

## The unaffordability of Trump

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Donald Trump's Great Gatsby-style party at Mar-a-Lago reveals everything about modern America — excess at the top, hunger at the bottom, and the deliberate cruelty of power without care. As millions faced cuts to essential payments, Trump partied. This is what happens when power forgets compassion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KltXiySg2I8&si=9RX4MqUDQTgWW2NB>

This is the audio version:

[https://www.podbean.com/player-v2/?i=fsb6u-19b80ad-pb&from=pb6admin&share=1&download=1&rtl=0&fonts=Arial&skin=f6f6f6&font-color=auto&logo\\_link=episode\\_page&btn-skin=c73a3a](https://www.podbean.com/player-v2/?i=fsb6u-19b80ad-pb&from=pb6admin&share=1&download=1&rtl=0&fonts=Arial&skin=f6f6f6&font-color=auto&logo_link=episode_page&btn-skin=c73a3a)

This is the transcript:

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There's a theme developing on this channel at the moment, and it's all about the unaffordability of the wealthy. And if we want an example of that, go and have a look at some of the pictures of Donald Trump partying in Mar-a-Lago last weekend at a supposed Great Gatsby lookalike party that he hosted there.

It's obscene; wealth was on display, and so was abuse.

Notice how many black people there are in the photographs you can find.

Notice how racially divided that party was as a consequence, in a country where there are a significant number of people who are both black and brown.

Notice how young women were treated as if none of the lessons from Epstein had been learned.

Notice how this was all about ostentatious display of wealth, just as Gatsby was, of course.

It's as if everything that Scott Fitzgerald wrote all those years ago, a century ago now, has not been learned.

And of course, we know what happened very soon after F. Scott Fitzgerald was writing. The 1929 crash followed the era about which he wrote most of all, which was the 1920s and the hype amongst the wealthy following the First World War.

Trump is creating that hype. He's putting forward that illusion, and he's doing so on the back of poor Americans.

And we know that's true. How do we know it's true? That's because last weekend, while Trump was partying, millions and millions of Americans were facing the possibility that their Social Security payments - the SNAP program payments that support them in buying their basic essentials for life, including food - might not have been paid because of the close down by the Republicans of the government in Washington that has meant that these payments have been put in jeopardy.

Now - we know now - but we didn't know last weekend, that 50% of those sums might be paid. But even so, just imagine it; whilst Trump is partying and celebrating excess, millions of Americans who have literally no margin for error in their household budgets are suffering a reduction in one of their critical payments that makes it possible for them to feed their children.

That is the reality of the world that Trump is creating. The heartless, the cruel, the people who dominate the scenes, and who believe that they are of worth, are willing to punish those whom they think are worthless to advance their own political cause, irrespective of the actual consequences for children who end up in absolute need.

You could not find a society that is more corrupt than that. You could not find political leadership that has lost its way so badly.

You could not find anyone who claims to be motivated by Christian faith, who is so far removed from the mantra that was provided by Jesus of Nazareth, which was, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Trump, Vance, and all those in the administration clearly have no idea what that means. They've never read it, and they don't care about it, and they're indifferent to the teachings to which they claim loyalty, which they only promote to advance their own cause.

This is corruption writ large. I find the scenes at Mar-a-Lago in themselves offensive because of the waste that they embody at a time when we know that we can't afford that waste because it is fuelling the climate crisis. But I find it so much more sinister and disturbing because we know that, simultaneously, people are being made to suffer deliberately for the Republican political cause.

When that happens, a democracy is tottering on the brink. And the American democracy is tottering on the brink. It's tottering on the brink of failure because Trump has brought it to that place. And he has brought it to that place deliberately because he believes this is the route to perpetual power for him and his family in a way that will advance his cause, and that of a few selected others, at cost to everyone else about whom he simply doesn't care.

Democracy can't survive indifference.

Democracy is built on care.

Democracy is built on respect.

Democracy has to treat everyone as if they are equal.

And in a society where that is not the case, and Trump so obviously represents such a society, then democracy is in peril.

We face the risk that in Europe there are many who would like to copy Trump and replicate his programmes here for the advantage of a few at cost to the many. We can't afford that. We can't afford that in human terms. We can't afford that in climate terms. We can't afford that in terms of democracy. We can't afford that in terms of the alternative, which is exploitation and ultimately fascism, and all that leads to.

We have to reclaim the politics of care from these people who are only interested in the politics of power. It's time to say enough. It's time to expose these people for what they are. The utter charlatans, the fraudsters, the falsehoods that they put forward, and the deceit behind their claims to be delivering for everyone.

We have to talk about how to do that delivery for everyone in reality. That means we must reject the people like Trump, like Farage and others throughout Europe who will try to do the same thing.

This is the moment where we have to decide whether to pivot, and pivot away from the wealthy and their corruption and towards the poorest and their dignity, because actually that's what the poorest have. They have dignity. They are survivors; when these people are exploiters, and they're fundamentally different in tone, as a consequence.

The survivors know what it means to face difficulty and come through it. The exploiters

know nothing about that; they just know how to abuse. I vote for those with dignity, those who want to survive and those who must survive. We have to have that politics of care, and we can no longer afford people like Trump.

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