

Reflection exercise 4

New Ideas from Dead Economists

January 12, 2022

- 1 List the major ideas you learned from John Stuart Mill.
- 2 It appears that Mill's ideas on income tax had some impact on the U.S. tax policies in the 1980s. What were those major policy impacts?
- 3 What were Mill's views on inheritance tax? Was he much stricter on inheritance tax than on income tax? Why?
- 4 Mill's ideas on Welfare Reform seem to be quite relevant today. In fact, many US state and federal welfare systems are based on Mill's ideas. What were Mill's major points on welfare reform?
- 5 Does Mill sound quite progressive to you? What were his views on inequality, women's rights, voting rights, and education?
- 6 We learned that Mill's ideas on welfare reform are still influential today. In this exercise, your job is to study the brief history of how the following welfare systems and legislation and explain how Mill's ideas are reflected on these systems?
 - The 1988 federal government's "workforce" program that essentially required healthy workers to accept employment/job training in exchange for welfare benefits
 - The 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of Clinton government
 - The state of Wisconsin "trial jobs" program that provided childcare and medical services to parents

- How the New York welfare system reduce its welfare bill
- The New Jersey rule that did not pay welfare moms for additional money despite having additional kid. How did this impact the birth rates among poor women? What drove those effects?
- Change on MA welfare system
- Change in the FL welfare system