why the rich are getting richer pdf

why the rich are getting richer pdf is a phrase that encapsulates a growing concern and interest about wealth inequality and the dynamics of economic power in modern society. This article explores the underlying factors contributing to the increasing wealth concentration among the rich, drawing insights that could be found in various comprehensive resources, including academic papers, economic analyses, and the referenced pdf documents on this topic. It examines the structural, financial, and policy-related reasons why wealth accumulation is accelerating for the affluent, while many others face stagnation or decline. Understanding these mechanisms is essential to grasp the broader implications for social equity, economic growth, and policy-making. The discussion will delve into income sources, investment strategies, tax systems, globalization, and technological advancements that disproportionately benefit the wealthy. This detailed exploration aims to clarify the complex reasons behind this trend and provide a foundation for informed debate and decision-making regarding economic inequality.

Economic Foundations of Wealth Concentration

The economic foundations underlying why the rich are getting richer pdf documents often emphasize the significance of wealth accumulation through both income and asset ownership. Wealth concentration occurs when a disproportionately large share of assets and income is controlled by a small segment of the population. This phenomenon is driven by multiple interrelated factors including inherited wealth, higher saving rates among the rich, and the ability to leverage capital for further income generation.

Income Disparities

High-income earners, particularly those in executive positions, finance, and technology sectors, earn significantly more than average workers. This income disparity contributes to the growing wealth gap because the rich can save and invest a larger portion of their earnings.

Inheritance and Wealth Transfer

Another key element is intergenerational wealth transfer. Wealthy families can pass down assets, businesses, and investments, which perpetuates and increases their economic advantage over time.

Saving and Consumption Patterns

The rich tend to save and invest a higher percentage of their income compared to lower-income groups who often spend most or all of their earnings on consumption. This behavior accelerates wealth accumulation for the affluent.

Role of Investment and Capital Gains

Investment income and capital gains are critical components explaining why the rich are getting richer pdf studies frequently highlight. Wealthy individuals have greater access to diverse investment opportunities that generate returns far exceeding wage growth.

Diverse Investment Portfolios

The rich typically diversify their investments across stocks, bonds, real estate, private equity, and other financial instruments, reducing risk and maximizing returns. This diversification is less accessible to middle and lower-income groups.

Capital Gains vs. Wages

Capital gains, which come from the appreciation of assets, are often taxed at lower rates than wages. This tax treatment incentivizes wealth concentration by allowing the rich to retain a larger share of their investment income.

Access to Exclusive Investment Vehicles

High net worth individuals can invest in hedge funds, venture capital, and other exclusive vehicles that often yield higher returns, further widening the wealth gap.

Impact of Tax Policies and Legislation

Tax policies play a significant role in shaping wealth distribution. The structure of taxation on income, capital gains, and estates often favors the wealthy, contributing to increasing wealth concentration.

Lower Tax Rates on Capital Income

Many countries impose lower tax rates on dividends and capital gains compared to ordinary income. This disparity benefits wealthy investors disproportionately, as they derive more income from investments than wages.

Estate and Inheritance Taxes

Estate taxes, designed to reduce wealth concentration across generations, have been reduced or eliminated in many jurisdictions. This change enables the perpetuation of wealth within affluent families.

Tax Avoidance and Loopholes

Complex tax codes and loopholes provide opportunities for the rich to minimize their tax liabilities through legal means such as offshore accounts, trusts, and deductions unavailable to most taxpayers.

Globalization and Technological Advancements

Globalization and technology have transformed economies and created new avenues for wealth creation, disproportionately benefiting the wealthy and contributing to why the rich are getting richer pdf analyses indicate.

Global Markets and Capital Mobility

The ability to invest and operate businesses internationally allows the rich to capitalize on global growth opportunities and optimize tax strategies, increasing their wealth faster than those confined to local economies.

Technology and Automation

Technological advancements have increased productivity but also led to labor market polarization. High-skilled workers and capital owners gain the most, while middle and low-skilled workers face wage stagnation or job displacement.

Network Effects and Market Dominance

Technology companies often benefit from network effects, leading to dominant market positions and outsized profits that primarily enrich founders and investors, exacerbating wealth concentration.

Financial Systems and Access to Credit

Access to financial resources and credit is a critical factor that enables the rich to invest and grow their wealth, a point frequently emphasized in discussions about why the rich are getting richer pdf materials.

Better Credit Terms

Wealthy individuals and businesses typically receive more favorable lending terms, including lower interest rates and higher credit limits, facilitating further investment and wealth accumulation.

Leverage Opportunities

Using leverage—borrowed capital—to amplify investment returns is more accessible to the rich, enabling them to increase their asset base more effectively than those with limited credit access.

Financial Literacy and Advisory Services

The rich can afford expert financial advice and sophisticated wealth management services, which help optimize investment strategies and tax planning.

Consequences and Societal Implications

The increasing concentration of wealth among the rich has significant consequences for society and the economy, which are important considerations in analyses related to why the rich are getting richer pdf resources.

Economic Inequality

Rising wealth inequality can lead to social tensions, reduced economic mobility, and disparities in access to education, healthcare, and political influence.

Impact on Democracy and Policy

Wealth concentration may translate into disproportionate political power for the rich, influencing policies that further entrench economic advantages and reduce fairness.

Effects on Economic Growth

While some argue that wealth concentration encourages investment and innovation, excessive inequality may hinder overall economic growth by limiting consumption and increasing financial instability.

List of Key Factors Contributing to Wealth Concentration

- Higher income and saving rates of the wealthy
- Preferential tax treatment on capital income
- Inheritance and intergenerational wealth transfer
- Access to exclusive investment opportunities
- Globalization and capital mobility
- Technological advancements favoring capital owners
- Better access to credit and financial services
- Political influence shaping economic policies

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are the rich getting richer according to economic theories?

Economic theories suggest that the rich get richer due to factors like capital accumulation, higher returns on investments, access to better financial opportunities, and systemic advantages that allow wealth to grow faster than income.

What role does 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF' play in understanding wealth inequality?

'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF' typically compiles research and analysis that explains the mechanisms behind wealth concentration, providing readers with detailed insights into economic policies, market dynamics, and social structures contributing to inequality.

How does access to a 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF' help students and researchers?

Access to such PDFs provides comprehensive information, data, and case studies that support academic research, policy analysis, and understanding of economic trends related to wealth disparity.

Are tax policies discussed in 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer

PDF' as a factor for increasing wealth among the rich?

Yes, many analyses highlight how favorable tax policies, loopholes, and lower tax rates on capital gains contribute significantly to the growing wealth of the rich.

Does the 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF' explore the impact of globalization on wealth concentration?

Often, such documents explore globalization's role, showing how it benefits wealthy individuals and corporations through expanded markets and labor arbitrage, thus increasing wealth gaps.

Can 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF' provide solutions to address wealth inequality?

Many versions include proposed solutions like progressive taxation, improved social policies, wealth redistribution, and reforms aimed at creating a more equitable economic system.

Is the concept of compounding returns explained in 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF'?

Yes, the concept of compounding returns is often discussed as a key reason the wealthy accumulate more wealth over time compared to those relying solely on wages.

How does education level factor into the explanations found in 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF'?

The document may highlight how higher education levels correlate with better economic opportunities, enabling the rich to maintain and expand their wealth.

Are financial instruments and investment strategies covered in 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF'?

Yes, the use of sophisticated financial instruments and investment strategies by the wealthy is often detailed as a mechanism for wealth growth and protection.

Where can one typically find reliable versions of 'Why the Rich Are Getting Richer PDF'?

Reliable versions can be found on academic websites, economic research institutions, government publications, and reputable educational platforms offering free or paid access.

Additional Resources

1. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*
This groundbreaking book by Thomas Piketty explores wealth concentration and distribution over the

past few centuries. It delves into the mechanisms that cause the rich to accumulate more wealth, such as returns on capital outpacing economic growth. Piketty uses extensive data to argue for policies that address inequality and promote economic justice.

2. *The Rich Get Richer: Inequality and the Future of Capitalism*
The author examines the structural factors that lead to increasing wealth disparities in modern capitalist societies. The book covers topics like tax policies, corporate influence, and financial markets that disproportionately benefit the wealthy. It also discusses potential reforms to create a fairer economic system.

3. *Why the Rich Are Getting Richer and You're Getting Poorer*
This book provides a clear analysis of economic trends that have exacerbated wealth inequality in recent decades. It highlights the roles of globalization, technological change, and political decisions in shaping economic outcomes. The author also offers practical advice for individuals and policymakers to address these challenges.

4. *Unequal Gains: American Growth and Inequality since 1700*
Focusing on the United States, this historical analysis traces the evolution of income and wealth inequality. The book reveals how economic policies, labor markets, and technological innovations have influenced the distribution of wealth. It provides context for understanding why the rich continue to gain disproportionately.

5. *The Wealth Hoarders: How Billionaires Pay Millions to Hide Trillions*
This investigative work uncovers how the ultra-rich use legal loopholes and offshore accounts to protect and grow their wealth. It explains the global financial networks that facilitate wealth accumulation and tax avoidance. The book calls for greater transparency and stronger regulations to curb these practices.

6. *Saving Capitalism: For the Many, Not the Few*
Economist Robert Reich argues that capitalism has been skewed to benefit the wealthy elite at the expense of the majority. The book explores the political and economic forces driving wealth concentration. Reich proposes policy changes aimed at making capitalism more inclusive and equitable.

7. *Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else*
This book investigates the emergence of a global class of super-rich individuals whose wealth far outstrips that of the average person. It examines the social and economic impacts of this concentration of wealth, including political influence and social stratification. The narrative sheds light on why the rich keep getting richer in a globalized world.

8. *The Great Divide: Unequal Societies and What We Can Do About Them*
Joseph Stiglitz explores the causes and consequences of economic inequality in contemporary society. The book discusses how policies and economic structures favor the wealthy, leading to social and economic instability. Stiglitz offers solutions to reduce inequality and promote shared prosperity.

9. *Rich Dad Poor Dad: What the Rich Teach Their Kids About Money That the Poor and Middle Class Do Not!*
Robert Kiyosaki's classic personal finance book explains the mindset and financial strategies that help the rich build and sustain wealth. While not explicitly about economic inequality, it provides insights into wealth creation and financial literacy. The book encourages readers to think differently about money and investing.

Why The Rich Are Getting Richer Pdf

Why the Rich Are Getting Richer: A Deep Dive into Wealth Inequality

Ebook Title: The Wealth Gap: Understanding and Addressing the Growing Divide

Ebook Outline:

Introduction: Defining wealth inequality and its historical context.
Chapter 1: The Power of Compounding: How exponential growth and investment strategies benefit the wealthy disproportionately.
Chapter 2: Systemic Advantages: Exploring inherited wealth, access to education, and preferential treatment within financial systems.
Chapter 3: The Role of Taxation and Policy: Analyzing the impact of tax laws, regulations, and government spending on wealth distribution.
Chapter 4: The Psychology of Wealth: Examining the behavioral and psychological factors that contribute to wealth accumulation and preservation.
Chapter 5: Technological Disruption and Automation: Assessing the effect of technological advancements on job displacement and income inequality.
Chapter 6: Globalization and its Impact: Analyzing how globalization influences wealth concentration and opportunities for different economic groups.
Chapter 7: Potential Solutions and Policy Recommendations: Exploring potential solutions to address wealth inequality, including progressive taxation, wealth redistribution, and investment in human capital.
Conclusion: Summarizing key findings and emphasizing the need for proactive measures to foster a more equitable society.

Why the Rich Are Getting Richer: A Deep Dive into Wealth Inequality

The widening gap between the rich and the poor is a defining feature of the 21st-century global economy. This isn't merely a matter of envy; it's a complex issue with profound social, economic, and political ramifications. Understanding why the rich are getting richer requires a multifaceted approach, examining various interconnected factors beyond simple meritocracy. This article will delve into these crucial elements, providing insights into the dynamics that perpetuate wealth inequality.

1. Introduction: Defining Wealth Inequality and its Historical Context

Wealth inequality isn't a new phenomenon. Historically, societies have always exhibited some level of disparity in wealth distribution. However, the current level of inequality in many developed nations is unprecedented in recent history. We need to define what we mean by "wealth inequality." It's not simply about income disparity (the difference in salaries and wages); it's about the accumulation of assets – including property, stocks, bonds, and other investments – over time. This accumulated wealth generates further wealth through interest, dividends, and capital gains, creating a self-perpetuating cycle. Examining historical trends, from the Gilded Age to the present day, reveals fluctuating levels of inequality, highlighting periods of concentration and periods of greater equalization, providing a crucial backdrop for understanding the current situation. Understanding this historical context helps us contextualize the current trends and avoids simplistic narratives that fail to account for long-term societal shifts.

2. Chapter 1: The Power of Compounding: Exponential Growth and Investment Strategies

The rich get richer, in part, because of the power of compounding. This fundamental principle of finance states that investment returns accumulate over time, generating even greater returns on the initial investment. While accessible to everyone, the impact of compounding is exponentially greater for those with significant initial capital. A wealthy individual can invest substantial sums in assets that generate consistent returns, leading to dramatic wealth growth over decades. This contrasts sharply with individuals who lack initial capital and must allocate a larger portion of their income to essential needs, limiting their ability to save and invest effectively. Furthermore, the wealthy often have access to sophisticated investment strategies and financial advice, further amplifying the compounding effect.

3. Chapter 2: Systemic Advantages: Inherited Wealth, Access to Education, and Preferential Treatment

Wealth inequality is not solely a matter of individual effort. Systemic advantages play a crucial role. Inherited wealth provides a significant head start, allowing individuals to leverage existing capital for investments and business ventures. Access to quality education is another critical advantage. Children from affluent families often have access to better schools, tutoring, and higher education opportunities, significantly increasing their earning potential and investment capacity. Moreover, the wealthy often benefit from preferential treatment within financial systems, accessing better loan terms, investment opportunities, and legal advice. These systemic advantages create a cycle of privilege that reinforces existing inequalities.

4. Chapter 3: The Role of Taxation and Policy: Impact of Tax Laws, Regulations, and Government Spending

Tax policies and government regulations significantly impact wealth distribution. Progressive tax systems, where higher earners pay a larger percentage of their income in taxes, are designed to redistribute wealth and reduce inequality. However, loopholes and deductions often disproportionately benefit the wealthy, minimizing their tax burden. Similarly, government spending on social programs, such as education, healthcare, and affordable housing, can alleviate inequality by providing opportunities for upward mobility. Conversely, cuts to these programs can exacerbate existing inequalities. Analyzing the impact of specific tax laws, regulations, and government spending on wealth distribution is crucial to understanding the dynamics of wealth inequality.

5. Chapter 4: The Psychology of Wealth: Behavioral and Psychological Factors

The psychology of wealth plays a crucial role in both the accumulation and preservation of wealth. Wealthy individuals often exhibit specific behavioral patterns and mindsets that contribute to their success. These include risk tolerance, long-term planning, and a strong work ethic. However, psychological factors can also hinder wealth accumulation. For example, fear of loss, impulsive spending, and a lack of financial literacy can prevent individuals from building and preserving wealth. Understanding these psychological factors is essential for developing effective strategies to promote financial literacy and wealth building across all socioeconomic groups.

6. Chapter 5: Technological Disruption and Automation: Job Displacement and Income Inequality

Technological advancements and automation are transforming the labor market, contributing to income inequality. While technology creates new job opportunities, it also displaces workers in industries affected by automation. This displacement disproportionately affects lower-skilled workers, widening the gap between high-skilled and low-skilled workers. The increasing demand for high-skilled workers further exacerbates this inequality, leading to higher wages for those with specialized skills and leaving many lower-skilled workers behind. Addressing this requires a focus on education, retraining, and social safety nets to support workers displaced by technological advancements.

7. Chapter 6: Globalization and its Impact: Wealth Concentration and Opportunities

Globalization has significantly impacted wealth distribution, both positively and negatively. While it has created new economic opportunities in developing countries, it has also led to increased competition and job displacement in developed nations. Multinational corporations often shift production to countries with lower labor costs, leading to job losses in higher-wage economies. Furthermore, globalization can lead to a concentration of wealth in the hands of those who control global capital flows and multinational corporations. Understanding the complex interplay between globalization and wealth inequality requires careful analysis of its various impacts on different economic groups.

8. Chapter 7: Potential Solutions and Policy Recommendations: Progressive Taxation, Wealth Redistribution, and Investment in Human Capital

Addressing wealth inequality requires a multifaceted approach involving policy changes and societal shifts. Progressive taxation, where higher earners pay a larger percentage of their income in taxes, is a key tool for wealth redistribution. Strengthening social safety nets, including unemployment benefits, affordable healthcare, and subsidized education, can help mitigate the effects of economic hardship and promote social mobility. Investing in human capital through education, training, and skill development is crucial for equipping individuals with the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly changing economy. Furthermore, policies aimed at promoting fair competition, transparency, and accountability within financial systems can help level the playing field.

9. Conclusion: Summarizing Key Findings and Emphasizing the Need for Proactive Measures

Wealth inequality is a complex issue driven by a combination of economic, social, and psychological factors. While individual effort plays a role, systemic advantages, policy choices, and technological advancements significantly contribute to the widening gap between the rich and the poor. Addressing this requires a comprehensive strategy that includes progressive taxation, investment in human capital, and strengthened social safety nets. Failing to address this issue risks undermining social cohesion, economic stability, and democratic values. Proactive measures are essential to create a more equitable and just society.

FAQs

1. What is the primary driver of wealth inequality? While there's no single cause, the interplay of compounding returns on investment, systemic advantages, and policy choices are major contributors.

2. How does inheritance affect wealth inequality? Inherited wealth provides a significant advantage, allowing subsequent generations to build upon existing capital and perpetuate inequality.

3. What role does education play? Access to quality education is a critical factor determining future earning potential and wealth accumulation.

4. How can taxation policies mitigate wealth inequality? Progressive tax systems, where higher earners pay a larger percentage of their income in taxes, are designed to redistribute wealth.

5. What is the impact of globalization on wealth inequality? Globalization has complex effects, creating opportunities while also leading to job displacement and wealth concentration.

6. What is the psychological aspect of wealth accumulation? Mindsets regarding risk, saving, and long-term planning play a significant role in both accumulating and preserving wealth.

7. How does automation affect job markets and wealth inequality? Automation leads to job displacement, particularly affecting low-skilled workers, and exacerbating inequality.

8. What policy recommendations can address wealth inequality? Progressive taxation, investment in human capital, and robust social safety nets are key components of effective strategies.

9. What are the long-term consequences of high levels of wealth inequality? High levels of inequality can lead to social unrest, political instability, and reduced economic growth.

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why the rich are getting richer pdf: *Why the Rich Are Getting Richer* Robert T. Kiyosaki, Tom Wheelwright, 2018-12-11 It's Robert Kiyosaki's position that It is our educational system that causes the gap between the rich and everyone else. He laid the foundation for many of his messages in the international best-seller Rich Dad Poor Dad -- the #1 Personal Finance book of all time -- and in Why the Rich Are Getting Richer, he makes his case... In this book, the reader will learn why the gap between the rich and everyone else grows wider. In this book, the reader will get an explanation of why savers are losers. In this book, the reader will find out why debt and taxes make the rich richer. In this book, the reader will learn why traditional education actually causes many highly educated people, such as Robert's poor dad, to live poorly. In this book, the reader will find out why going to school, working hard, saving money, buying a house, getting out of debt, and investing for the long term in the stock market is the worst financial advice for most people. In this book, the reader will learn the answers Robert found on his life-long search, after repeatedly asking the question, When will we learn about money? In this book, the reader will find out why real financial education may never be taught in schools. In this book, the reader will find out What financially education is... really.

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why the rich are getting richer pdf: Inequality and the 1% Danny Dorling, 2015-09-08 Since the great recession hit in 2008, the 1% has only grown richer while the rest find life increasingly tough. The gap between the haves and the have-nots has turned into a chasm. While the rich have found new ways of protecting their wealth, everyone else has suffered the penalties of austerity. But inequality is more than just economics. Being born outside the 1% has a dramatic impact on a person's potential: reducing life expectancy, limiting education and work prospects, and even affecting mental health. What is to be done? In Inequality and the 1% leading social thinker Danny Dorling lays bare the extent and true cost of the division in our society and asks what have the superrich ever done for us. He shows that inquality is the greatest threat we face and why we must urgently redress the balance.

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why the rich are getting richer pdf: The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison Jeffrey Reiman, Paul Leighton, 2016-11-10 For nearly 40 years, this classic text has taken the issue of economic inequality seriously and asked: Why are our prisons filled with the poor? Why aren’t the tools of the criminal justice system being used to protect Americans from predatory business practices and to punish well-off people who cause widespread harm? The Rich Get Richer shows readers that much that goes on in the criminal justice system violates citizens’ sense of basic fairness. It presents extensive evidence from mainstream data that the criminal justice system does not function in the way it says it does nor in the way that readers believe it should. The authors develop a theoretical perspective from which readers might understand these failures and evaluate them morally—and they to do it in a short and relatively inexpensive text written in plain language. New to this edition: Presents recent data comparing the harms due to criminal activity with the harms of dangerous—but not criminal—corporate actions Presents new data on recent crime rate declines, which are paired with data on how public safety is not prioritized by the U.S. government Updates statistics on crime, victimization, wealth and discrimination, plus coverage of the increasing role of criminal justice fines and fees in generating revenue for government Updates on the costs to society of white-collar crime Updates and deepened analysis of why fundamental reforms are not undertaken Streamlined and condensed prose for greater clarity

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why the rich are getting richer pdf: Rich Dad's Conspiracy of the Rich Robert T. Kiyosaki, 2009-09-21 In late January, 2009, Robert Kiyosaki launched CONSPIRACY OF THE RICH - a free online book which was written in serial basis to help people understand how the current recession came about, and what they need to learn on how to survive through the coming rough years. An unprecedented publishing event for Kiyosaki and The Rich Dad Company, CONSPIRACY OF THE RICH is an interactive, Wiki-style project in which Kiyosaki has invited feedback, commentary, and questions from readers across the globe. The response so far has been totally fantastic. Millions and millions of readers have flocked to the website (www.conspiracyoftherich.com) to read what Robert has to say about the recession, and the readers have posted thousands of comments. Some of those reader comments will even be included in the final tradepaper version.

why the rich are getting richer pdf: *The Millionaire Next Door* Thomas J. Stanley, William D. Danko, 2010-11-30 How do the rich get rich? An updated edition of the “remarkable” New York Times bestseller, based on two decades of research (The Washington Post). Most of the truly wealthy in the United States don’t live in Beverly Hills or on Park Avenue. They live next door. America’s wealthy seldom get that way through an inheritance or an advanced degree. They bargain-shop for used cars, raise children who don’t realize how rich their families are, and reject a lifestyle of flashy exhibitionism and competitive spending. In fact, the glamorous people many of us think of as “rich” are actually a tiny minority of America’s truly wealthy citizens—and behave quite differently than the majority. At the time of its first publication, The Millionaire Next Door was a groundbreaking examination of America’s rich—exposing for the first time the seven common qualities that appear over and over among this exclusive demographic. This edition includes a new foreword by Dr. Thomas J. Stanley—updating the original content in the context of the financial crash and the twenty-first century. “Their surprising results reveal fundamental qualities of this group that are diametrically opposed to today’s earn-and-consume culture.” —Library Journal

why the rich are getting richer pdf: Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison, The (Subscription) Jeffrey Reiman, Paul Leighton, 2015-07-14 Illustrates the issue of economic inequality within the American justice system. The best-selling text, The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison contends that the criminal justice system is biased against the poor from start to finish. The authors argue that even before the process of arrest, trial, and sentencing, the system is biased against the poor in what it chooses to treat as crime. The authors show that numerous acts of the well-off--such as their refusal to make workplaces safe, refusal to curtail deadly pollution, promotion of unnecessary surgery, and prescriptions for unnecessary drugs--cause as much harm as the acts of the poor that are treated as crimes. However, the dangerous acts of the well-off are almost never treated as crimes, and when they are, they are almost never treated as severely as the crimes of the poor. Not only does the criminal justice system fail to protect against the harmful acts of well-off people, it also fails to remedy the causes of crime, such as poverty. This results in a large population of poor criminals in our prisons and in our media. The authors contend that the idea of crime as a work of the poor serves the interests of the rich and powerful while conveying a misleading notion that the real threat to Americans comes from the bottom of society rather than the top. Learning Goals Upon completing this book, readers will be able to: Examine the criminal justice system through the lens of the poor. Understand that much of what goes on in the criminal justice system violates one’s own sense of fairness. Morally evaluate the criminal justice system’s failures. Identify the type of legislature that is biased against the poor.

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