

“Mom and Pop” Capitalism vs. Corporate Capitalism

By Rob Rennebohm, MD

October 2024

In all of the articles posted on the “Notes From the Social Clinic” website, the term “capitalism” is intended to primarily refer to large corporate capitalism (e.g., giant transnational capitalist corporations), as opposed to small “Mom and Pop” capitalism (small local private businesses). I make this point because there are many examples of small businesses whose owners have operated in an exemplary kind, altruistic manner. So, please understand that the criticisms against “capitalism” advanced on this website are primarily directed at big corporations, not small local private enterprises.

However, just because many small business owners have operated very admirably, does not mean that capitalism is okay. In fact, it is the opinion of the author that the truly kind and altruistic small business owners could be even happier, could contribute even more, and could find greater meaning, if their businesses were a component of a Public Economy. They would still creatively lead their business, but they would do so with the financial support, admiration, and gratitude of the Public.