

Chapter 1 : The Roar of an Economic Hitman - Lions of Liberty

Confessions of an Economic Hit Man is a partly autobiographical book written by John Perkins published in It provides Perkins' account of his career with engineering consulting firm Chas. T. Main in Boston.

In it, Perkins describes his career convincing heads of state to adopt economic policies that impoverished their countries and undermined democratic institutions. These policies helped to enrich tiny, local elite groups while padding the pockets of U. His job as an undertrained, overpaid economist was to generate reports that justified lucrative contracts for U. That is, indeed, what happened to Allende, with the backing of the CIA. Perkins has just reissued his book with major updates. The basic premise of the book remains the same, but the update shows how the economic hit man approach has evolved in the last 12 years. Among other things, U. The combination of debt, enforced austerity, underinvestment, privatization, and the undermining of democratically elected governments is now happening here. I interviewed Perkins at his home in the Seattle area. Things have just gotten so much worse in the last 12 years since the first Confessions was written. Economic hit men and jackals have expanded tremendously, including the United States and Europe. And in fact, the cancer of the corporate empire has metastasized into what I would call a failed global death economy. So how has this switched from us being the beneficiaries of this hit-man economy, perhaps in the past, to us now being more of the victims of it? We of course in the U. Is this the same kind of dynamic about debt that leads to emergency managers who then turn over the reins of the economy to private enterprises? The same thing that you are seeing in third-world countries? Yes, when I was an economic hit man, one of the things that we did, we raised these huge loans for these countries, but the money never actually went to the countries, it went to our own corporations to build infrastructure in those countries. And when the countries could not pay off their debt, we insisted that they privatize their water systems, their sewage systems, their electric systems. We raised these huge loans for these countries, but the money never actually went to the countries. Flint, Michigan, is a very good example of that. This is not a U. So it seems like Americans are starting to get this. What is your sense about where the American public is in terms of readiness to do something? As I travel around the U. If we really consider it, the market place is a democracy, if we just use it as such. I hear time after time after time that many of them want to leave a green legacy. I agree, and those campaigns, as you know, have been going on for decades now, and sometimes they have little incremental changes around the edge. We need investors, but beyond that, every corporation should serve a public interest, should serve the earth, should serve future generations. I want to ask you about the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and other trade deals. These terrible problems that have been created because of the greed of big corporations. I was just in Central America and what we talk about in the U. Can you talk about the violence that people are fleeing in Central America, and how that links back to the role the U. Three or four years ago the CIA orchestrated a coup against the democratically elected president of Honduras, President Zelaya, because he stood up to Dole and Chiquita and some other big, global, basically U. He wanted to raise the minimum wage to a reasonable level, and he wanted some land reform that would make sure that his own people were able to make money off their own land, rather than having big international corporations do it. And when that happens to a president, it sends a message to every other president throughout the hemisphere, and in fact throughout the world: Either cooperate and get rich in the process, and have all your friends and family get rich in the process, or go get overthrown or assassinated. I wanted to ask about your time spent in Ecuador with indigenous people. I got very ill, and my life was saved in one night by a shaman. I spent many years studying all this, and working with many different indigenous groups, and what I saw was the power of the mindset. So, instead of the kind of economy we have now, a death economy, if we can change the mindset we can very quickly move into a life economy. So what are the mechanisms by which a change in consciousness actually shifts things on the ground? No longer should your goal be to maximize profits regardless of social and environmental costs. You quote Tom Paine in your book: Well, I think Tom Paine was brilliant in that statement. He understood how that would impact people. And he wrote that statement in December And this is new. It used to be all we had to worry about was our local community, maybe our country. Just Readers Like You. You can help fund

powerful stories to light the way forward.

The New Confessions of an Economic Hit Man and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. Learn more Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App.

Saad 2 Comments Autobiography , books review , confessions of an economic hit man , economics , English books , John Perkins , politics Confessions of an Economic Hit Man â€” Review Economic hit men EHMs are highly paid professionals who cheat countries around the globe out of trillions of dollars. They funnel money from the World Bank, the U. Their tools include fraudulent financial reports, rigged elections, payoffs, extortion, sex, and murder. They play a game as old as empire, but one that has taken on new and terrifying dimensions during this time of globalization. All the discussions in the book become even more credible since the writer himself claims to be one of those notorious Economic Hit Men and served the consulting firm, Chase T. Book Release Year Confessions of an Economic Hit man came out in as the writer says that he was always encouraged not to complete this book through bribery and threats. Somehow he managed to complete it but then he faced difficulties in publishing it since no publishing house was willing to own such a controversial material. Main and he always felt that his induction at the firm was actually a covertly recruitment by NSA as the agency seemed to be impressed by his unstable and deteriorating childhood and felt that he was the right person for the job he was hired. This may also include allowing the private sector to explore the wealth of their lands, paying no regards to the local communities and habitat. For this purpose he never refrained in using highly exaggerated economic development models just to meet the ends. Confessions of an Economic Hit Man also explains that how only the few American companies remain most beneficial in the long run as the same money which is granted to these countries, is funneled back in their accounts. Three Steps of Coercion The author explains in the book the three levels the establishment uses to make things work out in their way. The first level is of course, the assignment of EHMs Economic Hit Men whose jobs are to convince the third world countries become indebted at the cost of their own natural resources. Are Claims of John Perkins Authentic? Secondly, the death of Panamanian Leader, Omer Torrijos through a plane crash which he claims to be more than a mere accident as a result of contention of his with the American Government over the Panama Canal. The author seems to be impressed with the personality of Omar Torrijos as he had many opportunities to meet and talk to him on various issues. This really enhances the reading experience and the reader can easily guess that the author is sure an experienced writer. There are also some downsides as well. After reading the whole book one would feel that a rather hopeless situation of the world is portrayed. Every step taken in the direction of development and prosperity would be felt like being intrigued and a conspiracy plotted to benefit few. Suggestions by John Perkins The writer also shares some list of actions one could take to avoid all these fallacies but they seem to be too lame and limited only to micro level. I could give you a list of practical things to do. For instance, cut back on your oil consumption. In , before we first invaded Iraq, we imported 8 million barrels of oil; by and the second invasion, this had increased more than 50 percent, to over 12 million barrels. Downsize your home, wardrobe, car, office, and most everything else in your life. In other words he is advocating the same system which he blamed to be responsible of many miseries especially to the developing countries. Apart from criticisms, I believe the book is no doubt a good read, fascinating and eye opening. I downloaded the e-book version of this book. Not sure whether I violated the piracy actâ€”!!!

Chapter 3 : Confessions of an Economic Hit Man by John Perkins - The Usual Stuff

John Perkins describes himself as a former economic hit man-a highly paid professional who cheated countries around the globe out of trillions of dollars.

He tells Redford that it is simple economics and anyway, what would Redford expect them to do? Redford says he should ask the American people first. Ask them when their engines stop. Ask them when people who have never known hunger start going hungry. Want to know something? It reads like a Le Carre novel or something by Graham Green, and yet it is autobiographical. A young man becomes drawn into international finance and has the role of convincing third world countries particularly the leaders of these countries to take out loans that are so huge their countries will never be able to repay them. They do this so as to ensure that these countries become satellites orbiting the American Empire. His job was to make these countries compliant, dependent, and endlessly economically exploitable. Perkins asserts that the economic hit men were potentially only phase one of what could become a three phase attack on the democratic rights and independence of foreign nations. He gives instance after instance of where this pattern was applied in Latin America, the Middle East and Asia over a period of about three decades. It would be hard to imagine someone from the US reading this book without a growing sense of shame. It is hard to read this book from anywhere in the first world without feelings of responsibility, disgust and self-loathing. He reminds us continually that our lavish and unsustainable life style is only possible by the exploitation unto death of large parts of the globe. Perkins does not come out of this book a saint, but he does come out of it a bit of a hero " I think. It surprises me more I can say that this book ever got published. I think I preferred it when the rulers of the world at least pretended they were concerned we might overthrow them if we caught them at their cheating. I think I preferred it when they would lie to us, if for no better reason than purely out of shame. We have become completely contemptible. Where they can do whatever they like and then rub our noses in it and we will only shake our heads and complain about how powerless we are. Like I said, this reads like a spy novel, but made even more compelling by it being true. This book demands to be read.

Chapter 4 : Confessions of an Economic Hit Man - Wikipedia

Twelve years ago, John Perkins published his book, Confessions of an Economic Hit Man, and it rapidly rose up The New York Times' best-seller list. In it, Perkins describes his career convincing heads of state to adopt economic policies that impoverished their countries and undermined democratic.

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form. John Perkins joins us now in our firehouse studio. Welcome to Democracy Now! Basically what we were trained to do and what our job is to do is to build up the American empire. This empire, unlike any other in the history of the world, has been built primarily through economic manipulation, through cheating, through fraud, through seducing people into our way of life, through the economic hit men. I was very much a part of that. How did you become one? Who did you work for? At that point, we understood that this idea of economic hit man was an extremely good one. The problem with that was that Roosevelt was a C. He was a government employee. Had he been caught, we would have been in a lot of trouble. It would have been very embarrassing. So, at that point, the decision was made to use organizations like the C. Explain the company you worked for. Well, the company I worked for was a company named Chas. Main in Boston, Massachusetts. We were about 2, employees, and I became its chief economist. I ended up having fifty people working for me. But my real job was deal-making. It was giving loans to other countries, huge loans, much bigger than they could possibly repay. These were big ones. Those companies would then go in and build an electrical system or ports or highways, and these would basically serve just a few of the very wealthiest families in those countries. A country today like Ecuador owes over fifty percent of its national budget just to pay down its debt. So, we literally have them over a barrel. So we make this big loan, most of it comes back to the United States, the country is left with the debt plus lots of interest, and they basically become our servants, our slaves. What do you mean? Who tried to bribe you, or who " what are the bribes you accepted? Well, I accepted a half a million dollar bribe in the nineties not to write the book. From a major construction engineering company. This is all very legal. But I essentially did nothing. Yeah, and it was, you know? And when the National Security Agency recruited me, they put me through a day of lie detector tests. They found out all my weaknesses and immediately seduced me. They used the strongest drugs in our culture, sex, power and money, to win me over. I come from a very old New England family, Calvinist, steeped in amazingly strong moral values. In your book, you talk about how you helped to implement a secret scheme that funneled billions of dollars of Saudi Arabian petrol dollars back into the U. Yes, it was a fascinating time. We had cars lined up at gas stations. The country was afraid that it was facing another type of crash " depression; and this was unacceptable. So, they " the Treasury Department hired me and a few other economic hit men. We went to Saudi Arabia. Yeah, it was a tongue-in-cheek term that we called ourselves. Officially, I was a chief economist. We called ourselves e. It was like, nobody will believe us if we say this, you know? And, so, we went to Saudi Arabia in the early seventies. We knew Saudi Arabia was the key to dropping our dependency, or to controlling the situation. And we worked out this deal whereby the Royal House of Saud agreed to send most of their petro-dollars back to the United States and invest them in U. The Treasury Department would use the interest from these securities to hire U. When the economic hit men fail in this scenario, the next step is what we call the jackals. He had " His bodyguards were too good. Can you explain how Torrijos died? Omar Torrijos, the President of Panama. Omar Torrijos had signed the Canal Treaty with Carter much " and, you know, it passed our congress by only one vote. It was a highly contended issue. And Torrijos then also went ahead and negotiated with the Japanese to build a sea-level canal. The Japanese wanted to finance and construct a sea-level canal in Panama. Torrijos talked to them about this which very much upset Bechtel Corporation, whose president was George Schultz and senior council was Casper Weinberger. He was a very principled man. He had his problem, but he was a very principled man. He was an amazing man, Torrijos. And so, he died in a fiery airplane crash, which was connected to a tape recorder with explosives in it, which " I was there. I had been working with him. I knew that we economic hit men had failed. I knew the jackals were closing in on him, and the next thing, his plane exploded with a tape recorder with a bomb in it. Of course, we never heard about that in our country. So,

where “ when did your change your heart happen? I felt guilty throughout the whole time, but I was seduced. The power of these drugs, sex, power, and money, was extremely strong for me. And, of course, I was doing things I was being patted on the back for. I was chief economist. I was doing things that Robert McNamara liked and so on. How closely did you work with the World Bank? Very, very closely with the World Bank. I really believe we can do that. I believe the World Bank and other institutions can be turned around and do what they were originally intended to do, which is help reconstruct devastated parts of the world. Help “ genuinely help poor people. There are twenty-four thousand people starving to death every day. We can change that. John Perkins, I want to thank you very much for being with us. Please attribute legal copies of this work to [democracynow](#). Some of the work s that this program incorporates, however, may be separately licensed. For further information or additional permissions, contact us.

Chapter 5 : John Perkins: New Confessions of an Economic Hit Man | HuffPost

The economic hit man/ jackal strategy of debt and fear was a deliberate US policy to counter influence of the Soviet Union. Perkins relates a story from a dam-building project he directed in.

He emailed me a list of books to read, most of which are not easy to find, but Confessions was on it, so I ordered the new, expanded book to see what the fuss is all about. Whereas in the original you find yourself riding with John Perkins in Ecuador, Panama, Iran, Boston, Jakarta and Washington, in the second My friend Stan is approaching his 50th and in his old age is becoming a bit of a conspiracy theorist. The man has little to add. Not quite, but not too far from it either. The guy feels so guilty, you know. Allow me to elaborate on that, through the story of my own country. I was raised in Greece, which was quite genuinely on the frontline of the cold war. As soon as the civil war ended in favor of the Nationalists, my country was put on a strict diet of US aid, good and bad. Loans were extended to Greek businessmen to buy cast-off American manufacturing equipment, for example, with the protection of gigantic tariffs taking care of the fact that the end products would not exactly be cutting edge. Extreme examples include a bauxite processing plant in beautiful Delphi which incidentally still operates thanks to a grant of free energy, refineries and shipping docks in ancient Eleusis, fabrics in Patras etc. The only thing that saved us from the discovery of oil destroying the beautiful Aegean was that the equally enlightened Turkish government laid claim to the discovered oil, thankfully leading to the sensible decision to leave it under the ground where it belongs. We even had the odd extrajudicial killing of the kind Perkins describes, with two prominent members of the left Labrakis and Panagoulis perishing in suspect traffic accidents immediately before and after this period. Greece not being a banana republic at the time or geographically located within the mandate of the Monroe doctrine, we proudly kicked out our US-backed dictators, withdrew from NATO and there was very little Uncle Sam could do about it as we went straight into the embrace of the European Economic Community and then back into the NATO fold, but from a position of relative strength. In , five months after our new French pay-masters, we proudly elected a Socialist government, even. The story since then has of course not been a proud story at all. EU membership afforded to populist governments the funds to nationalize the collapsing hitherto tariff-protected industries, rather than shut them down. Funds meant to be invested in infrastructure transmogrified into several massive entitlements programs that persist today, IMF memoranda notwithstanding. The size of government rose 4-fold. Finally, membership in the Euro currency union allowed Greece to borrow more money than it will ever be able to repay. Every which way, is the short answer. He had a steady job, but we all knew he was reporting back to his American masters. All are fervent nationalists, excellent family men and have spawned successful children, all of whom received their high school education in Greece, all of whom did some of their studies in the US and more than half of whom now live abroad. When horrible communist dictator Ceausescu died, there might have been an army of AIDS babies in Romania, but the state was pretty much debt-free. That was almost a condition imposed on its client state by the Soviets. The US has never had a policy of controlling its client states through debt. To the extent that overborrowing occurred in Latin America it was a mistake made by the money center banks and they paid for it dearly. There is absolutely nothing wrong with building roads and electrical plants in poor countries. Absolute right and wrong is a luxury in a world of scarcity and limited choice. Yes, my country did not only benefit from being a US semi-protectorate between and We took the rough with the smooth. But a quick look at the lasting predicament of our northern neighbors Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria and the Yugoslavian civil war of , especially, makes it patently clear we got by far the better of the two deals available. How is proud, sovereign, European Greece doing right now? How did Sarah Palin put it? The hopey-changey thing did not work out for us, did it? Under the Americans we knew what we were giving up, of course. But the EU was not exactly something for nothing. A priori, what Perkins is saying sounds wonderful. Hell, in principle I agree with him. In practice it looks very different. We wasted our sovereignty. And perhaps when the original book came out it was a surprise for people to hear that the US made the Bin Ladens. Also, I know terribly little about Latin American politics. I had no idea Panama was once the northern tip of Colombia. Manuel Noriega was to me a

villain with bad acne who once did terrible things with a Coke bottle. My feelings toward him and his acne are not much changed, but my bank of knowledge has expanded. The second part of the book you should skip. If I never hear about the Pachamama Alliance again, it might still be too soon

Chapter 6 : John Perkins | Chief Economist, Author, & Activist | About

Apologies Of An Economic Hitman the movie by John Perkins John Perkins was a prominent member of the top-secret team of "economic hit men", who used fraudulent financial reports, rigged elections.

Content[edit] The book heavily criticizes U. Saddled with debts they could not hope to pay, those countries were forced to acquiesce to political pressure from the United States on a variety of issues. Perkins argues in his book that developing nations were effectively neutralized politically, had their wealth gaps driven wider and economies crippled in the long run. In this capacity, Perkins recounts his meetings with some prominent individuals, including Graham Greene and Omar Torrijos. Perkins describes the role of an economic hit man as follows: Economic hit men EHMs are highly paid professionals who cheat countries around the globe out of trillions of dollars. They funnel money from the World Bank, the U. Their tools included fraudulent financial reports, rigged elections, payoffs, extortion, sex, and murder. They play a game as old as empire, but one that has taken on new and terrifying dimensions during this time of globalization. According to Perkins, he began writing Confessions of an Economic Hit Man in the s, but "threats or bribes always convinced [him] to stop. The first real economic hit man was back in the early s, Kermit Roosevelt, Jr. At that point, we understood that this idea of economic hit man was an extremely good one. The problem with that was that Roosevelt was a C. He was a government employee. Had he been caught, we would have been in a lot of trouble. It would have been very embarrassing. So, at that point, the decision was made to use organizations like the C. In addition, the author of the State Department release states that the NSA "is a cryptological codemaking and codebreaking organization, not an economic organization" and that its missions do not involve "anything remotely resembling placing economists at private companies in order to increase the debt of foreign countries". According to Ferguson, those "do not seem like figures worth killing for". Main who first offered Perkins a job there, at first affirmed the overall validity of the book, saying "basically his story is true Whether or not it was some sinister plot or not is up to interpretation, but many of these countries are still over the barrel and have never been able to repay the loans. A Game as Old as Empire: The epilogue to the edition provides a rebuttal to the current move by the G8 nations to forgive Third World debt. Perkins charges that the proposed conditions for this debt forgiveness require countries to privatise their health, education, electric, water and other public services. Those countries would also have to discontinue subsidies and trade restrictions that support local business, but accept the continued subsidization of certain G8 businesses by the US and other G8 countries, and the erection of trade barriers on imports that threaten G8 industries. Documentary film[edit] In , the documentary film Confessions of an Economic Hit Man featuring interviews with Perkins, was shown at film festivals around the U. The film is a Greek â€”U. Numerous interview-style statements by John Perkins also appear in the Internet-based documentary, Zeitgeist: Addendum , and in the documentary, Four Horsemen.

He is a founder and board member of Dream Change and The Pachamama Alliance, non-profit organizations devoted to establishing a world that future generations will want to inherit and the author of the New York Times bestseller, Confessions Of An Economic Hitman.

When he was a young man, NSA interrogators interviewed Perkins and explored his "frustration about the lack of women, sex, and money. The e-mails, which were apparently stolen by hacking group Anonymous, were later disclosed by whistle-blowing outfit WikiLeaks. The cache, which reportedly numbers a whopping five million e-mails, reveals the inner workings of a company which provides confidential intelligence services to large corporations, but also key U. Some of the Stratfor e-mails could have been lifted right out of a sensationalistic scene from Confessions of an Economic Hit Man. In one e-mail exchange, Bhalla explains that the Venezuelan military had been "most cooperative with us lately: They love Bora Bora. They are easy to bribe. They care about maintaining their current lifestyles. This is a very difficult art but one you must learn. The gut is to be trusted only after its well trained. Perhaps Bhalla had grown weary of being a mere analyst and, like Perkins, yearned for more power. If that was the case, then it seems she finally got her wish. In a follow up exchange, Friedman explains over his blackberry that it was time to "start our conversation on your next phase. Control means financial, sexual or psychological control to the point where he would reveal his sourcing and be tasked. One associate professor, Elizabeth Stanley, worked as a U. Army captain in military intelligence. According to the Georgetown web site, Stanley has experience in something called "mindfulness techniques" and created "mindfulness-based Mind Fitness Training MMFT to build warrior resilience and optimize individual and team performance. Will further WikiLeaks disclosures embarrass and shame Stratfor employees, prompting them to come clean and abandon their unsavory work? The track record is hardly encouraging. In the wake of the earlier Cable Gate scandal, not a single U. Perhaps such officials were afraid of losing their jobs, or alternatively saw nothing wrong in what they were doing. Whatever the case, it suggests that brave figures such as John Perkins are in the minority.

Chapter 8 : John Perkins (author) - Wikipedia

About John Perkins: Author of Confessions of an Economic Hit Man John Perkins was for many years one of the world's top economists. He worked directly with the heads of the World Bank, IMF, and other global financial institutions.

Share on Pinterest By John Perkins My success as chief economist at a major international consulting firm was not due to the lessons I learned in business school. It was not due to the competence of my staff of brilliant econometricians and financial wizards. Those things may have helped at times. But there was something else that made it all happen. That something else is available to everyone of us. It is the ability to alter objective reality by changing perceived reality, what we might think of as the Perception Bridge. As described in my book *The New Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, my job was to convince heads of state of countries with resources our corporations covet, like oil, to accept huge loans from the World Bank and its sister organizations. The stipulation was that these loans would be used to hire our engineering and construction companies, such as Bechtel, Halliburton, and Stone and Webster, to build electric power systems, ports, airports, highways and other infrastructure projects that would bring large profits to those companies and also benefit a few wealthy families in the country, the ones that owned the industries and commercial establishments. Everyone else in the country would suffer because funds were diverted from education, healthcare and other social services to pay interest on the debt. This included demands that the country sell its resources cheap to our corporations with minimal environmental and social regulations and that it privatize its utility companies and other public service businesses and offer them to our companies at cut-rate prices. It was a strategy of using perceived reality to change objective reality. In these cases, Objective Reality 1 was that the countries had resources. The Perceived Reality was that using those resources as collateral on loans to finance the building of infrastructure projects would create economic growth and prosperity for all the citizens. Objective Reality 2, however, was that economic growth occurred only among the very wealthy. Since economic statistics GDP in such countries are skewed in favor of the wealthy, the fact was that only our companies and the wealthy families benefited. The rest of the population suffered. In many cases this has led to political unrest, resentment, and the rise of various forms of radicalism and terrorism. Modern psychology teaches that perceived reality governs much of human behavior. Religion, culture, legal and economic systems, corporations – in fact, most human activities – are determined by perceived reality. When enough people accept these perceptions or when they are codified into laws, they have immense impact on objective reality. Human activities – individual, communal, and global – are driven by this process of altering human perceptions of reality in order to change objective realities. A couple of cases from US corporations illustrate this. A His company sold Model T cars that were produced through the assembly line process by workers who were paid a standard minimum wage; and B Because the assembly line was monotonous and workers were under a lot of pressure to reduce the amount of time to build a car from So Ford perceived a new reality. In addition to keeping workers on his assembly line, Ford was motivated by a second perception. Get Economics in your inbox Objective Reality 2: Ford sold , Model Ts in – more than all other carmakers combined. In , sales soared to , In , Ford sold a million cars. Nike, Adidas and other Retailers Objective Reality 1: Perceived Reality on the part of management at these companies: A Outsourcing production releases their companies of worker-rights responsibilities and minimizes wages; B Hiring highly-paid athletes to promote products counterbalances the negative publicity generated by activists who advocate more pay for sweatshop workers; and C These policies, that are diametrically opposed to those of Henry Ford, will maximize profits. I had the opportunity to highlight the difference between the two cases above when a Portland Oregon home of Nike radio station interviewed me. That extra money will go toward paying workers who make Nike products around the world higher wages. We believe that by Just Doing It we will help make the world a better, more peaceful place. How would it impact the rest of the industry? There are countless others. These range from the individuals to corporations and all the way to governments. Human activity is determined by the ways perceptions impact physical reality – both consciously and unconsciously. A Mohammad Mosaddegh was democratically elected Prime Minister of Iran in ; B He

introduced progressive reforms including social security, rent control, and land reform; C He insisted that foreign oil companies pay a fair share of their income from Iranian oil to the Iranian people and when one “ now known as BP ” resisted, he set about nationalizing it. We can only imagine how different the situation might be in Iran, the Middle East, the US, and so much of the world if the perceived reality had been different “ something like: I was taught that a good CEO earns a decent return for his investors and also makes sure that his company is a good citizen, that it serves a public interest. We were instructed to take care of our employees, giving them health insurance and retirement pensions, to treat our suppliers and customers with deep respect, and to honor the idea that good business is a win-win for all stakeholders. In many cases, CEOs made sure that their companies not only paid their fair share of taxes but also contributed money to local schools, recreational facilities and other such services. All that changed in when Milton Friedman won the Nobel Prize in Economics and stated, among other things, that the only responsibility of business is to maximize profits, regardless of the social and environmental costs. This was a perceived reality that became the defining goal for businesses. It convinced corporate executives that they had the right “ some would say the mandate “ to do whatever they thought it would take to maximize profits, including buying public officials through campaign financing, destroying the environment, and devastating the very resources upon which their businesses ultimately depend. That perceived reality has resulted in a failed global economic system, one that is on the path to consuming itself into extinction “ what some economists refer to as Predatory Capitalism. It is time that we turn this around. An economic system that is headed for disaster is converted into one that is itself a renewable resource. The success stories of humans “ as individuals and as communities “ revolve around the relationships of perceived reality to objective reality. At this critical time in history, it is essential that we commit to consciously building Perception Bridges that will take us into a world that future generations will want to inherit. By understanding that simple changes in perception bring about monumental changes in objective reality, we also realize that creating a better world is not just possible; it can be inspiring and fun. And Changing the World. We spend hundreds of hours and lots of dollars each month creating, curating, and promoting content that drives the next evolution of economics.

Chapter 9 : Confessions of an Economic Hit Man by John Perkins

Confessions of an Economic Hit Man, while purportedly the author's memoir and hard-hitting expose of his work in the "corporatocracy", reads more like a flat and repetitive mass market thriller.

Biography[edit] Perkins graduated from the Tilton School in He subsequently attended Middlebury College for two years before dropping out. He later earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Boston University in He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador from to He spent the s working for the Boston strategic-consulting firm Chas. Main ; he claims to have been screened for this job by the National Security Agency NSA and subsequently hired by Einar Greve, [2] a member of the firm alleged by Perkins to have been acting as an NSA liaison, a claim which Greve has denied. As Chief Economist at Chas. He worked directly with heads of state and CEOs of major companies. Main provides the basis for his subsequent published claims that, as an "economic hit man", he was charged with inducing developing countries to borrow large amounts of money, designated to pay for questionable infrastructure investments, but ultimately with a view to making the debt-laden countries more dependent, economically and politically, upon the West. In the s Perkins left Main and founded and directed an independent energy company. Perkins is a founder and board member of Dream Change and The Pachamama Alliance, nonprofit organizations devoted to promoting environmentally sustainable and socially just societies. He has lectured at Harvard , Oxford, and more than 50 universities around the world, and is the author of eight books on global economics and indigenous cultures. Addendum , released in October In that same year, he appeared in the film, *The End of Poverty?* His life as an economic hit man is detailed in the full-length movie, *Apology of an Economic Hit Man*. Articles in the *New York Times* [6] and *Boston* magazine, as well as a press release issued by the United States Department of State , have referred to a lack of documentary or testimonial evidence to corroborate the claim that the NSA was involved in his hiring by Chas T. After an extensive investigation, the *New York Times* concluded that "the arc of Mr. Neither of [its] missions anything remotely resembling placing economists at private companies in order to increase the debt of foreign countries. The National Security Agency has several missions, including but not limited to cryptography. The State Department also claims that Perkins has alleged U. Government complicity in "the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy , Senator Robert F. Kennedy , Martin Luther King Jr. I probably opened a question as to whether it might have been that way". Government complicity in these assassinations.