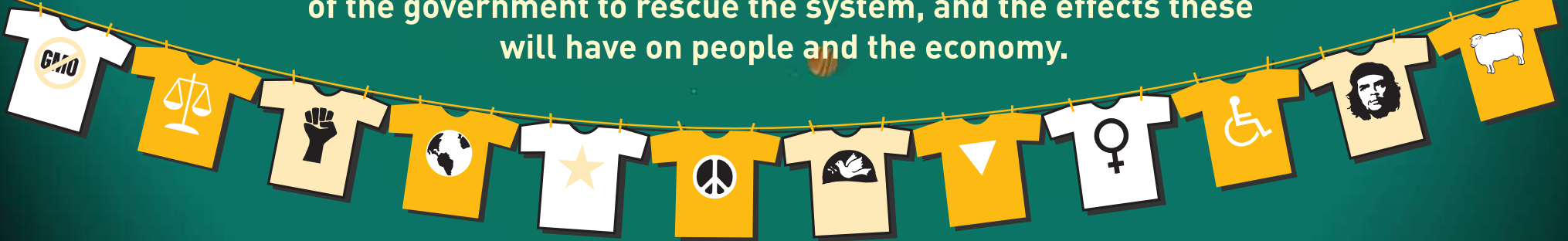


# THE FINANCIAL CRISIS OF CAPITALISM

## BACKGROUND TO THE MELTDOWN: THE CRISIS AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

The United States economy is facing its greatest crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Although much emphasis has been placed on “sub-prime” mortgages as the cause of the financial crisis, the underlying causes of the crisis go much deeper—to the explosion of debt and speculation that has spread throughout the economy and now dwarfs the real economy of goods and services. We will discuss the cause of the rise of the huge financial system and the fallout from the near collapse of the financial house of cards, the attempts of the government to rescue the system, and the effects these will have on people and the economy.



## Will Miller Social Justice Lecture Series

He will always be remembered as a clear voice in a world of false words and disinformation.

**William K. Tabb** taught economics at Queens College and was on the Graduate Faculty of the City University in the Departments of Economics, Political Science and Economics and now speaks nationally and internationally. His most recent books are: *Economic Governance in the Age of Globalization*, *Unequal Partners: A Primer on Globalization*, *The Amoral Elephant: Globalization and the Struggle for Social Justice in the 21st Century*, *Reconstructing Political Economy: The Great Divide in Economic Thought*, *The Postwar Japanese System: Cultural Economy and Economic Transformation*. He is the author of a hundred or so articles and book chapters.

**Fred Magdoff** is Professor Emeritus in Plant & Soil Science at the University of Vermont and Adjunct Professor at Cornell University. He writes about ecologically-based approaches that explain how to work with and enhance the inherent built-in strengths of plant/soil systems. Magdoff has also focused on political and economic issues surrounding agriculture and was senior editor of *Hungry for Profit: the agribusiness threat to farmers, food, and the environment* and has written a number of articles in *Monthly Review* on the U.S. economy as well as on issues of agriculture and food. He is also a member of the WMSJLS board.

**TUESDAY • OCTOBER 28, 2008 • 7pm**

**Billings Ira Allen Lecture Hall at UVM**  
(formerly CC Theater)