Contents

Preface	ix
1 The Uneven Distribution of Wealth in the United States	3
Has Wealth Inequality in America Changed Over Time? Here Are Key Statistics Ana Hernández Kent and Lowell Ricketts, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, December 2, 2020	8
Racial Wealth Gap May Be a Key to Other Inequities Liz Mineo, <i>The Harvard Gazette</i> , June 3, 2021	18
6 Facts About Economic Inequality in the U.S. Katherine Schaeffer, <i>Pew Research Center</i> , February 7, 2020	25
The Wealth Gap: How the Education World Fails to Fully Measure Students' Economic Disadvantage Matt Barnum, <i>Chalkbeat</i> , September 29, 2020	32
Modern Society Is as Unequal as 14th Century Europe Scotty Hendricks, <i>Big Think</i> , May 14, 2021	36
2	
What Is the Value of an Hour? Most Americans Support a \$15 Federal Minimum Wage Amina Dunn, <i>Pew Research Center</i> , April 22, 2021	43 50
Six Reasons to Oppose a \$15 Federal Minimum Wage Jarrett Skorup, <i>The Hill</i> , January 30, 2021	56
Five Myths That Pervade the Minimum Wage Debate Jensen Ahokovi, <i>Grassroot Institute of Hawaii</i> , March 16, 2022	58
Statement by President Joe Biden on \$15 Minimum Wage for Federal Workers and Contractors Going into Effect Joe Biden, <i>The White House</i> , January 28, 2022	65
The Missing Piece of the Minimum Wage Debate Colleen Doody, <i>The Washington Post</i> , February 25, 2021	67
California's \$15 Minimum Wage Debate Begins This Year: Debate on the Next Increase has Already Begun Ryan Golden, <i>HR DIVE</i> , February 24, 2022	70

3

Why It's So Hard to Tax the Rich Monica Prasad, <i>Politico</i> , November 2, 2021	75 82
Corporate Taxes Are Wealth Taxes David Leonhardt, <i>The New York Times</i> , April 8, 2021	86
What's in the New Global Tax Agreement? Daniel Bunn and Sean Bray, <i>Tax Foundation</i> , April 7, 2022	88
Democrats Struggle with Plan to Tax Dynastic Wealth Brian Faler, <i>Politico</i> , June 8, 2021	92
The Truth About Income Inequality David R. Henderson, <i>Reason</i> , February, 2020	96
4	
Social and Economic Factors Influencing Income Inequality Automation Is Not to Blame for the Growth of Income Inequality Robert D. Atkinson, <i>ITIF</i> , August 10, 2021	107 113
Artificial Intelligence Has Caused a 50% to 70% Decrease in Wages— Creating Income Inequality and Threatening Millions of Jobs Jack Kelly, <i>Forbes</i> , June 18, 2021	115
How to Solve Al's Inequality Problem David Rotman, <i>MIT Technology Review</i> , April 19, 2022	119
Can Labor Unions Help Close the Black-White Wage Gap? Natalie Spievack, <i>Urban Institute</i> , February 1, 2019	124
Don't Expect Unions to Make a Comeback Nick Gillespie and Regan Taylor, <i>Reason</i> , April 15, 2022	127
House Gives Green Light to Staffer Unionization Katherine Tully-McManus and Eleanor Mueller, <i>Politico</i> , May 10, 2022	129
Weakened Labor Movement Leads to Rising Economic Inequality Heidi Shierholz, <i>Economic Policy Institute</i> , January 27, 2020	133
Unions Help Reduce Disparities and Strengthen Our Democracy Economic Policy Institute, April 23, 2021	136

5

Can Income Inequality Be Solved? Views on Reducing Economic Inequality Juliana Menasce Horowitz, Ruth Igielnik, and Rakesh Kochhar, <i>Pew Research Center</i> , January 9, 2020	151 157
Tackling the Inequality Pandemic: Is There a Cure? Zia Qureshi, <i>The Brookings Institution</i> , November 17, 2020	169
Obamacare Is Key to Combating Income Inequality, Study Finds Adriana Belmonte, <i>Yahoo! News</i> , January 15, 2021	174
Why Socialism Won't Work Allison Schrager, <i>Foreign Policy,</i> January 15, 2020	177
How a Default Union Membership Could Help Reduce Income Inequality Mark Harcourt, Gregor Gall, Margaret Wilson, and Nisha Novell, <i>The Conversation</i> , January 21, 2019	181
Can Rights Combat Economic Inequality Mila Versteeg, <i>Harvard Law Review,</i> April 10, 2020	184
Bibliography Websites Index	191 195 197