

Discussion Series Co-Sponsored by Bethany Church and Kimball Library

Public Announcement

The Peace and Justice Committee at Bethany Church, in collaboration with Kimball Library, is offering a series of discussions on issues that are front and center in our country at this time. The pandemic, of which we are so weary, has laid raw these and other problems that we need to address in our country. Surely another important one is racism, but Kimball has just finished a wonderful series of discussions on that issue, and, sadly, racism will come up in all of these discussions, for it is so intertwined in our communal life. We hope very much that you will consider joining in!

The topics are:

- ~~February - Children at the Southern Border (Completed)~~
- **March - Income Inequality**
- **April - Climate Change**
- **May - Misinformation and Disinformation in Social Media**

Here's how it works: At the beginning of each month, we'll provide resources you can choose from. We hope that having a variety to choose from may encourage folks who are feeling short for time to join us. The resources can include books, films, short videos in the public domain or articles. Books and articles will be available at the Kimball Library.

March Discussion: **Income Inequality**
Discussion Dates/Times: **Wednesday, March 24th 7:00 PM via Zoom**
OR
Friday, March 26th 10:00 AM via Zoom

To participate: **Contact Betty Edson bedson30@gmail.com or 802-728-4057**

Resources to consider reading/viewing for the Income Inequality Discussion:

- **Book:**
 - "Saving Capitalism: For the Many, Not the Few" **Robert G. Reich** argues that the free market is not free at all, but a creation of political policies and systems. He details four core elements necessary for modern capitalism and the creation/regulation of the free market. The book concludes with one possible way that social mobilization might begin to address the inequalities inherent in our current implementation and practice of Capitalism. (Books available to borrow from Kimball Library or <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/24338377-saving-capitalism>)
- **Short Video:**
 - "The Tyranny of Merit" **Michael Sandel** argues that we live in a culture of winners and losers and that underlying this divide is the notion of "Merit" or the principle that we earn our own success or failure in society.
https://www.ted.com/talks/michael_sandel_the_tyranny_of_merit?language=en
- **Video Documentary:**
 - "Inequality for All" In his Wealth and Poverty class at U.C.- Berkeley, former Labor Secretary **Robert Reich** discusses the grave economic and social consequences that may result if the gulf between rich and poor continues to widen. The "Inconvenient Truth" documentary about income/wealth inequality. <https://youtu.be/ftCCQjIH8fA>