

Study tells us what we already knew

So, tell us something we don't know.

A recent, long-overdue, it's-about-time, no-kidding Federal Reserve Board study found that America's rich got richer during the 1980s, while the middle class stagnated and the poor fell deeper into the economic black hole.

The net worth of rich American families (those earning over \$50,000 per year) went from \$176,100 in 1983 to \$185,600 in 1986. The average poor family (earning under \$10,000) saw its net worth fall from \$3,800 to \$2,300. Middle-class family worth hovered around \$36,950.

The study attributed the rise of the rich to high interest rates paid on investments, the stock market boom and the increase in home prices.

Funny thing. Nowhere did it mention Bush's continuation of Reagan's "Voodoo economics," an array of rich-and-famous pedestaled tax breaks and policies that failed to die even after a bigger-than-big deficit and ever-denied recession bared their weaknesses.

Nor did it mention the fact that America is no longer an isolated economic entity. Now part of the world labor market, our Mr. and Ms. Financial Bigs get paid mucho dinero, while those in the mid- to lower-income brackets settle for less wages and vie with growing numbers of people willing to work for next to nothing.

The fall in the net worth of America's poor brings attention to one of the biggest chinks in this country's armor. Sixty percent of those falling below the Census Bureau's poverty line are part of families with at least one employed member. With the number of impoverished people working full time, year round, rising 43 percent between 1978 and 1987, a job in America no longer promises enough to get by on.

The Fed's report only restates the obvious: The distribution of wealth has gotten dangerously off balance in this country. Because what goes around comes around, something needs to be done to equalize this situation, or else we may soon collapse under our own lopsided weight.



LETTERS

Editor's note:
Letters submitted fall term will not be run unless they are re-submitted to the editorial desk of the *Emerald*, Suite 300, EMU.

Real kick

Oh that Shep, what a hoot!

You mean you don't know what I'm talking about? Well, for those Neanderthals out there who aren't in the know, last December 9th Neal Skorpen, in a stroke of genius, unwittingly created what might possibly be the greatest cartoon character in the history of comics, a virtual Barney Google for the '90s.

This character goes by no other name than Shep Adler. Shep's kooky antics left me in stitches and begging for more.

I, along with all of my friends, humbly beg of Neal Skorpen to make that Shep a regular character in his comic strip so we can follow his wacky misadventures from week to week.

Shep Adler is someone that I along with many others can really identify with, and aside from all that, he's a real kick in the pants.

So come on Neal and ride that rocket ship called Shep all the way to stardom. There's an untapped keg of Shep-mania waiting to fill your deserving cup!

Abe Hepner
Student

Slogans

Addressing the "issues" raised by the letter "How Long" (*ODE*, Jan. 7) through the "logic" and "research" expressed within said letter by

"OCA Research Director (of what she is researching none may say) Patricia Smith ..."

How long will supposedly intelligent adults sit back and allow Lon Mabon, Patricia Smith, and the video "Gay Pride" to preach the lies of hatred and bigotry to our children and teens?

Most OCA supporters have (somehow) passed fourth grade sentence diagramming. When we dissect the sentence, "No Special Rights" (for the uniformed, this is the name of the current hate campaign spearheaded by the OCA), according to the rules established by Patricia Smith's letter, here is what we find: No [Statement to the Negative] Special (adjective) Rights (Plural Noun).

What happens when we remove the adjective? We are left with "No Rights" — just what the OCA has been preaching since its creation with its fear-inducing programs. And now the AIDS crisis presents a perfect platform to step up the "hate your brother/sister and here's how" rhetoric.

We should all be a little frightened with the fact that Lon Mabon and his cohorts can so readily grab a two-word slogan and run with it, before counting the cost to our children and society.

Den Elms
Student

Avoidance

The *Oregonian* and *Register-Guard* Newspapers' owners, editors, and lawyers stone-walling of news concerning Oregon State Bar Members' perversions of our Judicial Branch of Government flies in the face of their crowed-about *U.S. Constitutional Amendment One* "freedom of the press rights."

For five years I've suffered lawyers' and the press' arrogance of powers, as the former hides behind mindless avoidance tactics, such as "mooting" issues, that they purposely delayed, and the later, hides behind the fact that their editors lack judicial experience, and would rather rely on their biased lawyers' judgment to kill a story, then allow a news story of judicial abuses of the public trust!

Today the media is avoiding pending court cases, which will never be brought again, due to time and money costs, about Oregon State and Appellant Courts' refusals to apply the law to the facts in *State vs. Chase* CA A66233; and *State vs. Chase vs. Feldman* CA A66370, which challenge lawyers, prosecutors, and judges and *Oregon Constitution Article Seven Section Six* "Incompetency and Malfeasance and Corruption."

Today the media refuses to tell of Federal Courts contrary to law FRCP 12b(1)(6) Dismissal of a Declaratory Judgment; Injunctive Relief case, that only required the Court to say if Oregon Appellant court's denials of indigent Counsels and Oral Argument rights, was *U.S. Constitutional Article 6 Paragraph 2 and 3; Amendments 1; 5; 6 and 14(1)* repugnant or not?

And the media finds nothing wrong with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals double-talking affirmation of said dismissal, by biased judges, who further prohibited "publication or citation" of the dismissal. And ordered Chase be denied further court use! (sic)

Norman Keith Chase
Eugene

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