

# The Illusion of Poverty

22 September 2024

I remember I once learned about how the income “poverty line” is calculated, but I forgot the formula a long time ago; minimum wage requirements now seem to be discussed a lot more.

Wealthy people always receive attention, but poor folk do not get as much, at least individually. Reducing poverty is frequently a topic of public discussion, however what about individuals or small groups, such as a neighborhood? First, an old joke:

A dying man with many gold bars asks his priest how many can be taken to Heaven when he passes. “None” says the clergyman, “and you will get the same answer in any religion.” The ailing man begs anyway for an exception from El Papa.

To his delight, the archbishop comes back with papal approval; the soon-to-pass millionaire then puts a trunkful of gold bars at the foot of his bed. Soon after passing away, he shows up at The Pearly Gates with his extremely heavy luggage.

“What’s that?” asks St. Peter, and without a word, the new arrival beams with pride and opens the trunk. “That’s not allowed” exclaims St. Peter, who closes the lid. The millionaire says, “I have an exemption” and waves the paper from The Pope. “Wait a moment while I check” replies the good saint, who disappears in an instant.

A moment later he reappears from thin air and says: “You’re right; I am also so surprised, I asked Jesus to come see this personally.” The trunk is opened again. Jesus peers inside and exclaims, “Wow! You brought us beautiful paving stones! That’s great, thank you.”

*Q: Esteemed Committee, thank you once again for coming to address my questions and what readers offer. What life plan process determines poverty, wealth or something in between, if any? Are we humans all destined to our financial life station, because of our life agreement?*

*C: No; wealth is human perception; as we have explained many a time, value is what other humans attach to objects or coupons, thus an owner, holder or possessor holds wealth because s/he thinks other humans will consider the thing valuable. As you all know, tastes and preferences change, individually and collectively, sometimes rapidly.*

*Q: Does any poor person plan it, to have small incomes and/or few assets?*

*C: Yes, just as do the wealthy and also the far greater number of humans who are neither.*

*Q: Is the decision to be poor, permanently throughout a human life or temporarily, intended to provide a learning experience?*

*C: Or to be wealthy, and yes to all three choices.*

*Q: What can be learned?*

*C: Generosity, avarice, responsibility, irresponsibility, covetousness, among many other things.*

*Q: How do alien civilizations manage money, wealth, poverty and assets?*

*C: Voluntarily, always. The explanation of how it is often done on other worlds, requires a review of human history leading to the idea of exchange, commerce and trade.*

*Q: Please give us this explanation.*

C: It is rare enough that members of a family will regularly ask one another for money or other things in trade, that the effect of doing so does not gain sufficient critical mass to initiate a general social practice. As humans were released from protection by your creators, who have been named the Anunnaki, populations began to increase and disperse.

As separate groups formed, much larger than families, the opportunity to share food, hides and objects made from materials present in abundance, such as wood and stone, arose. It was not long before a grouping of people whose good luck, skill or fortune gave them more animal hides than could be used, saw and learned that food could be offered in exchange.

The use of coupons or vouchers, first made of solid materials such as rock or metals, soon made trade easier; the human history of money is well studied.

Arising from this came the notion of effort, work and value; producing more hides specifically for trade naturally confirmed animal skins as valuable. Money allowed a producer to wait indefinitely before attempting to acquire other things of value. Perishable foods, which are nearly all edibles, can be obtained later using money proceeds of today.

We do realize this rudimentary explanation is already well understood by many of you, however we have made the effort to offer it, to make the answer to the question easier.

In many an alien extraterrestrial civilization, the physical needs of life are different. Protection from cold, heat and atmospheric effects overall, are often less severe, sustenance in the form of physical food is different thus produced differently and often much more easily. Transportation, social interaction and activity designed to produce physical products or services, are fewer. Less work is involved in daily life.

Technology makes the fewer things provided for others, both physical and otherwise, far easier to track. When things shall be available, where, in what amount or quantities can be easily listed in a central location, access to which any member of society may have. Humans would call this an on-line database. Thus, trade can be accomplished more easily; the concepts of voluntary effort reign supreme; a human who undertakes a generous effort to provide for others, with no expectation of anything in return, is seen as noble, generous, naïve and eventually, stupid. The family and especially leader and coaches of a younger human, often known as parents, aunts, uncles, older siblings and others, will intervene to prevent the perceived simple family member from giving things away “for free”.

This is human social practice; it is not pursued in many alien extraterrestrial civilizations. To the contrary, many such societies encourage the opposite, both by example and through early life coaching.

Early in life do members of such societies learn about needs as compared to wants. Why does transportation need be available, versus wanting to go longer distances more quickly or in ways impossible without the transportation method? How much is optional, simply a desire without basic need for survival? Many answers apply to the diverse, almost endless circumstances possible where transportation could be useful beyond self-locomotion, or walking.

S/he who designs, supplies materials for or builds nearly anything physical, can exchange the product for other services or products; as humans learned to do this several hundred decades ago, the supply on the one side and the requests for what is offered, will rise and flow with one another. Human economic study calls this equilibrium and measures it in terms of money and time.

Where the illusion of time is both understood as such and operates differently, the notions of equilibrium are much different and often achieved faster. The introduction of coupons or vouchers, or money as these credits are humanly called, is an intermediate step in the development of trade and exchange. More efficient exchange occurs when money, and the unnecessary drag or delays it causes, are absent. Consider the efforts humans invest in simply

keeping track of money itself, then consider a society where such effort can be reduced or put towards producing things other members of that society truly want.

Displays of wealth are not made in such societies; a truly wealthy person is not seen to be someone who is a holder or possessor of things but rather a good producer whose things are widely wanted and liked. This encourages maturing observers, youngsters in many cases, to imitate good production, not the accumulation of anything. Money is not chased, because it is not used.

*Q: So why is poverty an illusion on Earth?*

C: Humans can shift to this pattern, practice and procedure as quickly as humans can think differently about getting and having things. Many a currently living human will never abandon already set ideas, and will carry notions and practices learned in life as an adolescent, as a young adult or as an older person, all the way to death, but even these people can adopt new ways if they wish.

To be impoverished is a social choice; nobody must be this way. That a percentage of any population must be poor, just as a percentage must be wealthy, is a collective decision to operate that way. This is an illusion; alternatives pursued would reveal it.

*Q: Are geophysical and other events to come, going to move mankind towards or away from the money & exchange systems we have built and use today?*

C: Most certainly away. Direct advice and assistance will be given by your alien extraterrestrial cousins; some humans will embrace the ideas, some will outright reject them and yet others will react with mixtures of acceptance and skepticism. The methods and means of production will change sharply and quickly, shocking the system. The solution to disruptions, especially as the interruptions and hiccups affect basic needs such medical treatment, food and shelter, is cooperation, built on generosity and gratitude.

Poverty and wealth will come into sharp focus and will be widely perceived as the illusions they truly are.

*Q: Thank you, Esteemed Committee, our appreciation and gratitude for your words we offer.*

C: Accepted are your offerings, welcome always are you all. Do return and be well.