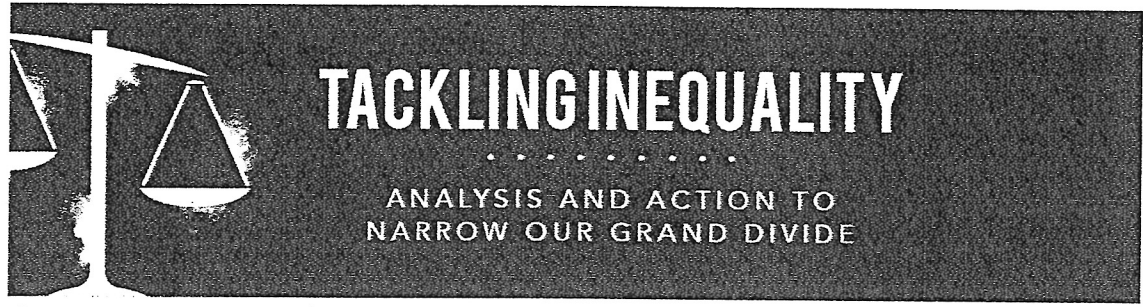


Chuck Collins - most unequal point since 1916. Real wages flat for 40 years. Last decade profits + top 1% of 1%. Richest 400 people more than 4% of pop. Richest 20 have more than bottom half of households in U.S. Huge amounts of wealth being hidden.



Program on Inequality and the Common Good - Institute for Policy Studies

ACTIONS TO REVERSE INEQUALITY: UUs AND SOCIAL ACTION

It is a challenging time to figure out how best to use our time, treasure and organizing energy to take meaningful social action to address escalating inequality.

UUs are in a terrific position to leverage considerable energy to these struggles -if we can figure out where to focus. A lot of our meetings and strategy discussions shift into laundry lists of interlocking issues and campaigns. What can we make an impact on when Congress is so captured by corporate interests and the wealthy? What's most strategic?

Picking Issues. To reduce inequality, we need to address the deeper systemic drivers. This requires us to think two steps ahead and advocate for some proposals that are not currently on the radar screen.

Criteria:

- **Timely.** What is currently in play -that we can help push -but that moves us toward our longer-term agenda?
- **Visionary.** What is not on the agenda, but that we have the potential to incubate future campaigns?
- **Transformative.** What has the best potential to contribute to narrative change -changing how people think about inequality, the racial wealth divide and policy solutions?

Books to read
Conscience of a Liberal
Don't Think of an Elephant
Does Anything Matter?
Does Anything Matter?

EXAMPLE OF HOW TO PICK ADVOCACY ISSUES: Picking one in different categories:

Type of Intervention	Immediate/On Table	Aspirational
"Raise the Floor"	Raise minimum wage	Student Debt Relief and Debt Free College
"Level Playing Field"	Campaign disclosure/limits for government contractors	Upside Down Subsidy reform (Publically funded elections?)
"Address Concentrated Wealth and Power"	Defend Estate Tax and close loopholes CEO-Worker Pay Penalty	Levy Wealth Tax Eliminate CEO pay subsidy

Strangers in their own land



INEQUALITY_{ORG}

Newsletter

REVERSING INEQUALITY: ISSUE OVERVIEW

Defensive fights and proactive opportunities in June 2017.

A. DEFENSE: Stop Trump Health Care, Tax and Budget Agenda

Block Trump Tax Reform Agenda --Tax policies are key levers in addressing widening income and wealth inequality. We must push immediate reforms as well as lay the groundwork for more structural shifts.

Policies:

- Defend Estate tax. See www.defendestatetax.com.
- Stop repeal and replacement of Affordable Care Act
- Block the Trump disastrous death budget.
- Resource: Americans for Tax Fairness www.americansfortaxfairness.org

B. Financial System Reforms

Focusing on Wall Street reforms gets at one of the drivers of income and wealth inequality in the form of powerful financial industry actors and corporate CEOs.

Policies:

- Defend: Dodd Frank Financial Reforms
- Levy Financial Transaction Tax
- Proactive: State and Local CEO -Worker Pay Gap Penalty. See our IPS Action Portal: <https://inequality.org/action/corporate-pay-equity/>

C. PROACTIVE Raising the Floor: Improving the Lives and Clout of Low Wage Workers

Policies:

- State and municipal minimum wage fights
- Defend worker organizing and unionization
- Reform worker "scheduling" and eliminate the tipped minimum wage
- Resource: Fight for \$15 Fightfor15.org

D. Upside Down Tax Subsidies: Racial Wealth Divide

Over \$600 billion in annual wealth-building subsidies mostly flow to the already wealthy. Without additional revenue, we could redirect these resources to those excluded from economic benefits. See:

Policies:

- Home mortgage interest deduction loophole --expand access to housing for those excluded.
- Reform upside down tax subsidies
- Resource: Prosperity Now and IPS Inequality See our joint report: <http://www.ips-dc.org/report-ever-growing-gap/>

E. PROACTIVE: Over-Concentration of Income & Wealth -Wealth tax, estate tax, loopholes

Concentrations of wealth and power are key drivers of wealth inequality and distorted economic policies and undermine “raise the floor” policies. Putting these on the legislative agenda open up a set of progressive populist reforms that are currently not on the political table.

Policies:

- Proactive State Estate Tax and Wealth Tax initiatives
- Responsible Estate Tax at federal level
- Wealth Tax
- Raise marginal income tax rates
- Resource: IPS Inequality Program and Inequality.org

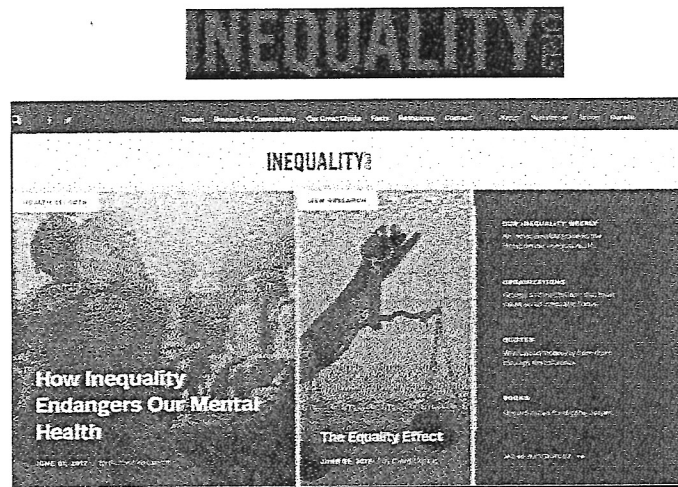
F. PROACTIVE: Hidden Wealth and Off-Shore System Abuses

Trillions of private wealth and corporate profits have been shifted to off-shore secrecy jurisdictions.

Policies:

- Corporate Beneficial Disclosure Law
- Oppose repatriation of corporate profits
- Resource: FACT Coalition: <https://thefactcoalition.org> and IPS Hidden Wealth Working Group www.inequality.org

See the Special February 2016 Issue of *The Nation* about “Game-Changing” campaigns to reduce inequality –where we look at how to link issues to constituencies:



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT INEQUALITY.ORG

INVITE CHUCK COLLINS TO SPEAK AT YOUR UU COMMUNITY

BORN ON THIRD BASE: A One Percenter Makes the Case for Tackling Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home and Committing to the Common Good (Chelsea Green)

A powerful book about class privilege and racial advantage, PBS New Hour called it one of 5 best new books that "will make you think about what it means to be human."

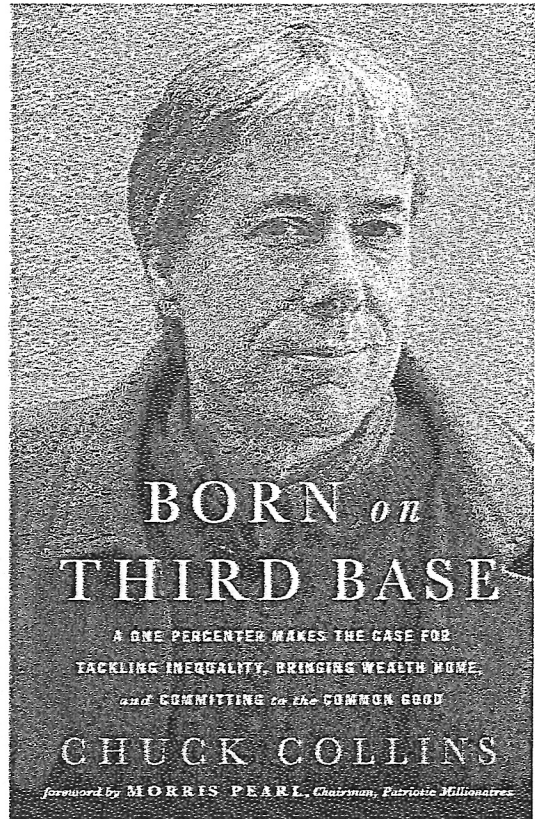
"A call to action for America's wealthy and a warning shot across the bows of their yachts if they fail to act, Born on Third Base offers a clear and compelling case for why the privileged and powerful must act to reverse widening inequality of income, wealth, and political power in America."

—Robert B. Reich, former US Secretary of Labor

"I have never read a story remotely like the one Chuck Collins has to tell. Born to the one percent, he grew an outsized conscience and gave up his inherited wealth for a life of fighting the vicious inequality that is destroying our country. Somewhere along the way, he came to understand that the rich can be part of the solution instead of the problem and started organizing them to join in the struggle for a fair economy. The result is an electrifying challenge to the affluent as well as the one percent."

—Barbara Ehrenreich,
author of *Nickel and Dimed*

Chuck Collins a storyteller, researcher, agitator and campaigner based at the Institute for Policy Studies where he co-edits inequality.org. For two decades, he has worked to shift the stuck national debate about wealth inequality, racial wealth divisions, and taxation. He is author of *99 to 1, The Moral Measure of the Economy*, *Wealth and Our Commonwealth* (with Bill Gates Sr.), and *Economic Apartheid in America*.



Book signing 10:30 Sat @
UUA Bookstore

Information about the Book: <http://www.chelseagreen.com/born-on-third-base>

To Schedule Events: Contact Anny Martinez at: Anny@ips-dc.org