



BMM Yuva Vani Newsletter June 2021



Krish Mehta

Why Income Inequality should be addressed along with the Minimum Wage being increased

Imagine you are working extremely hard, around 45 hours a week, just to realize that the amount of income you are generating is just barely enough to survive, let alone support your family. In America, there are millions of people scattered around the country that have minimum wage paying jobs, and they rely on the income to survive, yet it still doesn't suffice in some cases. Today, I'm going to talk about a growing major problem in our country, which is income inequality, and why it should be addressed along with the minimum wage being increased.

First of all, as of right now, the minimum wage annually in Illinois is just around \$22,000, which is just approximately \$5,000 more than the poverty line salary for Illinois. One thing that would happen if the wage is raised is that it would address the long standing racial and gender inequalities. According to studies from the Economic Policy Institute, more Black and Latino males/females would benefit from the raise, thus lowering the racial wealth gap over time. It would also reduce poverty, as the bump from around \$290 a week to \$600 a week would lift millions of families out of poverty. And especially because of the pandemic, poverty levels have gone up even more, with 11 percent of adults now facing food insecurity. According to InfoBase: Issues and Controversies, "Worker productivity rose by nearly 70 percent from 1979 to 2018, the EPI estimates, while the minimum wage only increased about 11.6 percent during the same time BMM



period.” This shows how despite the workforce increasing at a rapid rate, the minimum wage to support these people was barely affected, which in turn left millions in poverty.

Next, if income inequality isn't addressed and acted on soon, it can lead to what's called a Plutocracy type government, which is basically where society is ruled by the rich. Now, America is already a bit plutocratic, according to Princeton University Professor Martin Gilens. In his study, he stated that as of now, when a majority of citizens disagree with economic elites, they generally lose. As stated in the Gale in Context- Opposing Viewpoints Collection of 2021, “The income of an average citizen in a poor country is now closer to the income of the average citizen of a rich country.” A consequence of this taking place is that the people who are earning less, or are born into poor families, virtually do not have a chance to earn well for themselves and their families, since the elite will dominate the government.

Additionally, another reason why this issue should be acted on fast is that it can limit our country's overall economic growth. A study by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) showed that greater equality of income increased the duration of countries economic growth more than free trade, low government corruption, or foreign investment. Since the wage is lower, the minimum wage workers become less productive, which means lower overall productivity in the economy. A thing that could solve this over time could be higher taxes for the rich, even though some experts argue that it is too good to be true to a large extent. Another similar study by the IMF done between 1980-2018 showed that if the income share of the poorest 20% of the population increases by 1 percentage point (a reduction in inequality), GDP growth is 0.38 percentage points higher during the next five years on average. Tom Price, a freelance economist and writer, said that inequality prevents and jeopardizes the achievement of the economic goals to eliminate extreme poverty and transform economic structures.

On the other hand, from a different perspective, while it would lower the wealth gap, raising the minimum wage would strain businesses and reduce job opportunities for low-skilled workers, and make things more expensive overall. One thing is that if forced to pay workers more, businesses will hire fewer employees and automate jobs, thus lowering the amount of entry-level opportunities. Another thing that goes hand in hand with the previous reason is that raising the minimum wage would therefore increase the cost of customer goods.

Now, even though both these reasons might make it seem that raising the minimum wage is negative, but for example, for jobs like fast food restaurants, automation would cost a lot of money and time.



To summarize, the wealth gap should be lowered by increasing the minimum wage, which will therefore result in more economic growth nationwide and less poverty. Remember, the overall future of our country and our lives will be better and sustain more economic growth.



Shreya Godbole

Poem on Spring

In our school, I have got an opportunity to participate in one of the programs.

I like to play and enjoy in every Season.

Each season has its wonderful breeze. Spring is full of plants and flowers



Summer time is water fun. Fall is a time of pile of leaves and slash of candies
Winter is like a warm and cozy blanket.


The seasons keep changing with blending all beautiful colors
We can see bright colors of Sun also. Nature is beautiful.
Seasons are like bright future for us!








I am so Grateful to all the seasons and our Environment.


I have drawn some pictures of every season
and written one small poem about different seasons.


2. In Winter you can see snow mountains 


And In Spring there are water fountains! 


Summer you can ride the bicycles 
Winter you can play with Icicles !

Spring is Full of Flowers 

Winter spreads snow Showers! 

Colorful leaves in fall everywhere 
It feels like to sit on cozy carpet layer!

Pumpkin carving, Apple picking 
Trick or treating In season Fall

Candies, cakes and Christmas Gifts 
We can build snowman and snowball!!

Poem By
Shreya Godbole
3rd Grade
9 years old



Siyona Pawar

Reasons you need to pick a hobby right now

Why everyone should have at least one hobby

During these loopy times it is very important that one should have at least one hobby which will help to relieve stress by keeping you engaged in something you enjoy. Hobbies give you a way to take your mind off the stresses of everyday life. Having a hobby can help your social life and create a bond with others. A hobby is something that you can frequently enjoy with other people.

Hobbies can bring people together, you can meet new people, discover things about yourself, develop new skills and develop as a person. Hobbies can bring fun and adventure to life, as well as an opportunity for personal development.

Hobbies give you an opportunity to enhance your life. Hobbies allow you to destress yourself while remaining mentally productive. Having hobbies promotes better health and may lower the risk of having high blood pressure. Enjoying a few hours of your hobby a week can also reduce the risk of depression and dementia.

It broadens your mind and your skills—all while establishing a sense of personal growth that will serve you well in the future. They can serve as a substitute for a bad habit.

The perfect number of hobbies to have is 3 – one to make you money, one to keep you fit, and one to keep you creative.

So here is a list of few Hobbies That Will Make You Smarter and Happier:



- 1) **Cooking:** Cooking is one of the most productive hobbies out there, and something everyone should consider trying their hand at. ...
- 2) **Hiking:** Hiking is one of those quintessential 'weekend' hobbies, for people with a passion for long treks and experiencing the beauty of nature. ...
- 3) **Painting:** Painting may not seem like a particularly productive hobby, but it can lend some wonderful perspective on your life and can help unleash your creative side.
- 4) **Sculpture:** Painting may not seem like a particularly productive hobby, but it can lend some wonderful perspective on your life and can help unleash your creative side.
- 5) **Writing:** One of the most productive hobbies to have is to write in your spare time. Writing is an incredibly powerful and important form of self-expression and it can help to channel your energies into something which you feel passionate about and in which you can pour your thoughts, dreams, and desires.
- 6) **Running:** Running not only improves your fitness levels, it can help with any kind of mental block by teaching you how to push through those same kind of mental barriers and obstructions that are causing you delay.
- 7) **Dancing:** Dancing forces you to learn routines obsessively, training your focus into a series of practiced movements, and using that as a template for achieving productivity in the minutiae of your daily life is something well worth considering.
- 8) **Yoga:** Yoga is one of the most productive hobbies you can fit into your schedule, as it allows you to close off all external thoughts and focus entirely on your bodily practice.
- 9) **Reading:** It is also an extremely productive hobby as it can be done easily during your downtime and 'empty time' in which you are doing nothing. Reading research and studies about productivity, can in turn make you learn new habits, behaviors, and patterns that will make you be more effective with your time.
- 10) **Gardening:** Is there anything more inherently relaxing, than garden. Gardening is not only a pleasant and relaxing pastime, it's also a fantastic way to boost your productivity.
- 11) **Knitting:** Knitting is usually considered to be something that the elderly and the niche of Hollywood celebrities like doing, but knitters circle the world – and for good reason.
- 12) **Swimming:** Swimming is relaxing, strengthening and an extremely positive and healthy way of exercising. It's also a beneficial way of becoming more productive.

So, what should you choose as your new hobby? Maybe there's something you've always wanted to do. Carve out the time and find a hobby now! You have more time than you think you do.



Never Give Up

Never Give up



Nobody cares who you are,
They only care if you're good or not
Sometimes people will bring you down,
But don't worry you'll get around
It doesn't make a difference,
Till you don't have an Interference
Don't think you'll be a star immediately,
Because it doesn't happen instantly
Take a path of Positive,
Separate the thoughts of negative
This will help you a lot,
Cause that's the main Dot
Giving up isn't an option,
Believe in yourself, that's a Perfection
Stick to the flight,
Though your hardest time
Things might be worst,
But you write your "Rhyme"

Archit Ghalke
Age-12