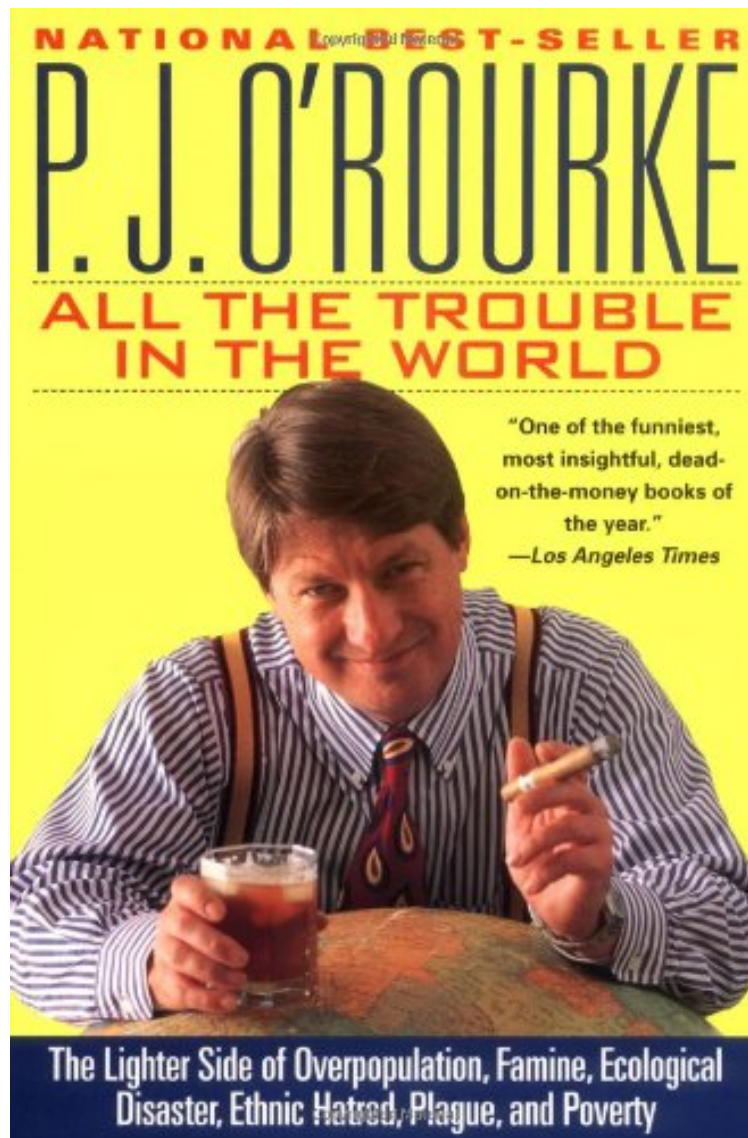


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All the Trouble in the World: The Lighter Side of Overpopulation, Famine, Ecological Disaster, Ethnic Hatred, Plague, and Poverty

P. J. O'Rourke

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P. J. O'Rourke : All the Trouble in the World: The Lighter Side of Overpopulation, Famine, Ecological Disaster, Ethnic Hatred, Plague, and Poverty before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All the Trouble in the World: The Lighter Side of Overpopulation, Famine, Ecological Disaster, Ethnic Hatred, Plague, and Poverty:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Absolutely hilarious and relevant in 2012
By D. D. LeDuP. J. O'Rourke has a twisted way of looking at the world, that pries the laminate of political correctness off the liberal disasters of the past half century. For all the humor and sarcasm, this book points out some inconvenient truths that seldom are talked about. After all, who wants to defend global warming, poisoned food or polluted water? I am by training an engineer, one who has traveled a lot. I am trained to be logical, to weigh facts, and to adjust my findings as input information changes. It is great to send food to starving nations, but does it justify the destruction of the local farming economy? After all, free food drives out locally grown crops, and perpetuates hunger. And is the possible benefit (if any) of a DDT ban worth the lives of millions of children? Were the author writing this today, he would undoubtedly have a ball with the organizations collecting money to send mosquito netting to Africa -- to compensate to a small degree for the disastrous consequences of the DDT ban. But I guess the ban is OK, since it is brown and black children that are dieing. If, instead, it were dozens of white liberals American children who died? I bet we would see DDT at WalMart. This is not meant to be a technical treatise, although it does have a good measure of hard information and references (buried beneath the belly-laughing humor). Unfortunately, the kind of boring fact-upon-fact tract that might entertain me does not hold any interest for the average person. Mr. O'Rourke uses humor to tease along those who would be turned off by a technical journal. Although published in the 90's, this book is every bit as relevant today as then -- and just as entertaining.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I recommend this book to friends and family on any side ...
By Andrew C Harrington I recommend this book to friends and family on any side of the political spectrum. If you're a libertarian/Republican, you probably already agree with many of the points and will enjoy the humor. If you're a Democrat, as I am, you'll enjoy the humor and probably reflect upon some core beliefs about the economy, the environment, and what part government plays in both. It ultimately didn't change my opinions, but it made me appreciate another perspective.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative
By Kindle Customer As well as many chuckles and a few laughs out loud. After revealing where our tax dollars go I understand why he hates government so. Everyone should read this.

With *All the Trouble in the World*, P. J. O'Rourke once again landed on best-seller lists around the country, confirming his reputation as the pre-eminent political humorist of our time. Attacking fashionable worries - all those terrible problems that are constantly on our minds and in the news, but about which most of us have no real clue - P. J. crisscrosses the globe in search of solutions to today's most vexing issues, including overpopulation, famine, plague, and multiculturalism, and in the process produces a hilarious and informative book which ensures that the concept of political correctness will never be the same again. "One of the funniest, most insightful, dead-on-the-money books of the year." - Los Angeles Times; "All the Trouble in the World is O'Rourke's best work since *Parliament of Whores*." - The Houston Post; "The dispatches are unfailingly funny....Mr. O'Rourke gets to the heart of the matter with a steady stream of wisecracks....Economists, political scientists and sociologists are inclined to approach the ills of society with regression analysis. P. J. O'Rourke just points and laughs. Not surprisingly, it is Mr. O'Rourke who gets it right." - The Washington Times; "Bottom line: Buy the book." - The Wall Street Journal.

From Publishers Weekly Political humorist O'Rourke (*Give War a Chance*) takes a swipe at "fashionable worries," reminding us that "This is a moment of hope in history"-no more evil empire to threaten us. His contention that this is "the best moment of all time" and the U.S. is "the best place to be" is funny mostly in one-liners and anecdotes, but his larger arguments flag: while Miami's efforts at multiculturalism are worthy of parody, a field trip to "multiculturalism in practice"-the war in Bosnia-is no real contrast. After skewering environmentalists, whom he accuses of crying wolf too often, the author visits the polluted Czech Republic to proclaim sophistically that collectivist government can't solve ecological problems. As usual, O'Rourke has a good eye for self-righteousness, but his libertarian reach exceeds his wisecracking grasp. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist "I hear America whining," the dyspeptic O'Rourke moans; "moral buttinskis" grouch and fret about "fashionable worries" when all the world really needs is a healthy dose of "property rights, rule of law, responsible government, and universal education." The Rolling Stone columnist here explores overpopulation in Bangladesh (and Fremont, California); famine in Somalia; the environment along the Peruvian , in Eastern Europe, and at the 1992 Earth Summit; multiculturalism at his alma mater, Miami University of Ohio, and in the former Yugoslavia; plague in Haiti; and poverty in Vietnam. This self-described Republican Party reptile can still strike journalistic sparks and puncture self-serving pomposity; increasingly, however, his iconoclasm seems to be just a more entertaining version of the propaganda generated by the half-dozen market-loving Beltway think tanks listed in O'Rourke's acknowledgments. Though some passages here are as penetrating and funny as anything in O'Rourke's previous six books, the ax he has been grinding so long appears to be in danger of losing its edge. Mary Carroll