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# Greed of Currency and Poverty

Throughout history, the man-made concept of currency, also known as money, has been the base for most, if not all of our problems and conflicts. The very concept of currency has been given a pedestal that anyone all over the world can understand, regardless of the language barrier. Money is what talks in today's civilizations and will continue to run the world. With the world running on money, there are those who are casted away from society because of financial issues. Those people are then forced to scavenge and save what little money they earned to survive in a world that is run by financial status and income. The state of being extremely poor, and not being able to provide oneself of basic human needs is the very essence of poverty.

The two problems of greed of currency and poverty go hand in hand. Greed of currency has been abundant for the longest time in history and in turn led to how our civilizations being structured around money. With that bridging connection, there has been situations of the rich becoming richer along with poor becoming increasingly poor. That's when poverty comes into play. The financial hierarchy strives off of the various transactions of society and cares solely about the money intake. Various people cannot keep themselves afloat, are then left to fend for themselves.

As stated previously, greed of currency has been an ongoing phenomenon that has been occurred throughout history, and because of it, there are those that have perished in pursuit of it. For example, in 1941 during World War II, Nazi Germany attempted to invade Russia. Due to Adolf Hitler's nature of greed to capture Russia along with its valuables, his army of 734,000 perished in a Russian Winter when marching towards Russia. In the pursuit of his invasion, lack of planning, and greed, an enormous number of casualties ensued and became one of the most detrimental examples of what a greedy mindset does.

Another example in history where greed has overtaken the lives of those in pursuit of it would be the French Invasion of 1812. Similar to what happened with Nazi Germany's invasion of 1941, the French conducted the same strategy as to overtaking Russia and failed in the same exact way. Over 610,000 lives were lost due to the greed of French leader Napoléon Bonaparte and his underestimation of carrying out the invasion, in the same fashion of succumbing to the Russian winter storm. The greed of currency may not be easily apparent in situations such as invasions, but in control of other countries and civilizations, money is what's sought after in the end.

Greed of currency has appeared throughout the ages, but continues to manifest in present time as well. With the immense amount of currency being earned, its outtake from taxes is naturally larger, and because of that there are those few who seek to lower the outtake as much as possible even by illegal means. Many politicians today focus their efforts into increasing tax wages to make the rich much more wealthy. Even still, they try to pay as little in tax as possible themselves. A prime example would be The 45<sup>th</sup> President of The United States of America, Donald J. Trump. President Trump has been known to pay much less tax than those below the poverty line. According to Vanity Fair, "the president paid \$750 in federal income taxes in 2016, another \$750 in 2017, and nothing whatsoever in 10 of the previous 15 years".

With the inclusion of greed of currency, poverty becomes much more widespread. As time goes on, poverty becomes much more common for a majority of people around the world. A mass majority of people barely make enough money on a regular basis to accommodate for the basic human necessities. From a statistical standpoint, "Most people in the world live in poverty.

85% of the world live on less than \$30 per day, two-thirds live on less than \$10 per day, and every tenth person lives on less than \$1.90 per day”.

Poverty as we know it today is not only a concern for one group of people. Poverty is multi-faceted in terms of health care, food, education, and the other general basic human needs. There has been an ongoing stigma towards this issue. Why should people be shamed in wanting assistance? In a way, we are often blinded to those who deal with poverty. This is possible because the comfortable living we are sheltered in prevents us from seeing the reality of the issue. As a people who more often than naught ever encounter the issue in the outside world, we more than often ignore the issue and continue on with our daily lives.

Poverty also does not tend to be situational, but also can be can resort to coming from generational, absolute, relative, urban, and rural poverty. Most of poverty tends to come from generational means. Generational poverty tends to occur in families that have had two generations born into poverty. Unfortunately, most people who derive from generational poverty, do not escape it, and keeps the cycle going from generation to generation. With the cycle continuing, there are many risk factors that come into play that that majorly affect the population in a multitude of different ways. For example, “in 1995, 35 percent of poor families experienced six or more risk factors (such as divorce, sickness, or eviction); only 2 percent experienced no risk factors. In contrast, only 5 percent of well-off families experienced six or more risk factors, and 19 percent experienced none”.

While poverty and greed of currency do come hand in hand, they also are very apparent in New York City. When venturing into the city that never sleeps, known for its infrastructure and 24/7 activity, there's a mass population of people below the poverty line, and those people are the homeless. On a daily basis, most citizens of New York City either come into contact with a homeless person or enters the same vicinity as them. NYC has many homeless people, and is increasing in number as we deal with inflation and rising numbers in rent and basic necessities for day-to-day commodities. From a statistical standpoint, "In a city of more than 8.3 million people, nearly one in every 106 New Yorkers is homeless — that's nearly 80,000 men, women and children. Every night, nearly 4,000 people sleep on the street, in the subway system or in other public spaces".

When it comes to greed of currency, it is abundant in New York City. The city runs off of the mass majority of people's constant spending with stores and restaurants at almost every corner. Wages become more expensive to even live in the city, and because of that, it makes it easier to fall into financial ruin. There has been little to no help or accommodation for the homeless and that's because there is no money to be gained in helping them. That's where greed of currency comes in, if there's nothing to gain from helping others, those with the money and power tend to not help the situation. The situation continues to get worse and continues to escalate until the greed or thought of gain does not become present in the matter. The world runs on money and will only ever continue to be that way as time goes on.

With greed of currency being a consistent issue throughout history and present time, there are solutions to the matter. The bottom line is that greed depends on the person, and the only solution to greed is the curing of the specific person's greed. There will always be greed in the world, and the best we can do is minimize and reduce the issue as best we can in the goal of becoming better human beings. One way to better reduce and solve the issue on a personal level would be to remember that in the end of our life cycle, the money we so desperately want to obtain as much as possible, will not come with us when we pass. With the over possession of money, we can do so much good with it rather than hoard it and have it gone to waste, not living for oneself but for the wellness of others.

Poverty being a bridge from greed of currency, also has some resolutions that can be out into place to help reduce the issue and potentially prevent the issue from happening at all. One way to help combat poverty would be to acknowledge the issue and spread the awareness as many people are oblivious to the many living under the poverty line. Most people are in their own bubble and unfortunately are not very much aware of how a great amount of people live on and under the poverty line. Another step in combating poverty would be creating organizations and communities to work locally. For example, "Enacting policy is not the only solution to global poverty, as policy often does not affect those suffering directly". "efforts must come from both local and federal domains. Essentially, while policy is created to change legislation, local organizations enact the changes, directly helping those in need. On top of that, working with entire communities instead of specific individuals has been proven to be more effective".

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