Resources on Economic Inequality and its Impact on Democracy and Resources on the Living Wage/Minimum Wage

**Short videos** 

Robert Reich, Inequality for All [film, 2013] If you look at nothing else, watch this.

inequalityforall.com: See Trailer, other video clips[under resources & partners] and more info

**Thomas Piketty**, "Capital in the Twenty-first Century," in this short video, Prof. Piketty describes the main points of his much-praised new book; alert, French accented English

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TLtXfZth5w

NPR Morning Edition interview with Elizabeth Warren about her new book, A Fighting Chance,

http://www.npr.org/player/v2/mediaPlayer.html?action=1&t=1&islist=false&id=304176260&m =304329752

**Sen.** Warren Asks Why Employers Aren't Paying \$22 in Minimum Wage Costs: Elisabeth Warren **Published on Mar 18, 2013** with response by economist Arindrajit Dube at a Senate hearing, video at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwAQwItEjUo

## **Articles**

Examining Redistribution of Wealth, Jeff Kolnick and Doug Anderson, The LWVUS National Voter, February, 2009.

Some Evidence on Whether Money buys Political Influence, David Broockman and Josh Kalla, April 4, 2014, <a href="http://freakonomics.com/2014/04/04/some-evidence-on-whether-money-buys-political-influence/">http://freakonomics.com/2014/04/04/some-evidence-on-whether-money-buys-political-influence/</a>

Raising Taxes on Corporations that Pay their CEO's Royally and Treat their Workers like Serfs, robertreich.org April 21,2014. He plans to testify before the California legislature for Bill SB1372 which sets corporate taxes according to the *ratio* of CEO pay to the pay of the company's typical worker. Corporations with low pay ratios get a tax break. Those with high ratios get a tax increase.

**The New York Times** is a treasure trove of articles on economic inequality, minimum and living wage and their impact on people and democracy.

Here's good short survey of whether widening income gap is bad or not: Eduardo Porter, "Income Equality: A Search for Consequences" March 25, 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/26/business/economy/making-sense-of-income-inequality.html

Here's a survey of the "ongoing debate over the nature and implications of rising inequality—and why "Capital in the Twenty-First Century" is having such a big impact"

Paul Krugman The Conscience of a Liberal on The Opinion Pages, "Piketty Day Notes" April 16, 2014

http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/04/16/piketty-day-notes/?module=BlogPost-Title&version=Blog%20Main&contentCollection=Opinion&action=Click&pgtype=Blogs&region=Body

"The Wealth Gap in America is Growing, Too" by Annie Lowrey, April 2, 2014

http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/04/02/the-wealth-gap-is-growing-too/? php=true& type=blogs& r=0

Eduardo Porter, "In New Tack, I.M.F. Aims at Income Inequality," NYT April 8, 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/09/business/economy/in-new-tack-imf-aims-at-income-inequality.html

Annie Lowrey, "For Two Economists, the Buffett Rule is Just a Start" NYT April 16, 2012

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/17/business/for-economists-saez-and-piketty-the-buffett-rule-is-just-a-start.html?\_r=0&adxnnl=1&pagewanted=all&adxnnlx=1397866163-uV5d04msQ2D3uX5BP5vgqw

Three Reviews: 2 of Piketty's Capital in the Twenty-first Century & 1 of Elizabeth Warren's A Fighting Chance

- 1. in The Economist Magazine, Jan 9 2014 http://www.economist.com/blogs/freeexchange/2014/01/inequality
- 2. in the New Yorker, March 31, 2014 by John Cassidy
- 3. Review of Elizabeth Warren's new book *A Fighting Chance* in the New Yorker, April 21, 2014 by Jill Lepore

## **Books**

Robert Reich, Aftershock, the Next Economy and America's Future, 2010

Robert Reich, Beyond Outrage: Expanded Edition: What has gone wrong with our economy and our democracy and how to fix it, 2012

Thomas Piketty. Capital in the Twenty-First Century, Harvard U. Press, 2014

Elizabeth Warren, A Fighting Chance, publication April 22, 2014

Joseph Stiglitz, The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers our Future, New York, W.W. Norton & Co., 2013, 2012

## **Additional Work about the Living Wage**

Robert Reich: A video dated Aug 29, 2013 entitled *What Low Wage Workers Need*. http://robertreich.org

He advocates a living wage, along with governmental subsides for low wages, access to quality education, health care and the right to unionize.

What the Research Says In the Minimum Wage Debate, David Scharfenberg,, April 28, 2014 http://www.wbur.org/2014/04/28/minimum-wage-policy-shop

Hawaii set to become third state to hike minimum wage to \$10.10, Ned Resnikoff, April 28, 2014, <a href="http://www.msnbc.com/hawaii-raising-minimum-wage-1010">http://www.msnbc.com/hawaii-raising-minimum-wage-1010</a>

*How to kill the minimum wage movement,* Timothy Egan, April 27 http://bismarktribune.com/news/columnists/how-to-kill-the-minimum-wage-movement

The Minimum We Can Do, Arindrajit Dube, November 30, 2013 <a href="http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/30/the/minimum/we/can/do">http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/30/the/minimum/we/can/do</a> Dube, a University of Massachusetts-Amherst economist, along with a number of collaborators has produced a series of papers suggesting that increasing the minimum wage probably leads to tiny job losses at most, if at all.

The Left's Favorite Wage Expert Weighs In On Seattle's \$15 Plan, Jordan Weissmann, May 8, 2014,

http://www.slate.com/blogs/moneybox/2014/05/08/seattle\_raising\_its\_minimum\_wage\_t o\_15\_arindrajit\_dube\_weighs\_in.html

Nutter Raises Minimum Wage For Most City Contract Workers, Mike Dunn, May, 6, 2014, <a href="http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2014/05/06/nutter-raises-minimum-wage-for-certain-city-contract-workers/">http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2014/05/06/nutter-raises-minimum-wage-for-certain-city-contract-workers/</a>

Does \$10.10 minimum wage get you out of poverty?, Charles Schumer, May 5, 2014, <a href="http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2014/may/08/charles-schumer/does-1010-minimum-wage-get-you-out-poverty/">http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2014/may/08/charles-schumer/does-1010-minimum-wage-get-you-out-poverty/</a>