Why Work?
Arguments for the Leisure Society

Editor: Freedom Press • Introduction: Nina Power

Why Work? is a provocative collection of essays and illustrations by writers and artists from the nineteenth century through to today, dissecting “work,” its form under capitalism, and the possibilities for an alternative society. It poses the question: why do some of us still work until we drop in an age of vast automated production, while others starve for lack of work? Where is the leisure society that was promised?

Edited by Freedom Press, this collection includes contributions from luminaries of the past such as William Morris and Bertrand Russell, contemporary theorists such as David Graeber and Juliet Schor, and illustrated examinations of workplace potentials and pitfalls from Clifford Harper and Prole.info.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

Freedom Press is an anarchist publishing house and bookshop based in London. Founded in 1886, it is the largest anarchist publishing house in the United Kingdom and the oldest of its kind in the English-speaking world.

Nina Power is a senior lecturer in philosophy at Roehampton University and tutor in Critical Writing in Art & Design at the Royal College of Art. She is the author of One Dimensional Woman and has written widely on politics, philosophy, feminism, and culture.