



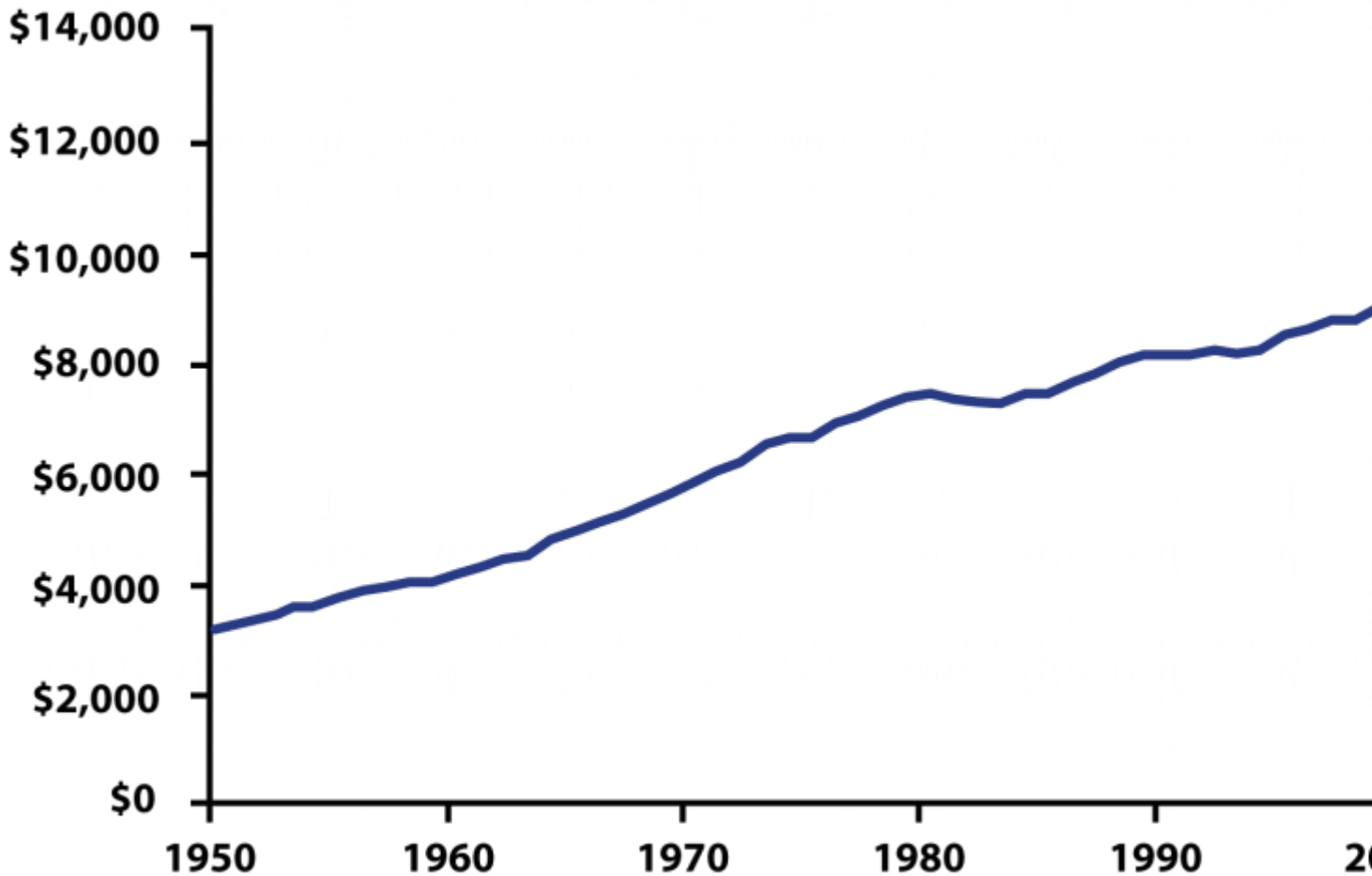
Vote 1 Marianne Williamson

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The world is becoming a better place. [The average person in the world is 4.4 times richer](#) than the average person in 1950:

GDP per capita worldwide*



* GDP per capita adjusted for price changes over time (inflation) and price differences between countries – it is measured in international-\$ in 2011 prices.

That's from [Our World in Data](#) last week. The story of Taiwan really shows the power of free markets in the fight against poverty – in 1950 GDP per capita was \$1,400, [in 2016 it was \\$42,300](#).

Thank you to all of you who donated to the [IPA's End Of Financial Year](#) campaign! It was the most successful one in the IPA's history with a final tally of \$607,080. It's good to know there are so many Australians willing to stand up for freedom.

[What happened to Quillette editor Andy Ngo](#) in Portland on Saturday at the hands of antifa is

genuinely scary, and shows just how comfortable the far left is becoming with violence when the victim is someone they don't agree with. Watch him ask the police "[where the hell were all of you?](#)" immediately after the attack, and you can also watch him [sit down with The Wall Street Journal afterwards](#) to explain his ordeal and what it means.

Comedy is officially dead. Disabled grandfather Brian Leach was sacked from his job at supermarket Asda last week for [sharing a comedian's routine on religion to his Facebook](#). Which comedian is controversial enough to get you fired from a supermarket? That's right, the famous alt-right edgelord Billy Connolly.

We've all read about public service workers getting paid lots of money for doing no work – except these public servants are literally doing no work. A regional authority in the south of France paid at least 30 civil servants over €1 million every year since 1989 – [despite their jobs no longer existing](#).

She won't be the Democrat nominee, but last week's debate has given us a new star: Marianne Williamson. After her [truly bizarre closing statement](#) (which gets better when you add [the Twin Peaks music](#)), her old tweets are being brought up [and wow are they something](#) ...or maybe she's right and we can [resist nuclear radiation through visualising angels?](#)

Article of the week:

Brendan O'Neill absolutely nails the Andy Ngo story in *Spiked* on Monday. As he says, "antifa is not the rebellious, revolutionary outfit it fantasises about being, but rather is [the armed wing of the cultural elite](#)."

IPA Staff Pick:

Each week an IPA staff member shares what they have enjoyed recently. Today: Daniel Wild

In an era of "corporate social responsibility" and shareholder activism, it is important to remember that the most important cultural value is freedom. This important *Financial Times* editorial explains how [Nike withdrew from the Chinese market a number of products designed by a Japanese company](#) which supported the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong. Apparently, Nike was responding to social media outrage, with some Chinese consumers threatening boycotts and stating "there is one China". So much for "[believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything](#)."

Here's what else the IPA said this week:

- Morgan Begg, [Legislating free speech](#) – **The Spectator Australia**
- Matthew Lesh, [Costly clamps on free speech](#) – **The Australian**
- Renee Gorman, [Wentworth must stand](#) – **The Spectator Australia**