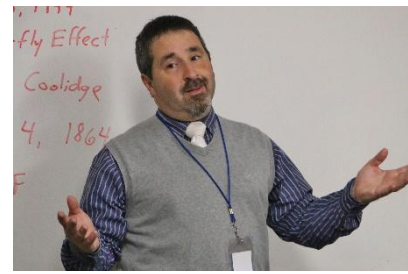




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Democrat for all New England '24

Independent AGAINST Joe Biden

for "Every Politically Independent Citizen"

On income Inequality (in America, it's benign), and Capitalism (it's sublime)

Bernie Sanders, the Marquis of Marxism, makes a heartfelt plea for reforming the wealth differential in America. Heartfelt, but not THOUGHT-THOUGH. This is a hallmark of most progressive proposals. Their hearts are out, but they haven't thought it out.

Here's Bernie from 2019:

"The level of income inequality in this country is grotesque"

It's not grotesque. When the average low-income American earns 9 times the median income earner in the majority of nations, it's not gross. It's ENVIABLE.

And how do we know it's enviable? – because economically and socially comfortable foreigners want to come here. ¾ of India would like to be here. 90% of Africans who speak English would get up and leave their continent if they could be here legally.

Income inequality doesn't keep anyone out of parks, airplanes, ski resorts. A below-average earner can still dine out at 99% of restaurants. The 1% that might be pricey, I for one have no desire to eat there. A below-average earner can still fly himself and his spouse cross country and back for under \$1000, which is less than half his gross paycheck.

If there's anything "grotesque" about income fairness, it's that the government takes sooooo much from low-income earners. Social Security tax, gas tax, communications tax, software tax, sales tax, license fees, and property tax (which renters pay indirectly). These are all going to things we largely don't use, and unless we are part of large universities, large hospital chains, or influential corporations, we have no strong say in their funding.

So unless you spend a lot, then your gross paycheck in America is, by world standards, and historical standards, more than adequate.

“We cannot continue to have more than half of our people living paycheck to paycheck.”

Yes, we can, if we get a lot of STUFF for that paycheck. And almost all American who work, do. For our paycheck, the \$40,000 a year single worker gets

Fancy clothes

A flat screen TV

Smart-phones that let you communicate worldwide.

Music clips from almost any western artist.

Low income Americans live better than Renaissance Kings. We have sanitation they never had, emergency care they never had, easy travel they never had. When a king really wanted to have a special artisan make something for him, he at best paid highly for the possibility of the artisan reaching his court in 2 weeks. Now Amazon gets low-income Americans almost anything they need in 2 days. We don't have to look back 500 years. How about just 40 years? Do you remember how much it cost to call your relative in California? 84 cents a minute.

That's when 84 cents was worth about \$2.50. A 20 minute call thus cost you \$50. Did a business you were part of in 1985 ever put you on a video conference? That business paid \$200 per minute back then. The 30 minute conference cost the firm \$6000. Now we Zoom virtually for free.

Where did all these benefits for low income people come from?

Ah. That would be INNOVATION. And innovation is spurred by free markets and a just court system that protects property rights.

Bernie Sanders' proposed legislation to take money from Billionaires just because they are wealthy damages both free markets & property protection. We get little innovation if a rapacious government whimsically decides who can keep what they earn.

And it's more than a heartfelt plea. It's legislation. He wants to confiscate a lot of money from wealthy people for the crime of ...being wealthy.

That's it. Jeff Bezos never hurt anybody.

He employs more people each year than you and 50 other Democrat Senators have in your lifetimes. He provides more services that people are happy to pay for, indeed most are willing to pay MORE, than and commanded economy will ever produce.

So some people are rich. The only thing you can say against it is that it engenders Envy. Envy is not a sin, or if it is, it's on YOU, not the wealthy persons Bernie is trying to punish.

Wealth, especially ostentatious wealth, inspires many people to become wealthy. And the only non-criminal way to do that is via capitalism.

Capitalism matches greed with greed. And produces all these nice goods and services. 8th graders recognize this. Bernie needs to drop back 70 years.

M.S.G

Mark Stewart Greenstein is the Independent candidate running in Vermont for US Senate against Bernie Sanders.

