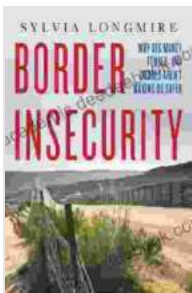# Why Big Money Fences and Drones Aren't Making Us Safer

In an era marked by heightened concerns over security, governments and private entities have resorted to deploying extensive fences and drones as primary solutions to address public safety. These expensive measures, often marketed as impenetrable barriers and all-seeing eyes from above, have garnered significant attention and funding. However, a closer examination reveals that big money fences and drones, far from enhancing safety, have instead created a false sense of security and exacerbated underlying social issues.

Border Insecurity: Why Big Money, Fences, and Drones Aren't Making Us Safer by Sylvia Longmire

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2015 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 258 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported

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False Sense of Security

One of the fundamental flaws in relying heavily on physical barriers like fences is the illusion of impenetrability they convey. While fences may deter casual trespassers, determined individuals and organized crime networks have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to overcome such obstacles.

Fences fail to address the root causes of crime and social unrest, such as poverty, inequality, and lack of opportunities.

Drones, too, provide a limited perspective on safety. Their aerial surveillance capabilities may offer a sense of heightened awareness, but drones are susceptible to technical glitches, weather conditions, and privacy concerns. They can only provide fragmented data, often failing to capture the complexities of human behavior and social interactions that contribute to crime patterns.

Exacerbating Social Issues

The deployment of big money fences and drones has inadvertently exacerbated social issues, particularly in marginalized communities. Physical barriers like fences divide communities, creating both physical and psychological separation. They can disrupt established social networks, limit access to essential services, and foster a sense of distrust and resentment among residents.

Drones, with their hovering presence, can also exacerbate feelings of surveillance and distrust. Communities subjected to constant aerial surveillance may experience a chilling effect on their freedom of expression and assembly. This can undermine social cohesion and erode trust in authorities, ironically making communities less safe.
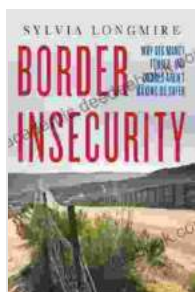
Economic Disparities

The hefty costs associated with big money fences and drones disproportionately burden taxpayers and divert limited resources away from more effective public safety measures. Fences are expensive to build and maintain, and drones require ongoing investment in technology and

personnel. This expenditure could be better allocated to address underlying social issues, such as education, job training, and affordable housing, which have a proven impact on reducing crime.

Moreover, the surveillance infrastructure that accompanies these technologies raises privacy concerns. The data collected by drones and cameras can be used for purposes beyond public safety, potentially leading to discrimination, harassment, and other privacy violations.

While the desire for enhanced public safety is understandable, the reliance on big money fences and drones as primary solutions is misguided and counterproductive. These measures create a false sense of security, exacerbate social issues, deepen economic disparities, and raise privacy concerns. Instead of investing in these ineffective and harmful technologies, governments and private entities should focus on evidence-based approaches that address the root causes of crime and promote social well-being.

By investing in education, job training, affordable housing, and community-based policing, we can create truly safer communities that are not only protected from crime but also thriving with opportunity and social cohesion.
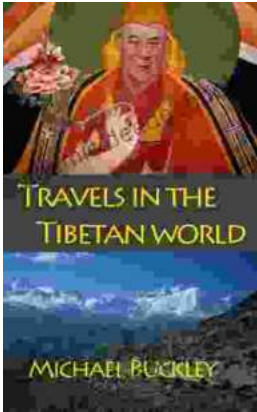
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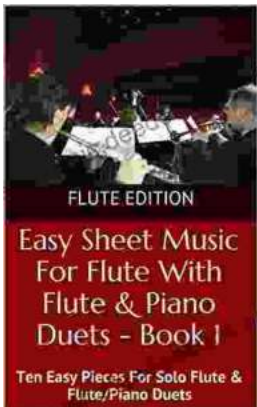|	
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