

Don't rely on 'trickle down' economics; keep estate tax

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In the opposing view "Abolish the 'death tax,'" Cato Institute senior economist Dan Mitchell cites scholars who claim that taxing large inheritances reduces savings, investment and employment ([Rewarding the well-born debate](#), Thursday). Scholars? Are these real scholars, or only think-tank propagandists whose work doesn't have to undergo objective scrutiny by other scholars?

Many scholars also think that the engine of capitalism is equally well-fueled by the savings of many, many small investors, so we don't have to rely on the now-discredited idea of "trickle down" economics.

The case for keeping inheritance taxes is very conservative: Generations of wealthy American families have, over the years, paid it willingly and without whining.