

ANALOGOUS EXAMPLES TO 400 PEOPLE HAVING THE WEALTH OF 190 MILLION PEOPLE

The following are proportional analogies to our situation of 400 people having the wealth of 190 million people. On average, a person in the top 400 has wealth 475,000 times a person in the bottom 190 million. In these examples, the same proportions exist.

Analogy 1

A government receives international aid of 475,000 pounds of rice to help alleviate famine in a population of 475,010 people. The government distributes it, giving ten people 431,818 pounds of rice or 43,181.8 pounds per person, then distributes the remaining 43,182 pounds to the remaining 475,000 people. So each on average receives 0.091 pounds or 1.5 ounces. This provides well under one tenth minimum daily caloric requirements. Of course, not one of the ten people receiving a total of 431,818 pounds can eat 43,181.8 pounds of rice. This situation would not be sustainable. It could be sustained only as long as people tolerate being taxed to support a non-democratic government that creates these conditions and maintains them with a system of laws, law enforcement personnel, and prisons.

Analogy 2

A ship goes out to sea on a 20-day voyage with 28,620 pounds of food rations, 3 pounds per person per day for 477 people. The captain stashes 28,605.7 pounds of the food rations for himself and his wife, and the rest of the ship has access to 14.3 pounds or .03 pounds (.48 ounces) each for the trip. The 28,605.7 pounds of the food for the captain and his wife allows each of them to eat 715.1 pounds of food per day. The captain cannot eat 715.1 pounds of food per day, neither can his wife, and many of the other people on the ship will not survive on their less than about .0015 pounds or .024 ounces per day. The social structure of this ship will not be stable. (How is that for an understatement?) Obviously, 475 people on board would not tolerate these conditions.

Analogy 3

Visualize the distance of one inch and let this represent the wealth of a person with the average wealth of the least wealthy 190 million Americans. Then the wealth of a person with the average wealth of the wealthiest 400 Americans is the distance of 7.5 miles.

Analogy 4

Here is a proportional analogy by weight:

Imagine lying down with a nickel on your chest. If you are wearing a shirt, you would barely feel it. The nickel represents the wealth of a person with the average wealth of the least wealthy 190 million Americans. If you then put the weight representing the wealth of a person with the average wealth of the wealthiest 400 on your chest, you could feel it, but not long because you would be crushed by 5,236 pounds, about the weight of two Toyota Corollas.