

THE SANE SOCIETY

Erich Fromm

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



#11777076 in Books 1958 #File Name: B000G3JQOW | File size: 71.Mb

Erich Fromm : THE SANE SOCIETY before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised THE SANE SOCIETY:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Some good diagnosis, poor treatmentBy Ned FergusonFromm has some decent insights into man's problems: his fear of freedom, his alienation, his tendency toward self destruction. His remedies, however are inadequate in the first place, and are worse than the disease in the second. The book is dated, the industrial revolution is over, many of the opportunities Fromm pined for are realized, yet man is as sick and alienated as ever. His brokenness lies elsewhere; his sickness is alienation from God, not from himself, as Fromm opines.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommendedBy Anthony RojasFromm is quite an enlightened psychologist/sociologist. This is a great read on understanding the cultural cancer of alienation as well as is basis saying back from the economic beginnings of capitalism.20 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Society Has Not Yet Benefitted From Fromm's InsightsBy Walter StanleyI read THE SANE SOCIETY when I was 23, and it was possibly the most influential book I ever read. At that time, I had just had the epiphanic realization that society is insane. I have never changed my mind about that, though I've learned to live with it less uncomfortably. I thought that if people just read and paid attention to Erich Fromm we could straighten everything out. I have changed my mind about that, but still think it is an essential first step. The insanity of society does not seem like it should be incurable. It is a mental state rather than an organic defect.Fromm spends a lot of time elaborating upon alienation of modern man. For most workers, this alienation is caused by the dissociation of their work from the purpose of that work. This is much more true for manual workers than professionals, though both are plagued by this. I became a school teacher because I'd seen how little education has to do with preparing people for life. "When I think back on all

the crap I learned in high school, it's a wonder that I can think at all," as Paul Simon sang. Any education which deserves the name should be about teaching people how to think, but that can't be done without threatening people's sense of piety or patriotism. Which are the very things which make people insane. Fromm states that the messages of Moses, Christ, Muhammad, and Buddha (and perhaps even Marx?) are all essentially the same. This implies that there is an underlying objective Truth in the Universe that everyone should be capable of agreeing upon. That there should be criteria for deciding upon moral truths that all reasonable people could agree upon. If we were not alienated from our "true selves." So the purpose of organized religion is not to help us connect with the core of our being, which was the purpose of the teaching of these men, but to keep us divorced from ourselves. If this was indeed the purpose of our religious founders, (and this was my realization in my epiphanal moment), then it is true that religions are doing the opposite of what their founders had in mind. On the other hand, I find the argument that Moses and Christ and Buddha had the same message difficult to swallow. Reading about Abraham, Job, Moses, and Samuel and so on was what originally made me hate religion. I see no wisdom, nor even sanity, in their stories. I wish someone could explain how it is possible to disagree with this perception.