

# LAW & JUSTICE

## Gap between Rich and Poor Widens Minorities hurt most by economic downturn

(AP)—The wealth gaps between whites and minorities have grown to their widest levels in a quarter-century. The recession and uneven recovery have erased decades of minority gains, leaving whites on average with 20 times the net worth of blacks and 18 times that of Hispanics, according to an analysis of new Census data.

The analysis shows the racial and ethnic impact of the economic meltdown, which ravaged housing values and sent unemployment soaring. It offers the most direct government evidence yet of the disparity between predominantly younger

minorities whose main asset is their home and older whites who are more likely to have 401(k) retirement accounts or other stock holdings.

"What's pushing the wealth of whites is the rebound in the stock market and corporate savings, while younger Hispanics and African-Americans who bought homes in the last decade — because that was the American dream — are seeing big declines," said Timothy Smeeding, a University of Wisconsin-Madison professor who specializes in income inequality.

The median wealth of white U.S. households in 2009 was \$113,149,

compared with \$6,325 for Hispanics and \$5,677 for blacks, according to the analysis released Tuesday by the Pew Research Center. Those ratios, roughly 20 to 1 for blacks and 18 to 1 for Hispanics, far exceed the low mark of 7 to 1 for both groups reached in 1995, when the nation's economic expansion lifted many low-income groups to the middle class.

Across all race and ethnic groups, the wealth gap between rich and poor widened. The share of wealth held by the top 10 percent of U.S. households increased from 49 percent in 2005 to 56 percent in 2009.

## A Voice for Nonviolence

Activist to talk about the costs of war

International peace activist Kathy Kelly will address her eyewitness work in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq on Friday, Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Moriarty Arts Building auditorium at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth.

Kelly is the co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, a campaign to end U.S. military and economic warfare.

She traveled to Afghanistan three times in 2010, working closely with the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers in search of non-



Kathy Kelly

military solutions to end the war.

With increasing calls for the troops to come home from Afghanistan, a looming deadline to withdraw from Iraq in December, and drone attacks in Pakistan reported at a rate of about twice weekly, Kelly's appearance promises to be informative and transformative.

The talk is free and open to the public. It is being organized by Peace and Justice Works and the Iraq Affinity Group and is co-sponsored by the PCC Peace and Conflict Studies Program, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom-Portland, Voices for Creative Nonviolence Peace Action West, and KBOO Community Radio 90.7 FM.

### Attention Small Business Owners

Do you want the computer skills that can help you:

- Create and manage your own website
- Reduce your costs
- Improve your sales

We offer computer training and technical support to teach you the valuable and practical skills you need to run your business more effectively

Call or email us today to get started!

(503) 621-6368

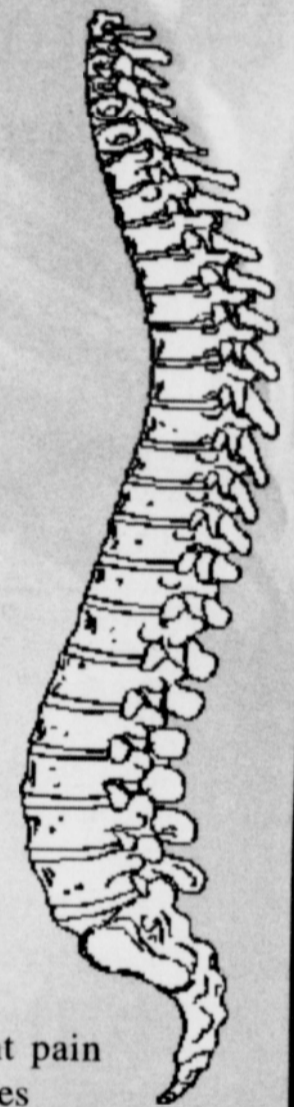
info@LB3ComputingSolutions.com

**LB3** Computing Solutions  
"Making Sense of IT All"

## Your Care Our First Priority



**Dr. Marcelitte  
Failla**  
Chiropractic  
Physician



We are located at  
**1716 N.E. 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave.**  
**Portland, OR 97213**  
(Between Broadway and Sandy Blvd.)



- Automobile accident injuries
- Chronic headache and joint pain
- Workers Compensation injuries

Call for an appointment! **(503) 228-6140**

## Postal Service Honors Black Heritage

As part of the Black Heritage stamp series, the Postal Service has chosen to honor the life of distinguished publisher and business leader John H. Johnson on a 2012 Forever Stamp.

Since 1978 the Postal Service has recognized the achievements of prominent African Americans through the Black Heritage series, which highlights individuals who have helped shape American Culture.

Johnson, who will be the 35th



individual to be honored in the series, overcame poverty and racism to build a business empire embracing magazines, radio stations and cosmetics, including Johnson Publishing Company, EBONY and JET magazines, and Fashion Fair Cosmetics.

His magazines portrayed African Americans positively at a time when such representation was rare, playing an important role in the civil rights movement.

Take the  
**TEST**  
Take  
**CONTROL**



**Every Tuesday**  
5:30 - 7:15 pm

**Just walk in**  
Northeast Health Center  
5329 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.  
2nd Floor

Bring or mention this ad to get a  
**FREE & ANONYMOUS** or  
**CONFIDENTIAL** test for HIV!



Advertise with diversity in *The Portland Observer*  
Call 503-288-0033 ads@portlandobserver.com