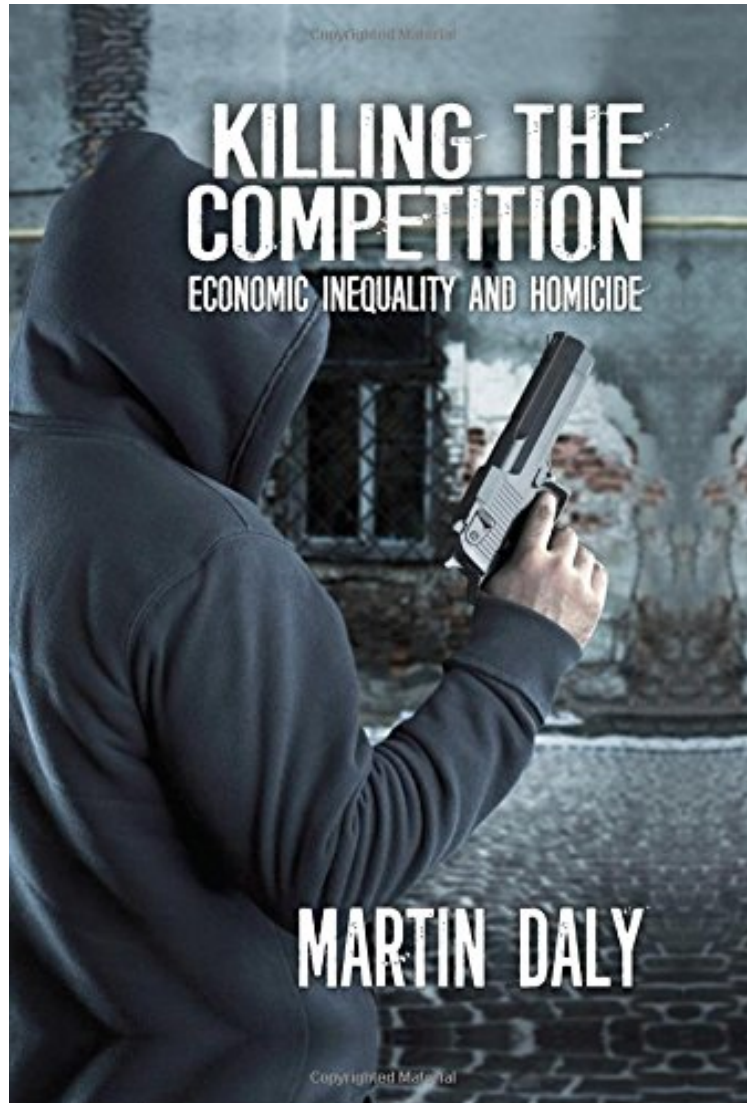


[FREE] Killing the Competition: Economic Inequality and Homicide

Killing the Competition: Economic Inequality and Homicide

Martin Daly

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#777045 in Books Martin Daly 2016-08-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x .53 x 5.981, .0 #File Name: 1412863368250 pages Killing the Competition Economic Inequality and Homicide | File size: 56.Mb

Martin Daly : Killing the Competition: Economic Inequality and Homicide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Killing the Competition: Economic Inequality and Homicide:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book By Pat Barclay Another solid hit from one of the worlds experts on violence. Martin Daly lays out a clear, data-based argument for why people kill each other and especially why inequality increases people's willingness to do so. If you have even a passing interest in understanding either violence, inequality, or even just human motivations in general, then Killing the Competition is for you. This

book is how all the sciences and social sciences should be: strong theory-driven hypotheses, good quality data, careful testing, and engaging writing. Buy one copy for you and another for your MP or congressman.

Criminologists have known for decades that income inequality is the best predictor of the local homicide rate, but why this is so has eluded them. There is a simple, compelling answer: most homicides are the denouements of competitive interactions between men. Relatively speaking, where desired goods are distributed inequitably and competition for those goods is severe, dangerous tactics of competition are appealing and a high homicide rate is just one of many unfortunate consequences. *Killing the Competition* is about this relationship between economic inequality and lethal interpersonal violence. Suggesting that economic inequality is a cause of social problems and violence elicits fierce opposition from inequality's beneficiaries. Three main arguments have been presented by those who would acquit inequality of the charges against it: that "absolute" poverty is the real problem and inequality is just an incidental correlate; that "primitive" egalitarian societies have surprisingly high homicide rates, and that inequality and homicide rates do not change in synchrony and are therefore mutually irrelevant. With detailed but accessible data analyses and thorough reviews of relevant research, Martin Daly dispels all three arguments. *Killing the Competition* applies basic principles of behavioural biology to explain why killers are usually men, not women, and counters the view that attitudes and values prevailing in "cultures of violence" make change impossible.

[A] thought-provoking and important book. It provides just the kind of careful and lively treatment one would expect from Daly, an accomplished evolutionary psychologist and a pioneer of applying Darwin's insights to criminal behaviour. . . . I liked this book more than I wanted to, not least because Daly can really write, conveying complex ideas in easy-to-understand and evocative prose. He meticulously builds the already well-known but still often-resisted case that homicides, being largely male-on-male, are rooted in the fierce competition that almost all male mammals exhibit, primarily for mates. This is not comfortable reading for Romantics who think human culture is to blame for turning our inherently peaceful natures violent, or for gender atheists who believe sex is a continuum of self-identified mental states. Daly also demolishes the prejudice from which many of us suffer, especially as we grow more sensitive to the problem of domestic violence that men are homicidal maniacs who prey largely on helpless women. In truth, in every country with a non-negligible homicide rate, men kill men far more often than they kill women, by a worldwide factor of almost 4 to 1. Morris Hoffman, *New Scientist* Martin Daly is one of the world's great experts on violence. With over thirty-five years of research behind him, he guides us through the controversies and shows that inequality really is the most important reason why some societies are plagued by violence while others are almost free of it. If you want to understand the evidence, he can't be bettered. Richard Wilkinson, author of *The Spirit Level*, and co-founder of The Equality Trust How come confrontations in one population, but not in another, so readily escalate into murder? Martin Daly makes a compelling case that what matters most is the degree to which the goods men most desire are unequally distributed. More importantly, Daly explains why. *Killing the Competition* provides a broadly-researched, carefully-reasoned explanation for why inequity matters not just in theory, but in the world's people actually inhabit. Sarah B. Hrdy, author of *Mother Nature* and *Mothers and Others: The evolutionary origins of mutual understanding* About the Author Martin Daly is professor emeritus of psychology, neuroscience and behavior at McMaster University. He has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Human Behavior Evolution Society.