

[B]ehavior that is forced, no matter how noble its objective, is no longer Christian. This point is all too often overlooked today, even by many Christians.... [W]hile Christ wanted all people to follow him, he also let them have the freedom to reject him, a precedent that God already established at the time of creation when he gave Adam and Eve the gift of a free will....[S]piritual compulsion was not his modus operandi. Just as God does not want people to be coerced in spiritual matters, so too he does not want them to be coerced in earthly matters, for instance, in their economic activities. There is not a single reference in either the Old or New Testament in which God denies economic freedom to people, as in fascism, socialism, and communism.

—Dr. Alvin Schmidt—