Moving away from task-oriented time (planting, harvesting, mining)…

…Toward abstract, standardized, quantified time (minutes, hours, seconds)
Moving away from task-oriented time (planting, harvesting, mining)…

Most non-industrialized populations today still observe task-oriented time
Industrialization creates new tensions between town & country (urban & rural).

Industrialization creates the proletarian class.
Proletariat:
- Workers or working-class people, regarded collectively.
- Only possession is labor-power
- Only value is labor-time
- No ownership
- Alienated from their production
- Cheap labor
Proletariat:
- Workers or working class people, regarded collectively.
- Only possession is labor, only value is labor time.
- No ownership, alienated from their production.
- Cheap labor.

Is this why there are 7 billion people on the planet?
Proletariat:
- Workers or working class people, regarded collectively.
- Only possession is labor power.
- Only value is labor time.
- No ownership.
- Alienated from their production.
- Cheap labor.

Is this an accurate representation of the concept of the Proletariat?
The Tragedy of the Commons
The Tragedy of the Commons

Idea that individuals acting according to their own rational self-interest will behave in detrimentally toward the common good.

Commonly shared resources will be depleted for individual gain at the cost of the collective good.
The Tragedy of the Commons

Idea that individuals acting according to their own rational self-interest will be detrimental toward the common good.

Commonly shared resources will be depleted for individual gain at the cost of the collective good.

Examples:
- fish stocks
- Forests
- Resource extraction
- Wild fruit
- Overhunting buffalo
The Tragedy of the Commons

Idea that individuals acting according to their own rational self-interest will behave in detriment toward the common good.

Commonly shared resources will be depleted for individual gain at the cost of the collective good.

The opposite of Adam Smith’s “invisible hand” in capitalism?
The Tragedy of the Commons

Mývatn!
The Tragedy of the Commons

Mývatn!
The Tragedy of the Commons

- Nearly 1,000 years of maintaining fruitful use of commons resources.
- Socially regulated egg poaching.
- No private ownership or government regulation.
Proto-Industrialization leads to less seasonal work...

Leads to earlier marriages...

Leads to increased birth rate?
How does urban living effect value, duration, and movement?

Figure 2. As this chart illustrates, the shift from rural to urban living in the United States has been dramatic and continuous. (Graph courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau)
“The Nuer have no expression for ‘time’... they cannot conceive of it as something that passes, can be wasted, can be saved, etc... never fight against time.”

Small scale societies experience time based on seasons, agricultural practices, floods, monsoons, etc.

This is a more “task-oriented” sense of time.
The division between “work” and “life” isn’t universal.

Leisure-time, Work-time, Family-time – all wrapped in one, not distinguished.

What changed?
The Industrial Revolution

The commoditization of everything

Everything becomes *valuable* (capable of being valued), even time.

No more “passing time” or “killing time”… Not when it has value in it (in the form of labor).
The Industrialization of Time

Knowing the time of day used to be a luxury

Watches and time-keeping banned for workers, only management could know the time

Not working for a wage becomes “Idleness.”

This is affirmed by Puritan / Protestant ethos.

Introduction of regimented schooling to instill time-discipline in kids.
Was this a smooth transition?

No.

Most of the population resisted and fought against the commodification of their time.

Industrialized time isn’t “natural.”

It had to be naturalized.
The Industrialization of Time

How?

The unemployed are thrown in insane asylums…

Unemployment becomes criminalized…

“Wasting” time becomes outlawed, so we better keep track of it!
- “The city is no longer the meeting place of the classes, it is a structured space of separation.”

- Revolutions in transport and communication are necessary.

- Land becomes a form of fictitious capital – space is an asset.

- “The perpetual reshaping of the geographical landscape of capitalism is a process of violence and pain.”

- Capitalism can’t sit still.
URBANSPACE
URBANSPACE
Sense of simultaneity

Pulverization of time and space