

# DEBT: THE FIRST 5,000 YEARS BY DAVID GRAEBER – READING GROUP PART 4 CHAT

**1 December 2022**

00:21:17 Stas Kraev:	how does one rise hand here ?
00:28:25 Mehdi Chowdhury:	<a href="https://web.mit.edu/14.193/www/WorldCongress-IEW-Version6Oct03.pdf">https://web.mit.edu/14.193/www/WorldCongress-IEW-Version6Oct03.pdf</a>
00:31:40 monika hardy:	huge: 'graeber was looking for a way out'
00:34:21 Michael Reinsborough:	An exchange between two EQUAL people, however one can not repay or is at least temporarily (or permanently in debt) and then the equality is suspended
00:36:55 Tom Schatteman:	That reminds me of Sylvia Federici (caliban and the witch)
00:37:16 Kathrin Latsch:	How would you distinguish the term „communism“ like David used it from how the word ist used most the time in economics? And why did he use the word communism? Because the term is so difficult. Sorry, my internet connection is not stable today...
00:38:58 Michael Reinsborough:	p95 we distinguishes between 'mythic communism' or 'epic communism' rather than everyday communism
00:50:09 simona Ferlini:	I was just sharing this on the chat!
00:50:09 simona Ferlini:	I can upload the preface here
00:57:39 Stas Kraev:	and you can still become equals
00:59:19 monika hardy:	kathrin - 'surest way to know that one is in the presence of communist relations is that not only are no accounts taken but it would be considered offensive, or simply bizarre, to even consider doing so.. The sociology of everyday communism is a potentially enormous field, but one which, owing to our peculiar ideological blinkers, we have been unable to write about because we have been largely unable to see it' - david  to me it's like for legit communism (everyday communism) any form of accounting isn't just happening or not happening.. it's irrelevant..

	and that mindset of irrelevance is something we've been unable to see/grok/imagine
00:59:37 Barbara Gabriella Renzi:	Is it also a psychological issue? Feeling in debt one might feel they are less.
01:00:19 Michael Reinsborough:	Yes, and precisely because you start as EQUALS, or at least you are supposed to be
01:00:26 Tom Schatteman:	He also talks about scarcity (p.138 too few gifts for the young to give to the elders). Is this scarcity not a way to "rip up society" (cfr. Christian)
01:04:31 Stas Kraev:	"pay or die or both" - ch.6. suggests it may be the same thing
01:07:52 Michael Reinsborough:	Is it a precedent to pay tax? We paid last year so we need to pay this year?
01:14:56 Tom Schatteman:	He wrote other things too. I always feel a positive message from Graeber's writings: as he shows that other situations can be imagined. He shows way out as long as we try to imagine other futures.
01:16:32 johnm:	gotta go. nice chatting all. take care
01:17:02 simona Ferlini:	my grandmother's hospitality values are an example
01:18:07 Kathrin Latsch:	good idea! thank you!!