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# **BONUS VIDEO: THE HOCKEY STICK OF HUMAN PROSPERITY**

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**Segment Length: 4:11 minutes**

**Description:**

Hockey Stick is a good introduction to economics, the Industrial Revolution, specialization, and trade.

The last 200-300 years has seen astonishing growth in prosperity. Don Boudreaux calls it “one of the greatest events of humankind.” But how did that happen? Was it simply a series of events that would have taken place no matter what, or was there something more to it? The Hockey Stick of Human Prosperity shows how life has changed for humans and introduces the causes of that change.

**Pair with:**

The Hockey Stick of Human Prosperity is a good standalone video, but it can be paired with other videos on this DVD, such as Inequality and Trade, Permissionless Society, Robots and Driverless Cars, and YouTube, as well as Economics Made the World Great (another Bonus video).

**Preview Activity and Questions:**

Use Think, Pair, Share to have students answer the preview questions. After a few minutes, poll the students and ask them to discuss their answers.

How has life changed for humans in the last 3,000 years? Why did those changes happen? Were the changes gradual or did they happen in spurts? What caused these changes in the way we live?

**OR**

Have you ever thought “life was easy in the old days”? Just how easy was it?

**Discussion and Analysis:**

1. Why is the video called The Hockey Stick of Human Prosperity?
2. What was it about the 18th century that helped life improve for so many people?
3. What are some of those improvements?
4. How has trade affected the way we live?
5. What is specialization? How has specialization affected the way we live?