

# Gross Narco Product

On June 9, 1999, the Colombian government's National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) announced that its GNP statistics would henceforth reflect the "inclusion of illicit crops in agricultural production"—i.e., narcotics—using "sophisticated techniques," as demanded by the International Monetary Fund. On June 25, 1999, Richard Grasso, the head of the New York Stock Exchange, met with the head of finances of the narco-terrorist FARC, Comandante Raúl Reyes. In its July 16, 1999 edition, EIR published "The IMF and Wall Street are gunning for drug legalization," by Dennis Small, which included the following:

In fact, if monetary value is accepted as an economy's sole metric, then one has implicitly adopted London's bestial view of man that banishes all morality from economics: After all, we are told, a dollar is a dollar is a dollar; you may not *like* the fact that it comes from drug production, prostitution, or gambling, but you can't let your "personal tastes" dictate "objective economic measures," such as GNP.

That outlook is called monetarism. And it is the way economics is taught today in every major university in every single country around the world—whether it be called neo-liberalism, Keynesianism, or Marxism.

If that is *your* outlook, or the outlook you tolerate, then please answer a few simple questions: If drugs and prostitution are to be counted as part of GNP, shall we then consider a successful drug bust as a reduction in GNP or "value added"? Shall we also count pornography as "value added"? What about child pornography (it's a multibillion-dollar business)? How about "snuff films," where people (especially children) are sexually exploited and then murdered, on film?

Perhaps murder, rape, and torture should also be counted as part of GNP—with "sophisticated techniques," no doubt? Was the poison gas used in Hitler's death chambers also part of GNP?

Do these questions make you uncomfortable? Then where do you draw the line? More importantly, *how* do you draw the line between real economic value, and evil with a price tag? Is there not some fundamental difference between "bankers' arithmetic" and "human arithmetic"?

The stark reality is that there is no scientific, systematic, and valid way to repudiate drugs in an economy, until you are prepared to jettison the entirety of standard classroom economics, including its definition of GNP, and replace it with the science of physical economy as developed by Gottfried Leibniz, Lyndon LaRouche, and others. In this approach, economics and morality are united in the concept of economic value being defined as that which contributes to the successful social reproduction of humanity, as measured in rising potential relative population density. Science, Classical culture, and creativity in all its expressions—i.e., that which is moral about man—becomes the bedrock of economic advance.



ANCOL/Fernando Ruiz

*The "Grasso Abrazo": Richard Grasso embraces Comandante Reyes in the FARC's jungle hideout.*