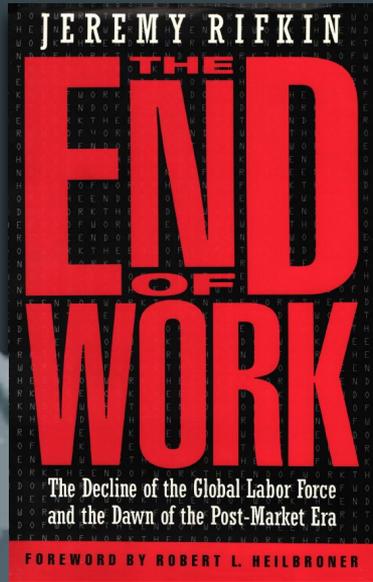
The Limits to Growth



“ ... after the basic human needs of food and shelter have been met ..., every improvement in production methods could result in increased leisure for the population...

1995 Jeremy Rifkin

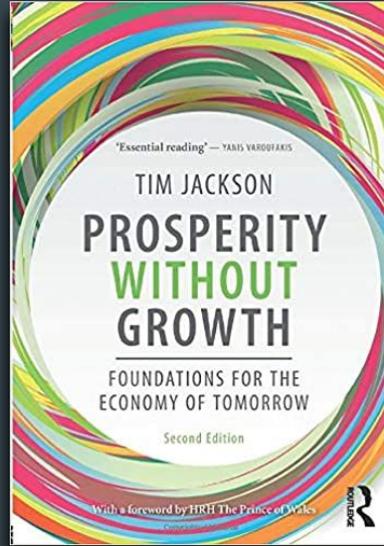
The End of Work



“ Between 1989 and 1993, more than 1.8 million workers lost their jobs in the manufacturing sector, many of them victims of automation, ... Of those who have lost their jobs to automation, only a third were able to find new jobs in the service sector...

2009 Timothy Jackson

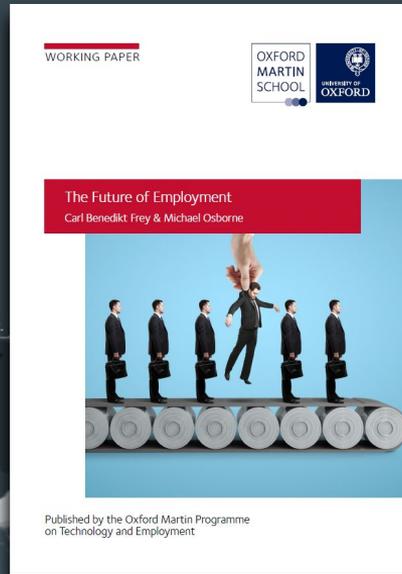
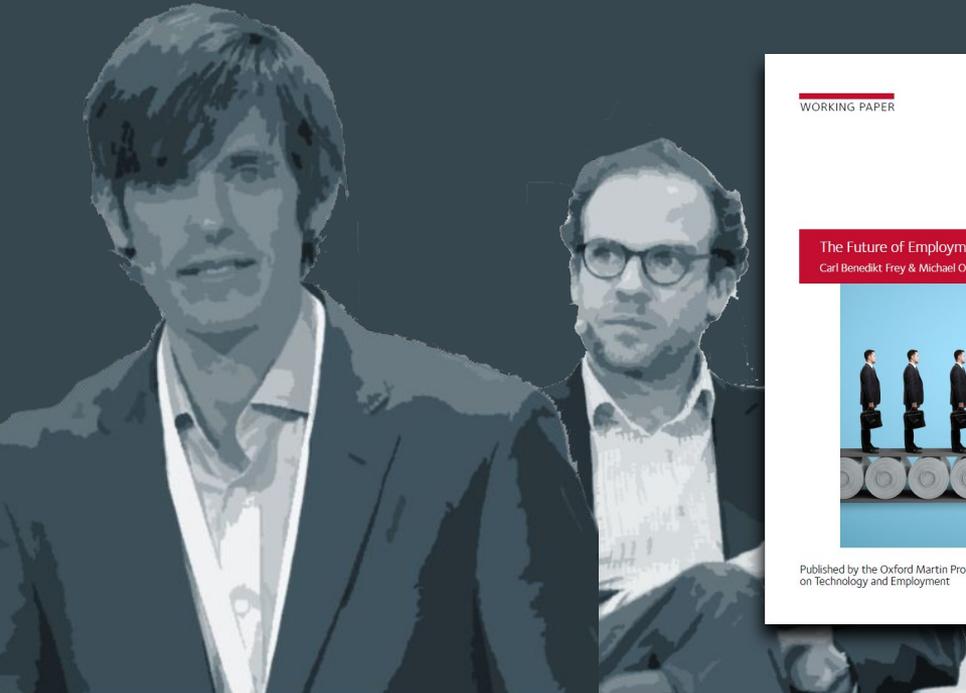
Prosperity Without Growth



“ For at the end of the day prosperity goes beyond material pleasures. It transcends material concerns. It resides in the quality of our lives... It is evidenced by our satisfaction at work and our sense of shared meaning and purpose.

2013 C. B. Frey, M. Osborne

The Future of Employment



“ The balance between job conservation and technological progress therefore, to a large extent, reflects the balance of power in society, and how gains from technological progress are being distributed.

2014 Wolfgang Price Beyond Jobs



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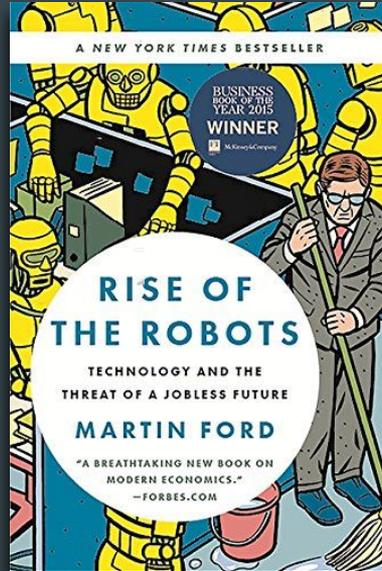


Wolfgang Price

“ Working man’s 19th century course from a menial rural labor force to well-paid urban attendant on an automated assembly line is not a destination. Nor are his job titles... indelible in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles.

2016 Martin Ford

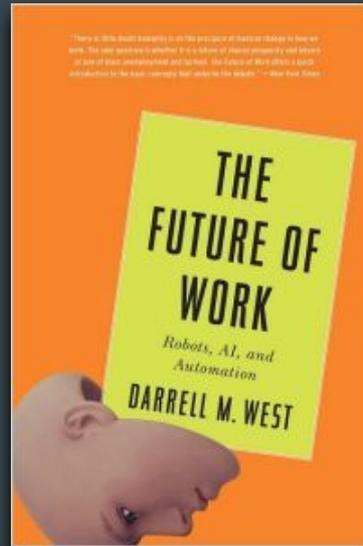
Rise of the Robots



“ That shift will ultimately challenge one of our most basic assumptions about technology: that machines are tools that increase the productivity of workers. Instead, machines themselves are turning into workers...

2018 Darrell West

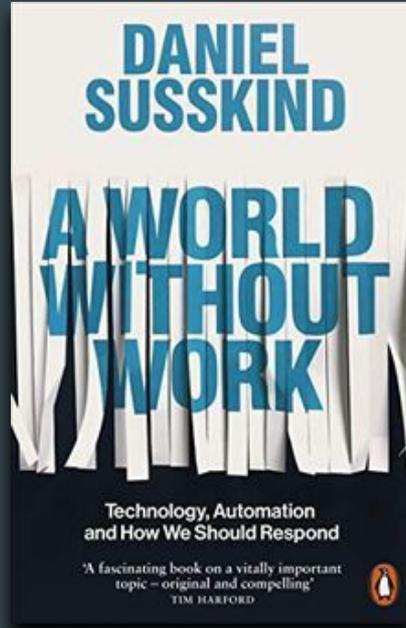
The Future of Work



“ In the future, we need to figure out how to provide benefits to those whose employment does not provide them, broaden the notion of work to include volunteering, parenting, and mentoring, and expand leisure-time activities.

2020 Daniel Susskind

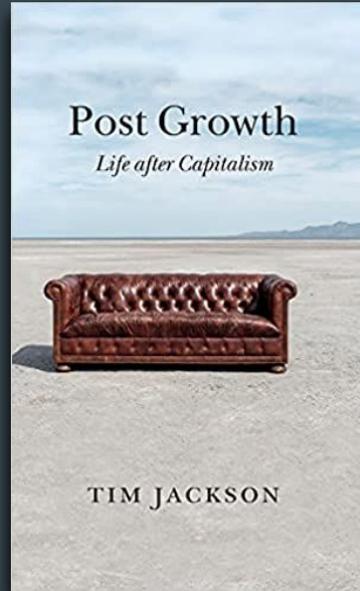
A World Without Work



“...technological unemployment...will hollow out...the sense of purpose in many people’s lives. In a world with less work, we will face a problem that has little to do with economics at all: how to find meaning in life when a major source of it disappears.

2021 Timothy Jackson

Post-Growth



“ Suddenly, overnight, we began to understand which tasks in society really matter. Healthcare, food provision and basic utilities were the jobs we could not do away with. Care workers turned out to be vital.

And now..?



What are your thoughts?

Colloquium: Economy in Transition

The Future of Work



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