

MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM 2 • 49

(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

Background Briefing: As the political battles heat up, there is a push to redistribute wealth in America. Your briefing provides new facts as it relates to what is really happening to America economically. The answer is not to redistribute wealth, but to redistribute opportunity.

"The one area where the Democratic Socialists do get it right is that wealth disparity has worsened and present trends are unsustainable. We agree on the problem, but we absolutely disagree on the solution. Socialism does not solve the problems of unequal prosperity. It just makes it possible to share poverty equitably. And that should never be



the goal. The problem is that in recent years we've not seen uniform income gains. The rich have gotten richer. But the poor and middle class haven't seen much progress." –Kevin Freeman, CFA

Your Mission: To help solve the wealth gap taking place in America today; to destroy the false premise of Democratic Socialism; and to educate others on the potential ahead if we win this battle and keep a moral compass.



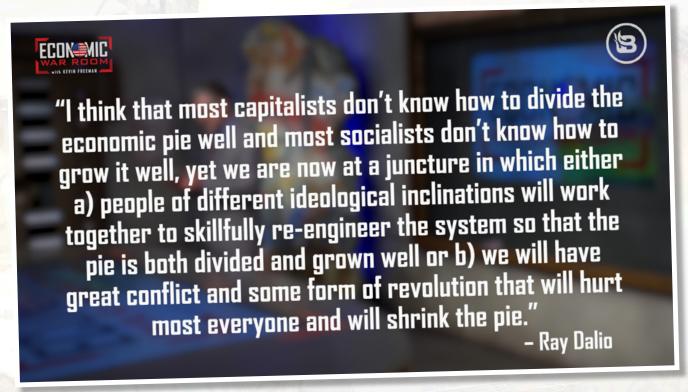
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(OSINT) - Open Sourced Intelligence Briefing

Open Sourced Intelligence Briefing with highlights. This includes quotes and summaries of conversations in the Economic War Room with Kevin Freeman.

Why and How Capitalism Needs to be Reformed:



- 1. The Problem: There is a wealth disparity gap.
 - We have not seen uniform income gains. The rich got richer, but the poor and middle class haven't seen much progress.

People's Policy Project analysis of Federal Reserve data: "Over the past 20 years the wealthiest 1% in America have seen their wealth grow from \$8.4 trillion in 1989 to \$29.5 trillion.



MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM $2 \cdot 49$

But the bottom 50% in America have watched their combined \$700 billion wealth disappear and they now combined owe \$200 billion more than they are worth. This is unsustainable."

- 2. The Political Reaction: Socialism Builds Momentum but Delivers Disaster.
 - Socialism indoctrination is happening in the schools. A growing segment of the population now thinks Capitalism is unfair.
 - The Media has embraced socialism.
 - The gains of capitalism have been uneven and wealth disparity has grown dramatically.
 - Those pushing socialism promise "fairness" while playing up class warfare.

The stated goal is to provide "free college," "Medicare for all," "Universal Basic Income," and to generally "share the wealth." Socialists promote a "Green New Deal" that would certainly bankrupt our nation with a \$93 trillion price tag.

- No one proposing this stuff looks at the costs. One recent climate proposal sounded good but would cost average families an additional \$75,000 per year—more than the average family earns.
- The promises sound good and fair, but the reality would be a disaster.
- And, it can get ugly, where some people want to see others hurt just to make things "fair."
- 3. The Facts: The Advent of Capitalism has done more to alleviate extreme poverty than anything else in history.

"Not all of us are rich yet. Of course, a billion or so people on the planet drag along on the equivalent of three dollars a day or less."

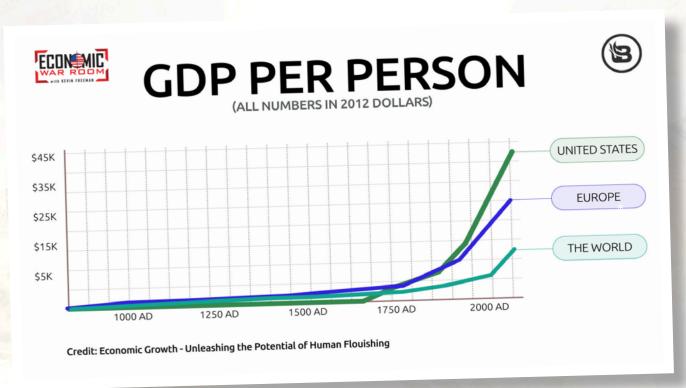
-Deidre McCloskey in The New York Times



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• In the 1800s, almost everybody lived on almost nothing. Then, all of a sudden you can clearly see a shift. It is the Great Enrichment which came with the introduction of free markets.



From The New York Times:

- "Not all of us are rich yet, of course. A billion or so people on the planet drag along on the equivalent of \$3 a day or less. But as recently as 1800, almost everybody did. The Great Enrichment began in 17th-century Holland. By the 18th century, it had moved to England, Scotland and the American colonies, and now it has spread to much of the rest of the world.
- Economists and historians agree on its startling magnitude: By 2010, the average daily income in a wide range of countries, including Japan, the United States, Botswana and Brazil, had soared 1,000 to 3,000 percent over the levels of 1800. People moved from tents and mud huts to split-levels and city



MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM 2 • 49

(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

condominiums, from waterborne diseases to 80-year life spans, from ignorance to literacy. What, then, caused this Great Enrichment?

- Not exploitation of the poor, not investment, not existing institutions, but a mere idea, which the philosopher and economist Adam Smith called "the liberal plan of equality, liberty and justice." In a word, it was liberalism, in the free-market European sense. Give masses of ordinary people equality before the law and equality of social dignity, and leave them alone, and it turns out that they become extraordinarily creative and energetic."

The Great Enrichment Defined - The philosopher and economist Adam Smith called this the liberal plan of equality, liberty and justice. In a word, it was liberalism in the free market.

How the Great Enrichment Transformed Lives:

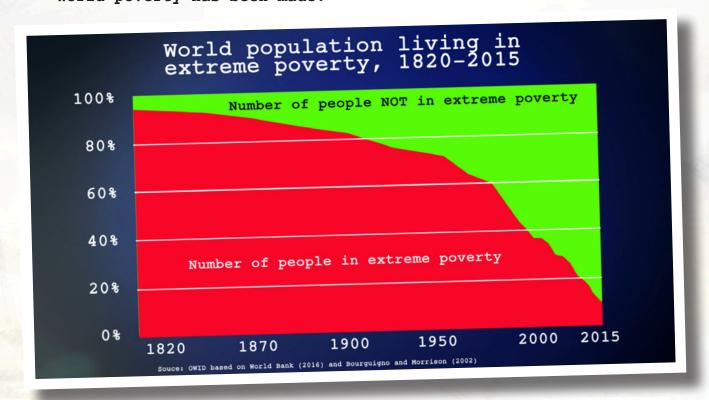
- The average daily income in a wide variety
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- People moved from tents and mud huts to split levels and city condominiums from waterborne diseases to 80 year lifespans, from ignorance to literacy.



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4. Free markets work! The numbers do not lie, great progress against world poverty has been made.



- Poverty began to decline in the late 18th century, just after 1776 when Adam Smith wrote his book on the <u>Wealth of Nations</u> and the American experiment began.
- It is no coincidence that America has led the world in economic productivity, rising from a fledgling nation to economic powerhouse in a relatively short period of time.
- For most of the past two and one-half centuries, America has been the leading advocate of free-market capitalism.
- The greater the freedom, the greater the prosperity.



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(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

5. The Problem and Causes - The wealth trendline has shifted backward today.

Why have things have gone backwards over the past 20 or 30 years? Raymond Dalio offers his view. Dalio is an American billionaire investor, hedge fund manager, and philanthropist. Dalio is the founder of investment firm Bridgewater Associates, one of the world's largest hedge funds. Bloomberg ranked him as the world's 58th wealthiest person in June 2019. (Wiki)

Dalio suggests first that man/labor was replaced by machines and innovation. This, he suggests benefits capital over labor.

1) "The pursuit of profit and greater efficiencies has led to the invention of new technologies that replace people, which has made companies run more efficiently, rewarded those who invented in these technologies, and hurt those who were replaced by them. This force will accelerate over the next several years, and there is no plan to deal with it well."

Second, Dalio states that while we have benefited from cheaper foreign goods as consumers, American companies and workers that compete with the foreign companies have been hard hit.

2) "The pursuit of greater profits and greater company efficiencies has also led companies to produce in other countries and to replace American workers with cost-effective foreign workers, which was good for these companies' profits and efficiencies, but bad for the American workers' incomes. Of course, this globalization also allowed less expensive and perhaps betterquality foreign goods to come into the US, which has been good for both the foreign sellers and the American buyers of them and bad for the American companies and workers who compete with them."

The bottom line: The share of revenue that has gone to profits has increased, relative to the share that has gone to the worker.



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This benefited corporate profits and came at the expense of American workers' incomes.

Regarding the 2nd point above, American prosperity has even blessed nations around the world.

- 1) Sometimes it is because global free trade benefits everybody.
- 2) Other times it's due to unfair trade practices, IP theft, and unrestricted warfare. All of this has been waged against American industry, and basically siphoning our prosperity.
- 6. The Solution: America needs to return to true free markets and redistribute opportunity, not wealth!
 - 4 Key Points to Remember and Share-

Why Wealth Redistribution is Flawed:

- a) Wealth redistribution is deeply flawed as a concept because it destroys the incentive to create wealth.
- b) The real flaw in the system is that those with wealth tend to horde the opportunity and the societal institutions support that flaw.
- c) We have built a massive regulatory structure that inhibits opportunity.
- d) The net result is that people are substantially poorer than they otherwise should be. One estimate is that the average family is 75% poorer.

Regulation denies opportunity, and that is the biggest cause of wealth disparity.

"The growth of federal regulations over the past six decades has cut U.S. economic growth by an average of two percentage points per year, according to a new study in the *Journal of Economic*



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Growth. As a result, the average American household receives about \$277,000 less each year than it would have gotten in the absence of six decades of accumulated regulations— a medium household income of \$330,000 dollars instead of the \$53,000 we get now.."

-Reason Magazine



ALERT: You just lost \$277,000 this year thanks to excessive Government Regulation. (This is not a typo! That's what the study suggests.)

Regulation and Wealth Equality- A Brief Summary:

How can we possibly solve wealth inequality when we put so much complexity and so many regulatory barriers in front of people starting a new business?

 Regulatory barriers not only hurt the initial entrepreneur but also destroy the next tier willing to work for them who would also reap the benefits of a successful startup. (Think Microsoft Millionaires / Dell Computer Millionaires and other successful growth companies)

BUSINESS CASE STUDY EXAMPLE- REGULATION AND THE HAIR CARE INDUSTRY THE HAIR BRAIDING STORY AND HOW REGULATION REDUCES COMPETITION:

African hair braiding is a natural process of caring for hair that does not require scissors, heat, or chemicals. Yet, despite its substantial differences from cosmetology, 16 states still force African hair braiders to go through onerous, time-consuming cosmetology training programs. Getting a cosmetology license takes between 1,000 and 2,100 hours to complete and costs thousands of dollars. —Reason Magazine



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7. Barriers to Redistributing American Opportunity

To Redistribute Opportunity, America Needs to Address These Core Areas:

- a) Regulation
- b) The Nanny State
- c) Crony Capitalism and Lawfare
- d) The Rigged Progressive Tax System
- e) Lack of Focus on Entrepreneurialism/Innovation (instead we have been only shoving people into the work force)
- f) Management of Degree Inflation and College Cost
- g) Investment Opportunities open to everyone with the proper financial advisor

Listed below is a brief overview of each topic.

a) Regulation is clearly a Problem

Often times, excess regulation is what denies opportunity and becomes the biggest cause of wealth disparity. The median family income should be over \$300,000. If it were, we wouldn't be worried about inequality.

b) Nanny State and Crony Capitalism

- It is no coincidence that the freest economies tend to be the best performing. Freedom begets opportunity and opportunity creates prosperity. This is seen over and over throughout history. The problem is that the wealthy class tend to create a "nanny state" that sounds good but stifles opportunity.

Witness billionaire Michael Bloomberg and his desire to limit soda sizes for the masses. As the Mayor of New York, he wanted the nanny state to tell you just how much soda you were allowed to drink.



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Besides thinking they should tell you how to live your life, the "haves" tend to create regulatory and licensing barriers that block access to those outside their club. This is a component of crony capitalism and a major contributor to the wealth disparity.

c) Cronyism

- It's not just our businesses eliminating competition. We also see foreign powers seeking to influence laws and regulations to their benefit and at our expense. Remember, what we see as a marketplace, our enemies see as a battle space.™ So, Russia will lobby to stop our energy development to benefit their own industry. China will hire lobbyists to block mergers or promote their companies over ours. This is economic warfare.

d) The So-Called "Progressive Tax System"

- Even this is rigged to the extent that the wealthy can hire high-end accountants and lawyers to minimize taxation, while the rest of America essentially pays retail.

Let's not kid ourselves, though. The wealthy do pay a very large percentage of the overall tax pie.





MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM 2 • 49

(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

- Too few people pay any real amount other than payroll taxes.

The goal should be for average Americans to pay more but only because they are making much, much more.

"The goal should be for average Americans to pay more in taxes but only because they are making much more money."

-Kevin Freeman

CASE STUDY ON PROGRESSIVE TAXES - Remember when Warren Buffet says he believes he should pay more taxes?

Beware of the "secret code" when wealthy people appear to demand greater taxation on themselves. This is more about perception than reality. Ultimately, the effort just increases taxes and reduces opportunity for middle America.

- It is offensive when wealthy people get together and demand greater taxation on the wealthy.
- They know that even aggressive tax proposals will do little to diminish their position. What will happen instead is that they will feel good about themselves while erecting barriers that keep the rest of America from similar success.

"Hey Wealthy People: Forget The Forced Wealth Tax Proposal And Pay More Voluntarily If You Think It Is Such A Good Idea!"

There is nothing that prevents Warren Buffet from giving billions to the U.S. treasury if he wants to do that. He can get all his buddies together and they can pay down the deficit."

-Kevin Freeman



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- e) A focus on Entrepreneurialism/Innovation/Investor Ownership (vs. shoving people into the work force)
 - Rather than redistributing the pie, let's give everyone a chance to grow the pie including their own piece of it. While improving labor skills is useful, to accomplish a growing pie for everyone will require that we find ways to help more individuals become entrepreneurs and investors.
 - Unfortunately, our system is geared to shoving people into the workforce rather than teaching entrepreneurship, investments, and ownership.
- f) Management of degree inflation and college cost.— If you thought the cost were too high, now there is degree inflation!
 - We push for everyone to go to college to get a better job. But Michael Dell, Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and <u>quite a few others</u> have done pretty well without a college degree.
 - Do we really think that universal free college is the answer? Think about it. If everyone has a college degree what will that be worth? Workers will simply be more highly educated in their competition with one another and this will make wealth disparity worse, not better even if college is "FREE."
 - If college costs were not already bad enough, now we have degree inflation which makes the value of an education even less.

"In a comprehensive October 2017 report, researchers from Harvard Business School documented extensive evidence of increasing 'degree inflation,' with employers demanding baccalaureate degrees for middle-skill jobs that previously did not require one, and for which the work duties have not changed. In fact, 61% of employers surveyed admitted to rejecting applicants with the requisite skills and experience simply because they lacked a college degree. Researchers calculated that this affected an estimated 6.2 million jobs across dozens of industries." —National Affairs Article



MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM 2 • 49

(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

- g) Regulations need to change that block/ hinder aspiring investors. In fact, the cream of investment gains are reserved for the wealthy by law.
 - The US does not allow non-accredited investors to take risky pieces of potentially high-reward opportunities.
 - As the financial reporting regulations for public stocks (those listed on the stock exchanges) have become more onerous, the great wealth engines have shifted to private equity for capital.
 - This means that the early and huge gains are gone before an average investor gets a chance to participate.
 - Prime examples are the so-called unicorns like Uber and AirBnB. These are great ideas and eventually they become public. But the huge gains are often gone by then.
 - The extremely wealthy and their venture capitalists and private equity funds have absorbed the big win before the public offering.
 - Uber was just an idea 10 years ago. It was valued at \$75 billion when it went public. Only insiders and the wealthy had a shot at this great idea and the huge gains when it started. When it went public at \$45/share, the cream was gone and the share prices promptly dropped almost 10%. Rich got richer, poor got poorer.

"Those amazing gains seem to be reserved by law for the elite. Average investors are not allowed to take private equity stakes. They are excluded from venture capital and private equity to a large extent." _Kevin Freeman

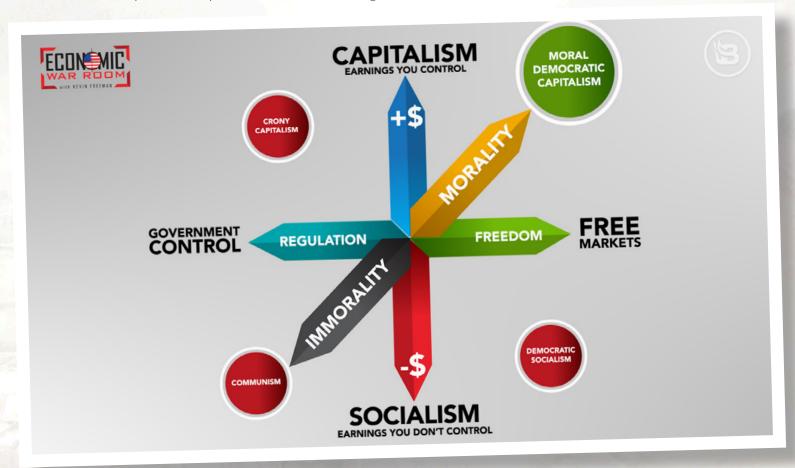


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8. Moral Democratic Capitalism is the best answer to wealth inequality.

We (America) need to make it possible for others to advance!



The chart above indicates free markets on the right and government control on the left, with capitalism on the upper half and socialism on the bottom half. There are four possible quadrants each representing an economic system.

The horizontal axis shows how you earn money, whether you have high degrees of freedom (right side) or lots of regulation (left side). The vertical axis shows who controls the money you earn, whether you get to keep your money (upper half) or it gets redistributed by the state (lower half).

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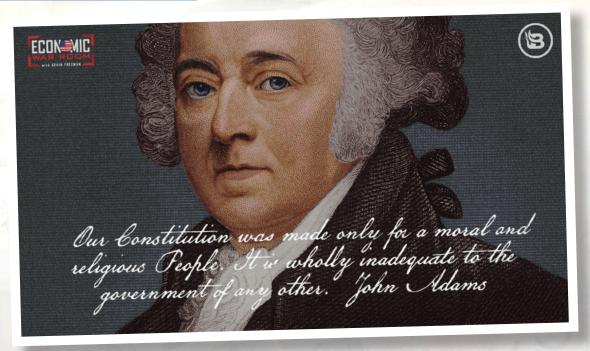
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In the lower left, you have state-dominated socialism which is really full-blown communism. In the lower right, you have socalled Democratic Socialism where you are free to earn, but it is taxed away for sharing. In the upper left, you have crony capitalism where the business and state work together to control what you can earn, but you keep what you are able to get. The best system is Democratic (or Free-Market) Capitalism. Everyone has opportunity. People get rewarded for their hard work. That was the intention of the limited government established under our U.S. Constitution.

9. The one and only thing that will ensure success!

But we must not forget the warning of our nation's <u>second</u>
President, John Adams:



It is fair to say that the first capitalist, Adam Smith, believed that morality is essential to successful capitalism.

• With Democratic Capitalism, some people will seek personal wealth regardless of societal cost.



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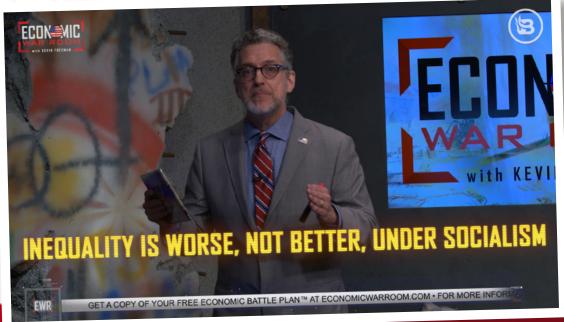
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- There are examples where too little regulation allows for people to profit from excessive pollution.
- There are also examples where investors will seek profits by selling out national security.

In other words, there is a point where there is too little regulation. That is no doubt true. We all need basic societal rules to provide for clean water and clean air, basic safety and health provisions, and a sound legal structure.

The balance actually comes from a moral compass. The missing ingredient is teaching right from wrong, especially in a Judeo-Christian, Western-Civilization sense. The key is to follow the Constitution because it has the balance we need IF we do so in a moral fashion. The Constitution was the founding document for the most successful nation in the history of the earth.

Religion and morality can serve as a governor to stop the exploitation of society or traitorous behavior. When people truly follow the tenants of the Judeo-Christian faith, the 10 Commandments, loving your neighbor, and the Golden Rule, the risks of exploitation are eliminated. In addition, people become very generous which further reduces wealth inequality. People give from cheerful hearts, not compulsion. That is the work of the Holy Spirit.





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(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

Why You Should Care:

- Inequality will be made worse, not better under socialism. The answer is more freedom and free markets in a moral framework. We need to give equal opportunity rather than equality of outcome.
- Capitalism and free markets have done more to impact world poverty than anything else. Democratic Socialism is a threat to not only your lifestyle but the world as we know it.
- There are simple concepts that can significantly grow wealth for all. Understanding and addressing those issues that hurt the average American is important.
- Capitalism and morality need to work together. There is a way to increase wealth for all if we focus on doing the right and just things.



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(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

In the Economic War Room, we encourage Americans to be the "small ships that make the difference." You cannot rely on the government or the President to solve your problems. You have to make a difference. It is up to you to help take our country back.

Economic Patriot Action Plan

Action Steps:

Step 1: Rather than redistributing the pie, let's give everyone a chance to grow the pie including their own piece of it. While improving labor skills is useful, to accomplish a growing pie for everyone we must find ways to help individuals become entrepreneurs and investors.

Step 2: Support Government leadership and your representatives to persist on reducing regulations and increase free market opportunities. Forward this battle plan to them with a note encouraging them to review and support fewer regulations.

Step 3: We are in what we hope are the early innings of a genuine regulatory rollback. The Trump Administration has been slicing and dicing the excessive regulatory buildup that accelerated during the Obama terms. There is a renewed push to help young entrepreneurs learn the ropes. Encourage President Trump and other representatives to keep cutting regulations and driving new business development.

Reducing regulation combined with enhancing opportunity for both entrepreneurs and investors would greatly level the playing field. Supporting emerging businesses among the middle and lower classes would be far better than redistributing wealth. The solution to the inequities of capitalism is not socialism but rather more opportunity for capitalism.



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(ECONOMIC BATTLE PLANT POINTS: 100)

Step 4: Remember the 4 key flaws of wealth redistribution

- Wealth redistribution is deeply flawed as a concept because it destroys the incentive to create wealth.
- The real flaw in the system is that those with wealth tend to horde the opportunity and the societal institutions support that flaw.
- We have built a massive regulatory structure that inhibits opportunity.
- The net result is that people are substantially poorer than they otherwise should be. One estimate is that the average family is 75% poorer.

Step 5: On the investor front, The SEC has floated a proposal that would allow regular investors, working alongside a qualified advisor, to invest in deals previously limited to those deemed "accredited." This would be huge as it would allow average investors to join with others and invest in emerging companies. Reducing the regulatory red tape would open opportunities for both investors and entrepreneurs. Support this initiative with your representatives.

Step 6: If you have a financial advisor and you want him or her to be on the cutting edge of new investment opportunities, go to EconomicWarRoom.com/ADVISOR and give us their name and contact information. We are building a list of America's top financial advisors so we can work together to promote moral democratic capitalism for all.

Step 7: Share this battle plan with other patriotic Americans and your congressional representatives.

Look for ways you can mobilize or weaponize your money toward things that strengthen America. Nominate your financial advisor for our National Security Investment Consultant Institute (NSIC) classes at EconomicWarRoom.com/advisor.



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We need more Economic Patriots on the team! Consider what can you do now to help strengthen America or even help someone in need. Keep in touch with your congressional representatives. Choose from the list or set your own goals:

Get others to sign up at Economic Battle Plans™. Each of these will address critical solutions to the threats highlighted on this briefing.

Subscribe to our weekly <u>Economic War Room show on TheBlaze</u>. We need to break the digital ghetto that is limiting free speech regarding truth and liberty.

Follow, like, comment and share on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. We recognize these tools may be compromised at times, but when they are not filtered, they can be major platforms available to reach out to the public.

Share this Economic Battle Plan™ and our short video segments on Facebook or YouTube with friends. We set up the Economic War Room to be your resource for information, preparation, and mobilization.

Think about ways you can mobilize or weaponize your money towards things that strengthen American. This can be through charitable giving, spending, or investments.



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SHAREABLE QUOTE:

(share this quote with your friends or at the office)

"Socialism does not solve the problems of unequal prosperity; it just makes it possible to share poverty equitably. And that should never be the goal."

-Kevin Freeman

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From Kevin Freeman

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Why Capitalism Needs Reform

Costs and Failures of Socialism

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The Need for Moral Democratic Capitalism

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[+] Link to all Battle Plans

https://www.economicwarroom.com/battleplans

WHY CAPITALISM NEEDS REFORM

Why and How Capitalism Needs to Be Reformed (Parts 1 & 2) https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/why-how-capitalism-needs-reformed-parts-1-2-ray-dalio/

[+] Ray Dalio Is Kinda, Sorta, Really Wrong

https://www.mauldineconomics.com/frontlinethoughts/ray-dalio-is-kinda-sorta-really-wrong/

Ray Dalio says wealth inequality is a national emergency https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ray-dalio-capitalism-needs-reform-wealth-inequality-is-a-national-emergency-60-minutes-2019-07-28/



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[+] America's Wealth Inequality Is At Roaring Twenties Levels
https://www.forbes.com/sites/jessecolombo/2019/02/28/americas-wealth-inequality-is-at-roaring-twenties-levels/#3e9c178d2a9c

Wealth Inequality in America: A Race Between the Stock and the Housing Market https://promarket.org/wealth-inequality-in-america-race-between-the-stock-and-the-housing-market/

Rich get richer, everyone else not so much in record U.S. expansion https://www.thewealthadvisor.com/article/rich-get-richer-everyone-else-not-so-much-record-us-expansion

Top 1% Up \$21 Trillion. Bottom 50% Down \$900 Billion.

https://www.peoplespolicyproject.org/2019/06/14/top-1-up-21-trillion-bottom-50-down-900-billion

COSTS AND FAILURES OF SOCIALISM

Analysis: Dem Candidates Call For More Than \$200 Trillion in Spending
https://freebeacon.com/politics/analysis-dem-candidates-call-for-more-than-200trillion-in-spending/

[+] Inslee's Ludicrous Climate Plan Would Cost US Households \$75,000 https://m.theepochtimes.com/inslees-ludicrous-climate-plan-would-cost-u-s-households-75000 2981717.html

Medicare for All, Taxes for All <a href="https://www.advisorperspectives.com/articles/2019/07/15/medicare-for-all-taxes-for-all-

'Damn socialism, why are you chasing me?' Chinese-Americans see ghost of communism in Democrats' leftward turn

https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/damn-socialism-why-are-you-chasing-me-chinese-americans-see-ghost-of-communism-in-democrats-leftward-turn

In a United Nations Report, a Socialist Details Venezuela's Horrors
https://www.independent.org/news/article.asp?id=12862

Socialism And The Welfare State In Nordic Nations
https://finance.townhall.com/columnists/danieljmitchell/2019/07/16/socialism-and-the-welfare-state-in-nordic-nations-n2550121

Legendary Soviet Dissident: We Need to Put Communism on Trial https://theepochtimes.com/legendary-soviet-dissident-we-need-to-put-communism-on-trial 2995151.html



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Is Teen Vogue Teaching Your Daughter Marxism and Revolution?
https://theepochtimes.com/is-teen-vogue-teaching-your-daughter-marxism-and-revolution 2900457.html

[+] Long Lunch Break: France Pays €1 Million a Year to 'Ghost' Civil Servants Who Don't Have Jobs

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MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM $2 \cdot 49$

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MORAL DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM $2 \cdot 49$

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