

Time for Universal Basic Income Is Now!

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Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#), [Poverty & Social Inequality](#)

A man struggled in the desert heat with his mouth as parched as sandpaper. He was fading fast from lack of the basic essentials to exist, number one being water. Someone hands him a giant bottle of water and he is so appreciative. He drinks the water, but hours later on his journey through the unforgiving sands, he realizes that the water alone cannot save him.

So it is for all we working stiffs who make up the 99+ % of this empire. Yes, we need this thing referred to as the *Universal Basic Income* or *UBI* instituted NOW, and not in six months or for only a brief duration. Touted by former presidential candidate Andrew Yang and articulately endorsed by Public Banking expert attorney Ellen Brown, it proposes that ALL citizens would receive a *\$1000 monthly stipend* from the government (Tax Free).

The Spanish government is about to do a similar plan, and keep it going forever if necessary. I say 'necessary' because this upside down *New Gilded Age* our empire has become seems to continually give 10X more of OUR tax money to the super rich each time they throw us working stiffs a bone. In all candor, if the UBI is not instituted we will have a worse situation than during our Great Depression of the 1930s or Dickens' London from his novel *A Christmas Carol*. Furthermore, Ellen Brown, in her interview with this writer, explained how a Universal Basic Income would NOT be inflationary. Thus, it is the quickest way for working stiffs and the unemployed or retired working stiffs, and of course the indigent, to breathe some fresh greenback air... before they start eating up each other... and I don't mean literally.

Economic depressions feed into increased cases of emotional distress, violent behavior, petty crime, spousal abuse, alcoholism, drug addictions of many types, suicide and streets filled with the homeless (more than even now) with more and more ' Lost children'. Yet, through all of this from the 'looking glass' of past drastic hard times, the Super Rich still live like the kings and queens they are NOT!

Those current gated communities and secured high rises will see armed guards patrolling, chauffeurs with automatics and a new industry of *domestic mercenaries* to work with the local police. It'll happen, and soon, if the money doesn't start funneling *down* quickly, instead of just the usual way *UP*. As with my anecdote of the man in the desert, working stiffs need that \$1000 bucks each month to go along with their current salaries (if lucky enough to still have work), a temporary unemployment check or the Social Security check we seniors get. It will not solve this horrific problem, but it will give working stiffs some relief.

Now comes the hard part: When will working stiffs wake up and see the tragic inequality that currently exists between us and that 1/4 of 1%? The following chart from a few years

ago is the best this writer could find as to how GREAT is the polarity in compensation. In the enclosed list of CEO pay, check out the last column on the right. That shows the ratio of CEO pay to the pay of a median employee of each company, not even the lowest paid full time employee, but those who earn in the middle:

Rank	Company Name	CEO	CEO Pay	Median Employee Pay	Ratio of both
1	Fleetcor Technologies Inc	Ronald F. Clarke	\$52,643,810	\$34,700	1517
2	Oracle Corp.*	Mark V. Hurd/Safra Catz	\$81,562,244	\$89,887	907
3	Broadcom, Inc.	Hock Tan	\$103,211,163	NA	NA
4	Mondelez International, Inc.	Dirk Van de Put	\$42,442,924	\$42,893	990
5	Wynn Resorts Ltd.	Stephen Wynn	\$34,522,695	\$44,437	777
6	The Walt Disney Co.*	Robert Iger	\$36,283,680	\$46,127	787
7	TransDigm Group, Inc.*	W. Nicholas Howley	\$61,023,102	\$46,742	1306
8	American International Group, Inc.	Brian Duperreault	\$43,086,861	\$64,186	671
9	Mattel, Inc.	Margaret H. Georgiadis	\$31,275,289	\$6,271	4987

					1531
10	CSX Corp.	E. Hunter Harrison	\$151,147,286	\$98,697	
11	Discovery, Inc.*	David M. Zaslav	\$42,247,984	\$80,858	522
12	TripAdvisor, Inc.	Stephen Kaufer	\$47,933,462	\$99,643	481
13	Fidelity National Information Services, Inc.	Gary A. Norcross	\$29,141,610	\$44,556	654
14	Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	James Cracchiolo	\$23,900,309	\$107,082	223
15	Ventas, Inc.	Debra A. Cafaro	\$25,254,607	\$88,630	285
16	Halliburton Co.	Jeffrey A. Miller	\$23,078,364	\$79,636	290
17	Expedia Group, Inc.	Mark D Okerstrom	\$30,720,457	\$71,696	428
18	Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Leonard S. Schleifer	\$26,508,058	\$123,418	215
19	Jefferies Financial Group, Inc.	Richard B. Handler	\$21,787,285	\$44,584	489
20	IQVIA Holdings, Inc.	Ari Bousbib	\$38,029,517	\$97,997	388
21	Comcast Corp.	Brian Roberts	\$32,520,224	\$71,006	458
22	Allergan Plc	Brenton Saunders	\$32,827,626	\$94,064	349
23	Schlumberger NV	Paal Kibsgaard	\$20,759,340	\$88,604	234
24	Netflix, Inc.	Reed Hastings	\$24,377,499	\$183,304	133
25	AT&T, Inc	Randall Stephenson	\$ 28,720, 720	\$ 78,437	366

This is NOT a call for revolution, because things of that nature will NEVER occur here in America.

Sadly, the only such *upheaval* would most likely be one of a Neo Fascist element. Look at the appeal that the Trump phenomena had four years ago and even NOW to understand the mindset of such a right wing cultural shift.

No, our nation is still meandering around from the successful 'Dumbing Down' that our educational system has experienced for over 40 or 50 years. The Super Rich achieved so much from the time of Reagan right up to now. They say, from the Left thinkers I admire, that politics does not get things done; only mass movements in the streets can cause change. Well, how about both actions working together?

A) A shift away, finally, from both phony political parties into a new and viable 3rd party for we socialists/progressives;

B) Outside the offices of our elected officials and on the street corners we need NON Violent demonstrations, demanding a UBI NOW, repeated weekly for as long as it takes to wake up our sleeping politicians and neighbors. Plus, writers and public figures who support UBI should get on any such airwaves as possible to continually educate others on what needs be done. This will be, once the current pandemic ceases a bit, a time for action to level the playing fields of our economy. WE working stiffs are, in reality, in this together... whether some out there like it or not!!

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