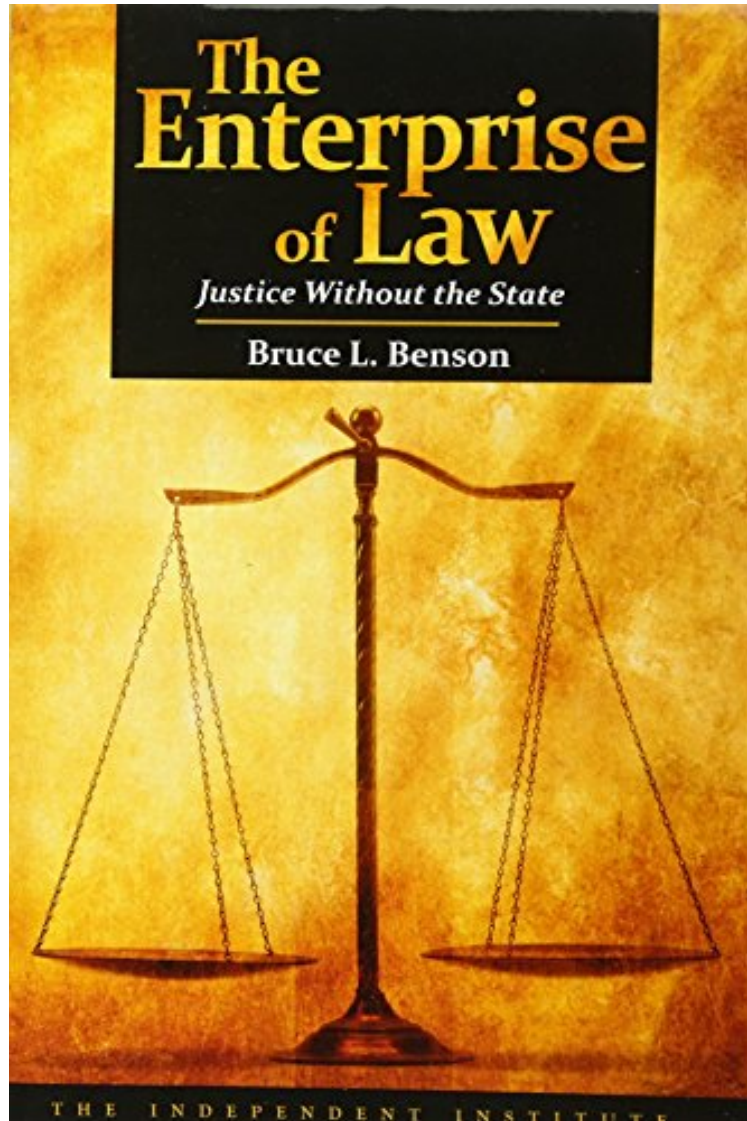


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## The Enterprise of Law: Justice Without the State

*Bruce L. Benson*

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**Bruce L. Benson : The Enterprise of Law: Justice Without the State** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Enterprise of Law: Justice Without the State:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Its just too hard a topic for some.....By Derek JonesWell, I am not in that group - but everyone on the planet should start considering options to the never ending paradigm of state monopolies and (non) solutions that are forced on all of us equally through nationalism and statism. This book is proof that we can do better than the states (non) solutions. In fact, I dare say that a full college course could be based on this book alone, it's that well rounded and in depth. In the past decade I have read a lot on this topic, but let me say that this

is by far the most comprehensive and in depth work in this area, period! What else can be expected from such an insightful economist, and someone with a developed understanding of law and justice from multiple perspectives. Bruce Benson, imo, should be regarded a titan for taking on such a complex subject and all the useless, baseless, and derogatory attacks that come from the statist quo - he holds his ground amazingly well. This publication should unanimously be regarded the sole authority on the matter of stateless justice system(s). Benson does a superb job of shooting down just about every possible "what if", objection, and many of the obtuse critiques of from the statist quo - imho, it's just amazing. He addresses the shortcomings of his previous writing on the topic, outlines them, and corrects them with cogent, easy to understand arguments and nearly perfect logical consistency. I have to say, if you are interested in how a justice system can function without the state being involved or even a system where the state justice system would have to compete against private justice systems, this is probably the only book worth investing in and reading. More compliments to Benson: you'll not find a more comprehensive presentation, and cogent set of arguments for how a stateless society will function in regards to a justice system. Nobody can read this book and walk away and simply just maintain their previous assumptions or beliefs. This book can actually teach you a new way of thinking and how to critique the state more appropriately and effectively - as anarchists and libertarians should. I think that all liberty minded people should consume this and improve their understanding of a free market and how it will actually work. The end of the state, like all things, is inevitable and that is why this is a must read. The only thing we as a species should allow to replace the state is a truly Free Market, and Benson has given us one of the most powerful tools (understanding thereof) that the Free Market will require to have to be truly viable and lasting solution post state. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating and Fun By William Kiely I read this book as a 20-year-old libertarian mechanical engineering student, for fun, because I was interested in learning more about the historical development of governments and law, and voluntary customary legal systems. It was very enjoyable and educational. Recommended. PART I / FROM VOLUNTARY TO AUTHORITARIAN LAW II. Customary Legal Systems with Voluntary Enforcement III. The Rise of Authoritarian Law PART II / A PUBLIC CHOICE APPROACH TO AUTHORITARIAN LAW IV. Law and Justice as a Political Market V. The Demand Side of the Political Market VI. The Supply Side of the Political Market VII. Corruption of Law Enforcement Officials PART III / REEMERGENCE OF PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES VIII. Contracting Out for Law and Justice IX. Current Trends in Privatization X. Benefits to Privatization PART IV / RATIONALIZING AUTHORITARIAN LAW XI. Market Failure in Law and Justice XII. The Legal Monopoly on Coercion PART V / FROM AUTHORITARIAN TO PRIVATE LAW XIII. Political Barriers to Privatization XIV. Envisioning a Private System 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. WOW! this book is incredible. By D. Cole An amazing book that will destroy all your statist friends beliefs when it comes to government providing law and police services. The government will always be second best when it comes to free market enterprise. I cant even begin to describe how much useful info is in this book. I actually tucked the government into bed last night and read a few pages of this book to it, and it started crying. Yes, this book made the government sob. It was pathetic.

In the minds of many, the provision of justice and security has long been linked to the state. To ask whether non-state institutions could deliver those services on their own, without the aid of coercive taxation and a monopoly franchise, runs the risk of being branded as naive anarchism or dangerous radicalism. Defenders of the states monopoly on lawmaking and law enforcement typically assume that any alternative arrangement would favor the rich at the expense of the poor or would lead to the collapse of social order and ignite a war. Questioning how well these beliefs hold up to scrutiny, this book offers a powerful rebuttal of the received view of the relationship between law and government. The book argues not only that the state is unnecessary for the establishment and enforcement of law, but also that non-state institutions would fight crime, resolve disputes, and render justice more effectively than the state, based on their stronger incentives.

"Benson's book is an important contribution to law and economics literature. He properly emphasizes the role of institutions in shaping incentive and the role of incentives in shaping institutions." Henry G. Manne, dean emeritus, School of Law, George Mason University