Economic Ten Commandments

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I. You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
II. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
III. You cannot help small people by tearing down big people.
IV. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.
V. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
VI. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.
VII. You cannot further the brotherhood of men by inciting class hatred.
VIII. You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money.
IX. You cannot build character and courage by taking away initiative and independence.
X. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could do for themselves.

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Entrepreneur’s Credo

“I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon, if I can. I seek opportunity, not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fall and to succeed.

I refuse to barter incentive for a dole; I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of Utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence not my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat.

It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, to enjoy the benefit of my creations and to face the world boldly and say: This, with God’s help, I have done. All this is what it means to be an Entrepreneur.” — Dean Alfange

Courtesy of the Belden Center for Private Enterprise Education, D.P. Diffine, Director, Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas