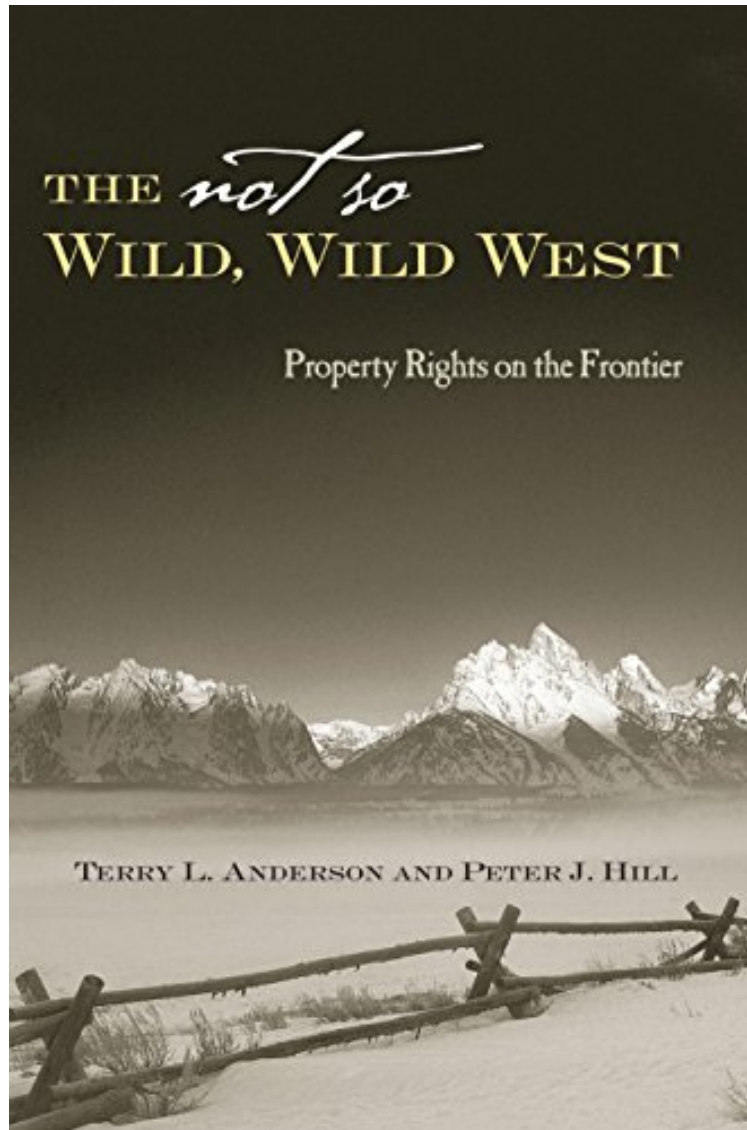


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Terry L. Anderson, Peter J. Hill
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Terry L. Anderson, Peter J. Hill : The Not So Wild, Wild West: Property Rights on the Frontier (Stanford Economics Finance) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Not So Wild, Wild West: Property Rights on the Frontier (Stanford Economics Finance):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How the West was really won!By Kevin S. CullisThe basis of this book has foundations in true individualistic commerce: Love your neighbor AS yourself, not FOR (I win, you lose) nor INSTEAD OF (I lose, you win) yourself. When our government became larger in the mid 1800s, as did our military, you find that resources were more likely determined when "raiding replaced trading after the Civil War," including dealing with Indian lands. Rather than negotiate like businessmen, force was needed to take from the Indians. This grassroots commerce, transactions at the local level, is where all laws are written and any top/down function of Federal or State driven answers or solutions actually hinder good use of resources by the locals. Excellent book to understand how the west was really won.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. More law and order than Americans think.By K. SmithExplains how the Wild West managed to have way more law and order than Americans tend to think. It covers how interference by Washington, which was clueless about conditions in the West, ended logical rules that were working. Arizonans, and their environment, are still paying the price for water rights legislated by a wet Washington over the arid West. For all those with an open mind who want to know what would happen if Washington left the states alone to govern themselves.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. FascinatingBy D. ColeA fascinating book that debunks many claims and myths commonly propagated via the government agency controlled educational system.

Mention of the American West usually evokes images of rough and tumble cowboys, ranchers, and outlaws. In contrast, *The Not So Wild, Wild West* casts America's frontier history in a new framework that emphasizes the creation of institutions, both formal and informal, that facilitated cooperation rather than conflict. Rather than describing the frontier as a place where heroes met villains, this book argues that everyday people helped carve out legal institutions that tamed the West. The authors emphasize that ownership of resources evolves as those resources become more valuable or as establishing property rights becomes less costly. Rules evolving at the local level will be more effective because local people have a greater stake in the outcome. This theory is brought to life in the colorful history of Indians, fur trappers, buffalo hunters, cattle drovers, homesteaders, and miners. The book concludes with a chapter that takes lessons from the American frontier and applies them to our modern "frontiers"the environment, developing countries, and space exploration.

"This is a book that had to be written, and Anderson and Hill are the ones that had to write it. Literature on the American West has placed too much emphasis on wars, violence, and conflict. Rather time and time again, as this book shows, institutions were devised that peaceably allocated resources and resolved conflicts." (Mark Kanazawa Carleton College)"[T]heoretically rich and factually entertaining." (Law and Politics Book)"Far from being an anarchic free-for-all, the American West was a ferment of social innovation, a place where men and women strove to invent co-operative arrangements they could trust. Anderson and Hill powerfully undermine the pervasive idea that social order and property rights are imposed from above by the state, and reveal instead that they are usually achieved from below by free negotiation between individuals." (Matt Ridley Author of *The Origins of Virtue: Human Instincts and the Evolution of Cooperation and Nature via Nurture*)"The Not So Wild, Wild West is a beautifully written and printed volume that teaches us much about the American West, but also about human nature and the economic way of thinking. Congratulations to Terry Anderson and P.J. Hill for an outstanding book." (Regulation)"I give the book high marks for shedding new light on old paradigms and for accumulating solid evidence for an economic interpretation of western history." (Utah Historical Quarterly)"Emergent, self-ordering institutional arrangements and property right norms are commonplace. But they are invisible to all those who rely upon them to create wealth, and who may believe falsely that all such rules come from legislated law. Anderson and Hill have made visible an impressive array of examples from US frontier history." (Vernon L. Smith, George Mason University 2002 Nobel Laureate in Economics)"This new book is more accessible to the historian and interesting to the general reader. It is essential reading for anyone with an interest in western history, political science, law, or economics." (Journal of American History)"Hollywood will never be able to top this portrayal of the history of the West in the U.S. The history that Anderson and Hill depict is the current situation of the majority of entrepreneurs in developing and former Soviet countries. It is not only an extraordinary insight into the genesis of America, but also the key to understanding better the Middle East, Central Asia, and all the Third World today." (Hernando de Soto President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy)"The Not So Wild, Wild West represents the best of what the new institutional economics can contribute for understanding economics and political behavior in the American West." (Gary Libecap, Eller College of Business and Public Administration The University of Arizona)"From wagon trains to wildlife and from mining rights to irrigation companies Not So again and again challenges conventional wisdom and challenges us all with its rigorous application of freely transferable property rights." (Economic Affairs)From the Inside FlapMention of the American West usually evokes images of rough and tumble cowboys, ranchers, and outlaws. In contrast, *The Not So Wild, Wild West* casts Americas frontier history in a new framework that emphasizes the creation of institutions, both formal and informal, that facilitated cooperation rather than conflict. Rather than describing the frontier as a place where heroes met villains, this book argues that everyday people helped carve out legal institutions that tamed the West.The authors

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