

the form of rent, interest and profit, or cost of subsistence. Because one man has a power over consumption equal to £100, and another equal to £10, it does not follow that the former produces more or that the latter produces less than the other; the question is not one of earning, but social power over consumption. On an average all produce the same. Any variation over command of wealth is due to forces which can only be explained by studying history.

Marx is also celebrated for his adoption of what is known as the "Materialist conception of history," by means of which he is said to reduce all men's activities (including physical, mental and moral) to the forms of production. Very few of Marx's works are translated into English, but we know that Marx was a sociologist, who regarded economics as a branch of that science. He saw that so long as the means of life were held by a class then those dependent on them would, within certain limits, be controlled by their economic environment. His book was written with the hope and purpose of freeing society from capitalist domination, and giving it democratic control over its economic forms of production. This view appeals to us as a reasonable and right one, and does not land us in the coils of an absolute economic determinism or economic fatalism, which are only forms resurrected from the study of the absolute.