

The class system in America separates its people by power and wealth, and it's mostly determined by status. It's based on the individual's economic position in which people are ranked based on their achievements in life. Labeling people is not new to society. Back in the slavery period, people were giving ranks and tagged into different classes. The only difference is that those ranks were given based on skin colors. Where people of color did not fit the "class system". Now in modern-day America, classifying people have more aspects and wealth and status. There are so many different types of class systems and they are sorted by incomes earned by individuals. The most common are the lower class, middle-class and upper class. The upper class is the highest income earners and the lower class being the lowest income earners. We may believe that the people in the United States have equal chances of success but in reality, social standards mostly define one's success.

There is a difference between income and wealth. Income is what an individual worked for and earned for a certain period of time. Wealth is something valuable someone has abundantly. In America, becoming rich can be very easy for some people. Most people of color work twice as hard as the average American to be successful. The inequality in America is not getting any lower. Evidence in "Class in America" shows that in 2004 the average income of 99% of the United States population grew by little more than 1%, while the income of the richest 1% saw their income rise by 12% in the same year. These are more than half of the American population living paycheck to paycheck. The sad fact is that we called these people the average Americans. This means that almost all Americans get the bare minimum from their economy. Families earning little annual income are still saving more money than they consume. Saving for retirement has become a norm for average American lives.

Working-class individuals are the firmness of the American economy. Almost all working Americans are identified as middle-class workers. Working-class families are not poor families, but they are fairly better than poor families. They are the victims of the economic crisis. They work too hard to build the economy and yet profit a little from it. When is stated in the "Power of America" that "Workers are stuck. They have no place to go but Republicans and Democrats." This statement is well understood. Workers will go complain or seek help where they are not supposed to. The Republicans and Democrats cannot relate to anything the middle-class Americans go through. They are all wealthy and classified as upper-class Americans. Another unfortunate fact is that they are the ones

decisions impact American lives. In other words, the middle class or working-class Americans are powerless in a country that prides itself as the land of the free and the land of opportunities. The power of wealthy people are gained by social influences. It's a tool they have to keep them where they are. That's why in the United States the rich keeps getting richer and the poor always stays poor.