

## A Sermon on Free Market Economics

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for May 2nd, 2021 (and beyond)

I believe in freedom and that Freedom is one of the many names of God. I do not wish to have benefits nor burdens that are not a result of my own choices made in exercise of my free will without any undue influence, compulsion, or coercion influencing said choices. In Communist China, there are an estimated 2,579,000 homeless people. In the United States, there are an estimated 567,715 homeless people. The USA has 17 out of 10,000 homeless and China has 18 out of 10,000 homeless. Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_countries\\_by\\_homeless\\_population](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_homeless_population) Ian Hawthorne reporting for the Borgen Project reports: "The exact percentage of homeless elderly is unknown but social workers are aware of the underreported issue as noted in the Havana Times. Although the elderly may have an official address, the quality of life is reminiscent of homelessness. Experts have determined that the capital of Havana needs 300,000 housing units in order to meet demand. Thus, with Cuba experiencing an average rate of 4.1 people per living space continues to reinforce the trend of overcrowding. Therefore, official homelessness rates may be low in Cuba, but the quality of Cuban housing can often be below ideal living standards and is often unsafe. On top of overcrowding, weather-related issues such as hurricanes and tropical storms have also degraded the current housing stock. Weather-related issues cause consistent destruction and inhibit the ability to make repairs, often exposing wiring, poor insulation and leaking rooftops. An official report stated that seven out of 10 homes need repair, with 7% of all houses being uninhabitable." Source: <https://borgenproject.org/homelessness-in-cuba/> Cuba has a socialist economic system.

I do not wish to be compelled by anything but the Holy Spirit in regards to exercise of my free will. I do not like my current economic situation, but I recognize the GRASS IS NOT FUCKING GREENER and the restraints on individual liberty are SO FUCKING UNACCEPTABLE that I'm sticking with Free Market Capitalism as the only system where everyone is free, contracts are often at will or contain reasonable exit clauses, and humble enough to be stuck with Baltic Avenue, Mediterranean Avenue, and a chance at Park Place while still recognizing potential for development. Still working on building up Baltic and Mediterranean. If you haven't played Monopoly by Hasbro or Parker Brothers, there is reference to that in this paragraph.

This is my current economic situation:

Income:

\$600-\$900/month from my mother intended to replace the car I sold to buy the house in which we live now. It is often needed to cover other living expenses.

2020 Gifts to Sustain COPE and HEAL Mission: \$1,191. (Annual overhead costs to sustain COPE and HEAL Mission (i.e. domains, phone systems, postal mail, etc) in 2020 were \$1800. As a result, we cut the budget for COPE/HEAL Mission by 47.22% for 2021.)

2021 to date Gifts to Sustain COPE and HEAL Mission: \$525.25

Also see <https://www.cope.church/fellowship.htm> for more info.

For those wondering how sales of my books are doing, here's that info:

DATE	REFERENCE NO.	SELF PURCHASE	TITLE	QTY.	PURCHASED PRICE	CHANNEL	REGION	ESTIMATED REVENUE
Feb 28, 2020	DIST_7277241	No	The Psychic Avenger Book	1	GBP 9.21	LSI	GB	USD 1.90
Sep 29, 2019	DIST_6966494	No	The Psychic Avenger Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.72
May 30, 2019	DIST_6732080	No	The Karmic Crew Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.81
May 30, 2019	DIST_6722242	No	The Psychic Avenger Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.72
Mar 30, 2019	DIST_6638084	No	The Psychic Avenger Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.72
Mar 30, 2019	DIST_6633927	No	The Karmic Crew Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.81
Dec 30, 2018	DIST_6361109	No	The Karmic Crew Book	1	USD 12.00	AMAZON	US	USD 1.81

History of Amazon Associate Annual Earnings:

2010: \$11.51

2011: \$20.64

2012: (not enough to receive gift card in 2012)

2013: \$10.30

2014: (not enough to receive gift card in 2014)

2015: \$11.80

2016: \$12.13

2017: \$10.99

2018: (not enough to receive gift card in 2018)

2019: \$21.69

2020: \$26.85

2021: Current earnings: \$3.42 (which doesn't meet minimum earned to be paid yet.)

## EXPENSES

\$900/month and that currently includes all expenses related to the church and mission. So, before you suggest anything, please see <https://www.cope.church/medical.pdf>, <https://www.cope.church/credentials.pdf>, <https://www.cope.church/mission.htm>, and <https://www.cope.church/goodshepherd.htm>.

Even in this current economic position with the risks and instability of it that brings, "...before I'd be a slave I'd be buried in my grave And go home to my Lord and be free Oh, freedom". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veiJLhXdown8>

I'm also humble enough and have a sense of humor so the fact that even with inflation factored in with only consideration of my Amazon earnings, if I were a peasant in Medieval England my annual compensation would be \$0.60 though taxed at 30% by the government with an imposed tithe of an additional 10% which was punishable at law if unpaid. When doing the math on this I take the 10% out and just look at the 30% tax, which of course churches are exempt from as well. But, Wat Tyler, who revolted with Priest John Ball and are honored June 2<sup>nd</sup> of every year with an official COPE holiday, had to pay the 40%. So, #TaoFu, I recognize my religious privilege and therefore with inflation factored in know \$20.25 is the annual income to reasonably be expected depending on perspective. Philosophically, it is beautiful and somewhat poetic. I'm nearly certain Wat Tyler would and Priest John Ball would say "Wha"? A woman? Earning wha'? Doing wha'? Runnin' a church because we revolted and inspired her? Wha' year?" I believe both would be very pleased with the USA and say "We worked for it and earned it so had cause to complain at the outrageous taxation by some people who pretend to be royalty or deities while we all serve their agendas. Sounds like an homage, is that it? Philosophy (and History) major and cleric like Priest John Wycliffe?"

Please consider giving to the church and mission. I do see the humor, trust me, and may die laughing. I hope you do too. God bless. Please pass the basket at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> and/or join fellowship at <https://www.cope.church/fellowship.htm>. Thank you!

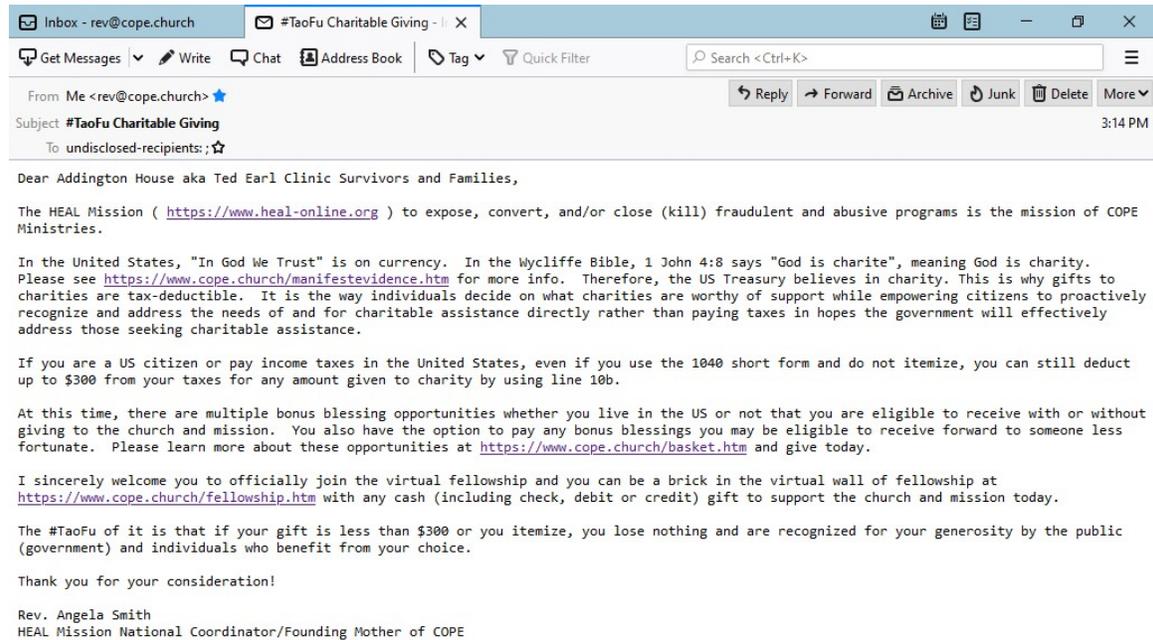
MEDITATIVE QUESTION:

If you were me, what would you do if in my current position? (Read all the credentials and medical stuff first and be honest....)

I'm doing what I'd do and that's how I know. Gnosis.

ADDENDUM:

On April 18th, 2021, I sent out the following to encourage charitable giving by congregants and mission service recipients. I've sent the request now to over 28,000 individuals, the entire body of the church and mission.



There were a few responses to the fundraiser e-mail shown above received as of April 28th, 2021. One gave \$500 to support the church and mission. Three unsubscribed. One expressed ignorance of purpose. One wanted me to promote their book on their program experience and after I added it to the info page on that program thanked me in what seems a sincere manner for the support. One wanted to know if the program for which they co-sponsor placement has been shut down yet. It's been issued a sanction for non-compliance by state regulators and may be closed down as soon as July, 2021. One said, "fuck you , you greedy sack of shit, you are the same as the worst of the staff at the lords ranch, I don't believe in god but your ass is burning in hell if there ever was one." With that one I assume it is traumatic stress and their prejudice born of being abused by false prophets on the fucking watch-list that HEAL Mission/COPE helped fucking shut down

so they were just exhibiting their ignorance in a deimatic display having been triggered. And, another said they were sorry they couldn't afford a donation at this time, but wanted to help. So, I sent that one information on volunteering or how to help in-kind rather than with funding.

And, for those who have given and/or continue to give in-kind and/or to help fund the work of the church and mission, thank you. This is particularly heartfelt in response to Caroline M who gave \$500 on 4/25/21 and the Anonymous #TaoFu gift of \$25.25 in the name of "Rage Against The Machine" on 4/5/21 which was the first gift to the church and mission this calendar year. To see some examples of the work I've been doing visit <https://www.heal-online.org> and <https://www.cope.church/sermons.htm> . I, the mission, and the church appreciate your generous support and consideration.

If you are homeless, unemployed, and/or truly can't afford to help with funding because you earn so little that you don't have to file or pay income tax so the deductibility of any gifts to the church and mission wouldn't benefit you at tax time, I completely understand. I'm totally happy to help you and truly wish I had the resources to do more for you too.

If you are not satisfied with the "Stuff We All Get" AKA "SWAG" provided by COPE and the HEAL Mission and have never helped by volunteering nor funding the work of both, your disappointment is objectively your problem and not mine, not that of the church, nor of the mission. Your vapid nagging about what improvements you'd like made while suggesting if said were made you might be more inclined to give are your way of trying to dominate in an arena you didn't build nor do you help sustain or maintain in any meaningful way. So, it is like if anyone showed up to your home or business without buying anything just to criticize and manipulate through a behaviorist conditioning system they likely learned while in "treatment". This to me suggests you feel threatened by me (or my work on some level) and are responding in a deimatic way to establish dominance as a defense posture. I recognize that. I do welcome feedback and treat everyone as equal to myself, which is why I provide space and opportunity for dissent and discussion. If you take issue with my commitment to transparency, individuality, methods or expressions, I understand why you don't help. But, church is charity and all we do is give and receive in the practice of charity. Where you don't exhibit a charitable spirit, we are charitable enough to give you the time of day and respond anyway often with objectively helpful information and services. You are welcome and definitely get more out of it than you put into it, which is how we, the otherwise tax-exempt churches and charities, are taxed too. Benjamin Franklin is right again!

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

For More About COPE and the HEAL Mission, see:

<https://www.cope.church> and <https://www.heal-online.org>