

EXHIBIT 7. **Free to Consume**

People who live in free countries enjoy substantially higher living standards than those living in repressive countries. The World Bank collects data on per capita consumption by country. Two independent research groups—the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., and the Fraser Institute in Canada—measure economic freedom across the world using a broad variety of criteria based on key components of free enterprise, including trade policies and openness to foreign investment. Relating the consumption and freedom data sets, one finds that per capita consumption in the economically freest fifth of countries is eight to nine times that of the least free fifth.

A Tale of Two Countries

Economic Freedom and Consumption

Per capita consumption

