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Our society is developing rapidly since the advent of urbanization. People gathered together and began to work on their specialty. This process has greatly increased the productivity of human-beings, improved our lives. However, this growth of society can be view from multiple perspectives and then we will realized that it is not what people always think it is.

One of the most noticeable situation that we have underestimated during our daily lives is the gap between the rich and the poor. Though this has been haunting our world since the beginning of civilization, it is significantly enlarged during the past few decades. Credit Suisse, a global financial services company, has revealed that the richest 1 percent have now accumulated more wealth than the rest of the world put together.

With such a huge gap between the rich and the poor in our society, however, people probably don't have a clear awareness of it. According to Nicholas Fitz, The average American believes that the richest fifth own 59% of the wealth and that the

bottom 40% own 9%. The reality is strikingly different. The top 20% of US households own more than 84% of the wealth, and the bottom 40% combine for a paltry 0.3%. The Walton family, for example, has more wealth than 42% of American families combined.

For such situation, I could only think of one reason. That is people in our current society, though said to have the equal opportunity to shift up and down the existing classes, it is much harder for children from the poor family to have an experience of the rich world not even mention to become one part of it. Take a girl from slum as example, people's expectation for her is probably only to find a decent and legally work when she grows up. Instead, for a child of the board member of IBM, he is expected and raised in hope of creating a new business empire. By the way, this child is Bill Gates.

Luckily I got the chance to experience these different social classes due to my family's up and down. Growing up with shifting classes several times, I had the opportunity to experience, to feel the gap of the rich and the poor. Reading the text of Robert Adams, I feel sympathy with him. He described a plateau that he grew up in. When he was a child, the plateau was so natural and beautiful, free of pollutions. Then, as he went back to this plateau in adulthood, a nuclear plant was built. This is just like the rich side and the poor side of the community. The rich side of community has the most luxury materials for them to squander and for the poor side, they would do whatever is necessary to survive.

However, even if this situation is not what beneficial to most people, I still think we should acknowledge its existence and understand it. I have lived in both the poor and the rich area of the city. In this experience, I have also seen how people react to this huge wealth differences that are so close to each other. The reality is cruel. It is not like in utopia that the rich will also be trying to help out the poor, instead, what people do is just ignoring the other part. They reject each other so much that they would never step a foot into the other part or talk to people from the other side. I can feel this direct rejections between these two people so clearly because I was one of them. It was like, "Yes, we are human, that is about all the similarity between us".

However, as I grew up and crossed these boundaries a few times, I started to realize this differences are, instead of incomparable, complementary. The good surrounded by the bad, or in the other direction, the bad surrounded by the good are so common in our life that we almost ignore it. People tend to only focus on their own situation that they also lost a vision of the world that is really happening. This is not optimal. Why? In my opinion and observations of people around me, the only people who are so determined to strive for better are those people who have the idea of being wealthy and prosperous. In other words, there are many people who choose to be ignorant this gap and keep their lifestyle never change due to their indolence. We have to admit that some people in our society are surviving

miserably and it is exact these people refuse to or cannot acknowledge this gap of rich and poor and therefore cannot do better than what they are currently doing.

This is just one disadvantage of being ignorant of this gap between the rich and the poor. The poor who does not know this gap would think they are having a descent life and not willing to improve their conditions. The rich who does not know this gap would think that everyone living in this planet is have good lives as they do and therefore would never devote anything to charity. Lots and lots of other side effects can be derived from here and this ignorance is so common and unobvious in our society.