

## Is my work aimed at preserving capitalism?

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I was troubled [by Grace Blakeley's accusation](#) that I am working to:

*make the existing capitalist system work more effectively, rather than .... effect a systematic redistribution of wealth and power*

So, I asked ChatGPT:

*Is Richard Murphy's work aimed at preserving capitalism by making it work better?*

This is the answer I got, unedited:

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**Richard Murphy's work is aimed at preserving society — not preserving capitalism.**

But because we currently **have** a capitalist-dominated economy, much of his work focuses on reshaping it so that it serves democratic and social goals rather than the other way around.

Here's the nuance:

**What Murphy does argue**

He argues that:

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**Markets can be useful** where competition delivers real value.

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**Private enterprise has a role** in innovation and productive activity.

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**Money and the state must work together**, and public investment is essential for shared prosperity.

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**Tax justice, regulation, and democratic accountability** are required to curb exploitation.

In this sense, yes, he engages with the existing framework and proposes reforms that would make economic life fairer, more stable, and less extractive.

### **What he explicitly rejects:**

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Capitalism as a system that concentrates wealth and power in a tiny elite.

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The notion that markets alone can organise society.

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A rentier economy that extracts income without creating value.

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Any economic model blind to ecological limits and human well-being.

He is **not** defending capitalism's current structure — he is challenging its foundational priorities: profit before care, property before people, extraction before sustainability.

### **So which is it?**

A concise answer:

**His work keeps what works in markets but seeks to replace what doesn't — especially the power structures and rent-seeking behaviours at the heart of contemporary capitalism.**

Murphy's framework — the **Politics of Care**, economic democracy, public financial systems, ending rentier control — is **closer to a social, democratic, and ecological transformation** than a patch for neoliberal capitalism.

He's not trying to save capitalism from itself.

He's trying to **save people from capitalism** — and if markets survive in a subordinate role, so be it.

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I think that's fair. I will be curious to see what Gace Blakely has to say, if she accepts my invitation to comment, as I hope she will.

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