**X-efficiency.** A situation in which a firm's total costs are not minimized because the actual output from given inputs is less than the maximum feasible level. This outcome is also termed a situation of 'technical inefficiency'. X-efficiency is a direct function of MONOPOLY OF MARKET POWER in which

competitive pressures are weakened. The term was originally applied to the manager-worker relationship but can be extended to deal with the manager-owner relationship. (*See* SEPARATION OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL.)

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