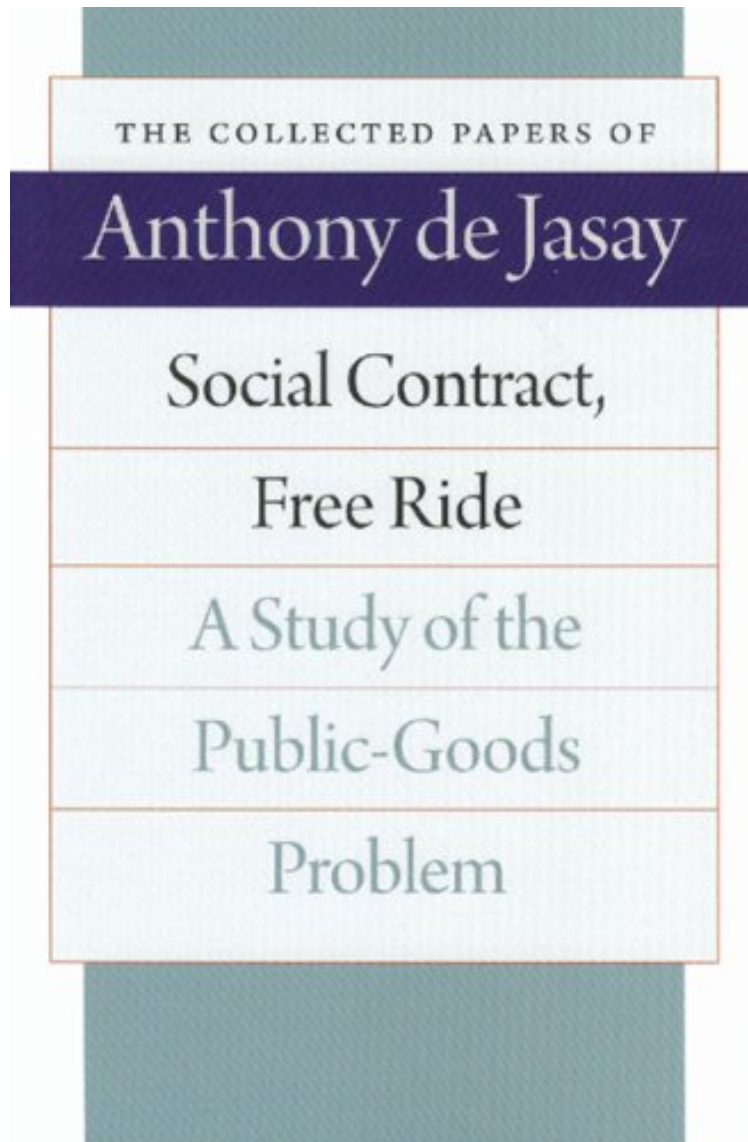


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Anthony de Jasay : Social Contract, Free Ride (Collected Papers of Anthony de Jasay) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Social Contract, Free Ride (Collected Papers of Anthony de Jasay):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thoughtful and thought provoking throughout By Midwest Book Review Does society truly need the government acting as a parental figure? "The Collected Papers of Anthony de Jasay: Social Contract, Free Ride, A Study of the Public-Goods Problem" presents several radical ideas for the reader

to ponder. Arguing that through the social contract and morality inherent in Americans, voluntary contributions of the people would solve many of society's problems - because under the social system, everyone would feel urged to contribute if they had the ability to do so. The possibility that many would prefer to take the free ride is not discounted, however. Thoughtful and thought provoking throughout, "The Collected Papers of Anthony de Jasay: Social Contract, Free Ride, A Study of the Public-Goods Problem" is highly recommended for community library political collections.

This book provides a novel account of the public goods dilemma. The author shows how the social contract, in its quest for fairness, actually helps to breed the parasitic free riding it is meant to suppress. He also shows how, in the absence of taxation, many public goods would be provided by spontaneous group cooperation. This would, however, imply some degree of free riding. Unwilling to tolerate such unfairness, cooperating groups would eventually drift from voluntary to compulsory solutions, heedless of the fact that this must bring back free riding with a vengeance. The author argues that the perverse incentives created by the attempt to render public provision assured and fair are a principal cause of the poor functioning of organized society. Anthony de Jasay is an independent theorist living in France. Jasay believes that philosophy should be mainly, if not exclusively, about clarifying conclusions that arise from the careless use of, or deliberate misuse of, language. There are echoes here of . . . Wittgenstein's later philosophy. His books, translated into a half dozen languages, include *Justice and Its Surroundings* and *The State*. [source/credit line] I. M. D. Little in *Ordered Anarchy*, 2007