WEALTH INEQUALITY: IT’S AN AMERICAN PROBLEM

WEALTH VS. INCOME—WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?

When considering financial inequality, it’s important to see a household’s whole picture.

WEALTH IN AMERICA—it’s not as even as you’d think

The differences between income and wealth prove that inequity is rampant across and among racial groups. Disparities between the top and bottom 20% of households of both races is very similar.

EXTREME INEQUALITY IS HURTING ALL OF US

The distribution of wealth in America isn’t a question of us against them—it’s a matter of us working together to create greater opportunity for all.

view from the top:
A closer look at the top 20% of wealth and income distributions

Households at the top of America’s wealth distribution have substantially more wealth and income. Regardless of racial group examined, compared to households in the bottom 20% of their wealth and income distributions, White or Black households in the top 20% of wealth and income distributions consistently have:

- About 5x as much wealth
- About 3x as much income

INEquality won’t go away on its own—take a stand today.

Learn more
https://ssw.umich.edu/r/white-wealth-inequality
https://aedi.ssw.umich.edu

While decreasing among those in bottom 20%

Though branded as un-American, the idea of redistributing wealth is completely consistent with our collective narrative. The Homestead Act and the GI Bill were the last real examples of initiatives that built wealth for average Americans. We need the collective will and vision to dream big once more, demanding more from ourselves and our politicians.

1999 median wealth among White households, compared to median wealth in 1999.

It’s an American problem

Wealth inequality creates similar extreme disparity within all racial groups. Everyone at the bottom struggles. It’s time to reframe the American wealth narrative into one every American has a stake in.

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# Median wealth among White households, compared to median wealth in 1999.

Wealth inequality:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Median Income</th>
<th>Median Wealth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White Households</td>
<td>White Households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 20%</td>
<td>$1,115,779</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# Extreme inequality is hurting all of us

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