

Why Should the Rich Get All the Increase?

The country is much wealthier than in 1971.

- The per capita, inflation-adjusted GDP has doubled since then.

If workers' wages had kept up with increases in productivity since 1971, we would be making double what we are today.

- The median wage would be \$1200 for a 40-hour week.
- Minimum wage would be \$14.50 an hour.

Instead, almost all the increase has gone to the wealthy.

- The richest 1% of the population grab one quarter of all income (23.5%)
- This is the biggest share stolen by the wealthy since 1928.

And the super-rich get the biggest share of that.

- In 2008, the wealthiest 400 families were worth 1.57 trillion dollars.

The share held by everyone else is rapidly going down.

- Today, the bottom 80% of families own only 7% of the country's wealth.

For 40 years, the bosses have gotten away with cutting jobs, cutting wages, pushing up prices – and pocketing all they cut.

This is why we are still mired in an economic crisis.

- Production increases, but jobs are cut.
- Prices increase, but wages are cut.
- We have no money to buy, so the economy founders.
- And the bankers use the wealth to speculate, driving toward a new crash!

This is capitalism – a completely crazy and destructive system!

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