A Marxian Critique of Millian liberty:

A. Creates a society where humans lead a two-fold, alienated life:

1. Private sphere (civil society) of self-sufficient, egoistic monads, regarded as our real lives and selves.

2. Public sphere (the state) of ‘we the people’, where we regard ourselves as faceless citizens united to “illusory sovereigns” or “unreal” universals (pp. 8-9).

B. Liberty defined not as relating man to man, but as separating man from man:

1. The right to practice faith privately

2. The right to privately own and dispose of one’s property (pp. 14-15)

C. Marx’s proposed synthetic resolution:

“Only when the real, individual man re-absorbs in himself the abstract citizen, and as an individual being has become a species-being in his everyday life, in his particular work, and in his particular situation, only when man has recognized and organized his ‘own powers’ as social powers and, consequently, no longer separates social power from himself in the shape of political power, only then will human emancipation have been accomplished” (pp. 19-20)