



INEQUALITY

MIND BLOWING FACTS ABOUT INEQUALITY TO DROP AT YOUR NEXT DINNER PARTY

HOW UNEQUAL?

- Inequality stands in the way of eradicating poverty. In a world where **1 in 9 people go to bed hungry every night** and when **1 in 10 people are struggling to survive on less than \$2 a day**, it is obscene that so much wealth is held in the hands of just 8 men.
- The vast majority of the **poorest half of humanity (3.6 billion people) live in developing countries**. Approximately 70% of this group live in low income countries, where there are still **more than 700 million people living below the extreme poverty line**. Just 1% of this group live in North America and 8% live in Europe.

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

- **Inequality is the result of specific policy choices of governments** – unfair tax systems that don't make the richest pay their fair share, a lack of living wages for workers, and the privatisation of essential services like health and education.
- There is an **enormous gap between a privileged elite and the rest of us**. Broken economies are allowing multinationals and the super-rich to accumulate vast amounts of money at the expense of the rest of us, particularly the poorest in society.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

- **Extreme inequality is trapping hundreds of millions in poverty**, fracturing our societies and undermining democracy. Multinationals and the super-rich dodge tax laws the rest of us abide by, and use their wealth and power to spend billions lobbying government to write their rules in their favour.
- **Inequality is undermining our democracies**. People across the globe are losing faith in our political system because governments put the demands of multinationals and the super-rich over the needs of their own citizens. Not only that, extreme inequality is destabilising our economies, too.



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HOW ARE WOMEN IMPACTED?

- **It will take 170 years for women to be paid the same as men.** The growing barriers between super-rich and the poorest is interlinked with gender inequality, and must be tackled together.
- **Women experience high levels of economic discrimination,** work in the lowest paid jobs and take on the lion's share of unpaid domestic work. **This is not an accident;** our current economic system depends on this supply of cheap or free labour.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- **Inequality *can* be reduced.** The right political choices and government policy can reverse economic inequality. A new common sense approach to managing our economies is needed so that they **work for everyone and not just the fortunate few.**
- If **Governments focus on delivering for all their citizens** they can build a better future for everyone. A future where success is achieved through talent and hard work – and not privilege, where everyone can earn a decent living for a decent day's work, where all people have access to basic services, and where we can all enjoy living in a safer, more secure world.
- **Governments should work together** (rather than competing) to ensure workers are paid a decent wage, to stop multinational tax dodging and the damaging race to the bottom on corporate tax, to support companies that benefit their workers and society – rather than just their shareholders, and work to dismantle the barriers to women's economic progress.

Our economy must stop excessively rewarding those at the top and start working for all people. Together, we can call on governments to change policy to make wealth more evenly distributed.

Are you as angry about these stats as we are? Here are three easy ways to let people know.

1. Spread the word on Facebook that 8 billionaires own the same wealth as poorest half the world.

 **SHARE**

2. Forward this to a friend
3. No need to save these truths for dinner parties – drop them whenever you're chatting to people be it breakfast, lunch or tea. Together, we can create a more equal world.



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