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Libertarian Apologetics

by Michael Sean Winters

Distinctly Catholic

I can't recall reading a single article with more tendentious claims in it than this piece at Crisis by Joe Hargrave defending libertarianism and capitalism from the charge that they are not consonant with Catholic social teaching. These sentences show the complete lack of human solidarity that stalks the piece and places it well outside orthodox Catholic teaching:

Among the poorest areas of the United States one will find high rates of crime, drug abuse, educational failure, sexual deviance, illegitimacy, and so on. This is not to say that people in these areas ought to be written off, but it is to say that no employer is obliged to subsidize their moral failings?and neither are we, the frugal, well-behaved wage-earners to whom Leo XIII refers.

Callous and cold and, just so, not very Christian let alone Catholic.

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