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The 'Idiot Box' – Now More than Ever!

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Theme: Media Disinformation

For decades many critics of broadcast television labeled it 'The idiot box'. As Ed Norton said in a Honeymooners episode "Maybe the phrase fits.'" Well, today, perhaps more than ever before, we all must be idiots to continue viewing it.

Let's first examine the news and news talk shows that seem to almost go 24/7 along with their cousin, the sports and sports talk shows. You stroll down the dial and you get mostly millionaire and wannabe millionaire pundits labeled as *journalists, political analysts, Democratic or Republican strategists* (how I just love that term), or *contributors* to their channel of servitude – usually CNN, Fox or MSNBC.

Amazing how *every single one* of these people gladly and regularly serve the *Military Industrial Empire!* The only delineating factor is if they are with the Republicans or Democrats... period! What in God's name could *any* of these wealthy people understand how we working stiffs, or worse than that, unemployed or homeless Amerikans are going through? Really! They sit there and pontificate on the subject of a Medicare for All ideal, always finding some fault in it, whether they be from either of the two corrupt and hypocritical parties. If anyone reading this is a millionaire, or goodness, a mega millionaire, paying out $ 15- $ 20k a year for what they call a *Cadillac Health Plan* would be a drop in the bucket (of course we taxpayers subsidize the plan our elected officials get gratis). So, how can they ever comprehend the stress that NOT having such a plan means? Ditto for paying rent to an Absentee Landlord when that figure eats up too large a portion of one's wages. Need I go down the list of the costs of raising a child or children on the wages most of us have to survive on? The faces we see on that idiot box do not, in most cases, have even a clue!

You turn on the sports talk shows, as I used to do too much of the time, and the dribble that comes out of the mouths of those *sports journalists*is overwhelming! This economic system is so skewed that any working stiff should now realize the futility of it all. All of these sports talk shows readily accept the fact that the pro sports like football, basketball and baseball pay these players mega millions of dollars. Imagine the debates that these *sports talk shills* have *on* about some above average player demanding a salary of $ 300 million dollars over 10 years. They don't argue that the whole *enchilada* is ridiculous, when guys are earning that much to throw or catch a ball or make a basket while we suckers pay through the nose to watch.

No, to these whores of the sports media the more these guys get paid, the more they can get paid as water carriers. Of course, to them and to the players this all is fine and dandy, because the owners of both the teams and the media channels are *raking in billions!* Going to a game in person, with a couple of kids, will cost, just for middle of the road seats, at least *hundreds of dollars!* For one game! As a baby boomer, I can recall taking my two sons

to a Met game in the 1970s and paying out maybe $ 75 for everything: parking , tickets, food and drinks and programs.

How about the people you vote to represent we working stiffs? This is from the *2018 Roll Call listing*:

In 2018, to rank among the top 50 wealthiest members of Congress required a net worth of at least $7.5 million.

Rank	Name	Party	State	Incumbent	Net Worth ($ million)
1	Rep. Darrell Issa	Republican	California		283.3
2	Rep. Greg Gianforte	Republican	Montana	Y	135.7
3	Rep. Jared Polis	Democratic	Colorado		122.6
4	Rep. Dave Trott	Republican	Michigan		119.1
5	Rep. Michael McCaul	Republican	Texas	Y	113.0
6	Rep. John Delaney	Democratic	Maryland		92.6
7	Sen. Mark Warner	Democratic	Virginia	Y	90.2
8	Rep. Vern Buchanan	Republican	Florida	Y	73.9
9	Sen. Richard Blumenthal	Democratic	Connecticut	Y	70.0
10	Sen. Dianne Feinstein	Democratic	California	Y	58.5
11	Rep. Tom Rooney	Republican	Florida		55.3
12	Rep. Trey Hollingsworth	Republican	Indiana	Y	50.1
13	Rep. Chris Collins	Republican	New York	Y	43.5
14	Rep. Diane Black	Republican	Tennessee		38.0
15	Rep. Paul Mitchell	Republican	Michigan	Y	37.7
16	Rep. Jim Renacci	Republican	Ohio		34.4
17	Rep. Scott Peters	Democratic	California	Y	32.0
18	Rep. Don Beyer	Democratic	Virginia	Y	31.2
19	Rep. Tom MacArthur	Republican	New Jersey		30.0
20	Rep. Suzan DelBene	Democratic	Washington	Y	28.4
21	Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen	Republican	New Jersey		28.0

22	Rep. Roger Williams	Republican	Texas	Y	27.7
23	Rep. Ro Khanna	Democratic	California	Y	27.0
24	Sen. Claire McCaskill	Democratic	Missouri		26.9
25	Sen. Bob Corker	Republican	Tennessee		23.1
26	Rep. Francis Rooney	Republican	Florida	Y	22.6
27	Rep. Joe Kennedy III	Democratic	Massachusetts	Y	18.7
28	Rep. Ralph Norman	Republican	South Carolina	Y	18.3
29	Sen. John Hoeven	Republican	North Dakota	Y	17.9
30	Rep. Nancy Pelosi	Democratic	California	Y	16.0
31	Sen. David Perdue	Republican	Georgia	Y	15.8
32	Sen. Jim Risch	Republican	Idaho	Y	15.6
33	Rep. Brad Schneider	Democratic	Illinois	Y	14.9
34	Sen. John McCain	Republican	Arizona		14.3
35	Rep. Buddy Carter	Republican	Georgia	Y	13.2
36	Rep. Lloyd Doggett	Democratic	Texas	Y	13.1
37	Rep. Jim Cooper	Democratic	Tennessee	Y	12.3
38	Rep. Rick Allen	Republican	Georgia	Y	11.7
39	Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner	Republican	Wisconsin	Y	11.1
40	Rep. Fred Upton	Republican	Michigan	Y	11.0
41	Rep. Nita Lowey	Democratic	New York	Y	10.9
42	Rep. Carolyn Maloney	Democratic	New York	Y	10.8
43	Sen. Mitch McConnell	Republican	Kentucky	Y	10.4
44	Rep. Mike Kelly	Republican	Pennsylvania	Y	10.4
45	Sen. Ron Johnson	Republican	Wisconsin	Y	10.4
46	Rep. Rod Blum	Republican	Iowa		10.2
47	Sen. Johnny Isakson	Republican	Georgia	Y	9.7
48	Rep. Bill Foster	Democratic	Illinois	Y	9.3
49	Sen. Rob Portman	Republican	Ohio	Y	8.6
50	Rep. Steve Pearce	Republican			7.5

Source: Roll Call (2018)[1]

When you tune into that idiot box just remember that you are viewing a club of super rich people. It does not matter if it is news, politics, sports or any type of entertainment... these

folks do NOT have a clue as to what you and your family and friends are up against each and every day. They all are NOT representative of anything worth appreciating. So, who are the real idiots here?

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