



 Working together for a healthier world™  
▶ Roll over to expand



# Guest Blogger, Introduce Thyself!

By Megan McArdle

[Timothy B. Lee]

Hi everybody. Megan has kindly included me on her roster of honeymoon guest bloggers. I guest-blogged for Megan [back in 2008](#), but let me re-introduce myself. During the school year I'm a [grad student](#) at Princeton, where I study computer science and work with the [Center for Information Technology Policy](#). I'm also an [adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute](#).

When not guest-blogging for Megan, I write a blog called [Bottom Up](#), where I talk about the problems created by large, hierarchical institutions and the advantages of decentralized, "bottom-up" social systems. The software industry exemplifies the bottom-up ideal, so my interest in tech policy gives me plenty of material to work with. But I've also written about these themes in contexts far removed from Silicon Valley. I've criticized top-down institutions ranging from the [the iTunes app store](#) to the [the Johnson administration](#). And I've explored the workings of bottom-up systems from [Wikipedia](#) to the [trucking industry](#). So if you like what you see here, I hope you'll [subscribe there as well](#). You can also [follow me on Twitter](#).



A final caveat: This summer I'm doing an internship for Google. It's an engineering internship, so I'm not being paid to write about public policy. However, the potential for conflicts of interest is obvious, so I'm going to try to steer clear of policy issues where Google has a direct interest. I'm a big believer in blogger transparency, so you can read about my other potential conflicts of interest on my blog's [disclosure page](#). And of course, everything I write reflects my personal views, and should not be attributed to Google, Princeton, Cato, or any other entity.

This article available online at:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/personal/archive/2010/06/guest-blogger-introduce-thyself/58007/>

Copyright © 2010 by The Atlantic Monthly Group. All Rights Reserved.