

There is no doubt that in society your financial class plays a significant role in an individual's life. Things like specific opportunities, foods an individual has access to too, and education, are just a few examples. These factors are heavily dependent on your class in America, according to Gregory Mantsios. Karl Marx argues that work subverts our human nature and alienates society. Work and economic class go hand in hand with one another. Both authors provide insightful evidence that both work and class alienate us.

Mantosis discusses in his novel on Class in America, that there are significant differences separating the upper and lower class. A study was done to understand the significance in which financial class separates us. Three families were evaluated based on opportunities. The first family's activities included vacationing in the Bahamas, and private schooling for their children. Another family's activities included church sponsored events and public school. In this family, the child had to drop out of school and work to provide for the family. The third fell in between. Their family activities consisted of an occasional trip to the movie theaters. The most shocking thing about this is all three of the families are considered middle class.

Class is much more complicated than society likes to believe. There is proper evidence to display that a higher income equates to higher test scores. In addition, the opportunities an individual has access to too are often shaped by the previous generations in the family. For example, if you are raised in an upper-class family, you have access to SAT and ACT tutoring. You might also attend expensive extracurricular activities, which you can add to a college application. However, if you are raised in a lower-class family, you might not have access to top notch education. You also must work ten times harder to get scholarships for college. Many

lays a groundwork for the rich to get richer, and the poor to get poorer.

Marx takes a similar approach to this idea. He discusses that when labor is organized by market dynamics external to where labor occurs, it often results in a potential loss over the meaning of work. A major issue comes up because of this. Our species works to survive, as it is a part of our human nature in a capitalist society. When we only work to survive it becomes repetitive, which takes away from creativity. In turn, work becomes alienating, especially when work becomes repetitive. Repetitiveness results in a loss of reality, which alienates us even further. Making matters worse, humans are an incredibly unique species as Marx discusses. Humans possess consciousness and interact with other animals. We have a sense of self, differentiating us from other species. Because work is so alienating, we lose this sense of self. We work as machines in a capitalist society.

Financial class tends to be equally alienating. Our income conditions us in a way to work to survive. For example, if you are lower class, and want to provide for your family in a way to give them a multitude of opportunities, work becomes your focus. Blue collar workers often become the most affected by the alienation. Their jobs are often repetitive, and they are usually working for an external force. In addition, these workers tend to be lower class. If these jobs do not pay enough, it can lead to getting an additional job of the same nature. In turn, you become even more alienated, and more of a machine in a capitalist society. This is a result of spending more time in the workplace.

However, the upper class can be alienated as well. When working a corporate job at a prominent level, you tend to see work as your life. You lose touch of what is important, and in turn, a loss of reality. Things such as human connection and enjoyable activities often lose their

is dependent on our income. This stress results in alienation by trying to achieve a point of economic relief that never seems to come. Even the richest person in the world cannot be completely fulfilled.

In conclusion, both Marx and Mantosis display the problems of a capitalist society. Because of class and work, we strive to reach a sort of financial perfection that doesn't seem to exist. Class and work separate us from our initial human nature, which is to interact with humans and express our creativity as a unique species.