Government and Capitalism in the U.S. System
“The War System” that also functions as “Socialism for the Rich”

Corporations, Big Business, and the Rich (in the U.S.)

- Top 1% owns 43% of the wealth.
- Top 15% owns 93% of the wealth.
- The entire system is designed to extract wealth from the many and funnel it to the few.

- U.S. gov’t functions to transfer the wealth from people to the rich:

  1. Exploitation of their labor by their employers: low wages, contingent employment, no benefits
  2. Extraction of their wealth through high cost of goods, services (health care, education), debt, and interest payments

The People (the Middle Class and the Poor): 85%

- Bottom 85% owns 7% of the wealth.
- The wealth that they produce through their labor is systematically transferred to the wealthy classes in three primary ways (marked above in blue boxes).

- PENTAGON (futuristic expensive weapons systems, revolving doors with fat corporate jobs, pork-barrel ing)

  1. Financing the industrial-military complex (by taxpayers).
  2. Foreign wars and imperialism (by taxpayers)
     (The Iraq war alone cost 3 trillion dollars)
  3. Private “security” and “defense” contractors (paid for by taxpayers).
  4. Lower taxes on income and capital gains for the rich and for corporations.
  5. Privatizing public assets (post-office, social security, utilities, education, health care, prisons)
  6. Bailouts for bankrupt corporations and banking (by taxpayers).

Parenti, The Face of Imperialism, 2011
Johnson, Dismantling the Empire, 2010