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The shaded area illustrates the loss of weitare or deadweight weitare loss (DWL), which exists at the free market output, Q1 (where MPC = MPB). When production takes place at the socially optimal output, ie where MSB = MSC, the DWL is eliminated. This is sometimes referred to as a 'welfare gain'. Increasing output from Q₁ to Q₂ increases social welfare because the MSB derived from consuming each of these items is greater than the MSC.

Other diagrams

