**Issue 19: Is the inequality of Income Distribution in the US Surging?**

As economies grow and people become wealthier, controversy begins to grow. The problem at hand is not an excess of earnings for the working class, but in fact it is the problem of unequal wealth distribution. You may be wondering why this is a problem. In a perfect world everyone has the same amount of money which brings income equality and everyone has the same opportunities. This is not how things work though, which brings us to the burning question of "Is the inequality of income distribution in the US surging?"

James M Cypher believes that yes, the income inequality in the US is surging greatly. He presents many persuasive arguments and fights to prove that this is a growing problem. He mentions that statistics and research shows that the inequality is currently greater than it had been throughout the entire 19th century. He showed that in 1970 the lowest 90% of income earners in the US accounted for about 67% of the total US earnings. As of the year this same lowest 90% of income earners only brought in 52% of the entire US earnings. This may not seem like a significant amount of difference, but if you think about it, this means that the poorest of the US population is bringing in 15% less as a whole than they were 30 years prior. This is proof that the US income distribution inequality is surging.

On the opposing side Diana Furchotgott-Roth believes that the inequality is surging, but when you look at the different causes of the surge it is actually not becoming a problem. Roth mentions alternate sources of income and major demographic changes as being the cause of the inequalities, but believes strongly that it is not a problem. These are normal changes as an economy progresses and a country grows. The working class is bringing in more money overall which shows that the poor are not getting poorer, they are staying at the same level as before, but the rich are just progressing faster and bringing in additional income. She believes that the US income distribution inequality is not surging and that there is no cause for alarm.

Income inequality in the US has been a major concern for many decades in the past, but despite all of the information given, my opinion has not been swayed. I believe that a greater difference in earnings of the upper and lower class shows that an economy is progressing. I believe this because the wealthy are the big business owners, and that the poorer 90% are the blue and white collar working classes. This, in my opinion, is not a problem because as the big businesses flourish the owners make larger incomes, while the workers keep the same pay, and not lose money as many would believe from the presentation of the statistics.