



WEALTH GAP TO VIOLENCE Index

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Dear Friend of Earth & Humanity,

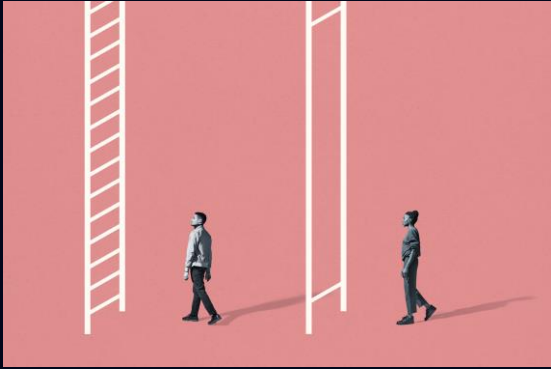
The world needs a Wealth Gap to Violence Index to look at the relationship between income inequality and national-social violence.

You can contact me if you would like to participate in the development of this index, or on funding development and implementation of the WGV Index.

You can read more on the following pages on what we have gathered so far on wealth gap to violence.

Sandy Hinden

Expanding Wealth Gap → Expanding Violence



1. The number of people living in modern slavery conditions has jumped 25% to 50 million over the last five years.
2. Flow-Up Economics is low taxes on the wealthy leading to wealth and real estate assets continuing to increase at the top.
3. Trickle Down Economics is low taxes for the wealthy that is supposed to lead to investment in new companies and an increase in wages for workers.
4. Low taxes on the wealthy has actually led to the poor deteriorating further with stagnant wages, inflation, infrastructure decay, and housing insecurity.
5. The top 1% now own 48% of world wealth.
6. The next 12% own 38% of world wealth.
7. The highest 13% own 86% of world wealth.
8. 53% own 1% of world wealth.

Expanding Wealth Gap → Expanding Violence



7. International tax evasion continues.
8. International money laundering continues and is expanding with cryptocurrency.
9. Housing Insecurity and homelessness grow when wealthy investors and corporations buy up existing affordable single-family homes and charge high rents.
 - In the US, many adults are living with their parents.
 - Many young couples are unable to afford to buy a home.
 - Landlords are not the only ones who benefit from housing exploitation; many homeowners do, too, their property values propped up by the collective effort to make housing scarce and expensive.
 - 583,000 individuals are experiencing homelessness in the United States, more people than the entire state of Wyoming.

Expanding Wealth Gap → Expanding Violence



10. High inequality leads to limited access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, exacerbating social exclusion, and increasing the likelihood of violence.
11. Economic inequality contributes to political instability, weakening governance, and social unrest, which can also drive violence.
12. Reverse Causality: The relationship between economic inequality and violence can be bidirectional.
13. High violence rates generate distrust and fear and lower economic growth.

Inequality & Deprivation Produce High Crime & Low Trust



1. Humans sometimes cooperate to mutual advantage, and sometimes exploit one another.
2. In industrialized societies, the prevalence of exploitation, in the form of crime, is related to the distribution of economic resources.
3. More unequal societies tend to have higher crime, as well as lower social trust.
4. There is a desperation threshold, a level of resources below which it is extremely damaging to fall.
5. People do not belong to fixed types. They condition their behavior on their current resource level and the behavior in the population around them.

Inequality & Deprivation Produce High Crime & Low Trust



New Crimes

- Cyber Scams
- Phishing
- Hacking
- Ransomware

6. Individuals who are close to the desperation threshold may exploit others.
7. This remains true even in the presence of severe and probable punishment for exploitation, since successful exploitation is the quickest route out of desperation, whereas being punished does not make already desperate states much worse.
8. Populations with a sufficiently unequal distribution of resources rapidly evolve an equilibrium of low trust and zero cooperation.
9. Desperate individuals try to exploit, and non-desperate individuals avoid interaction altogether.
10. Making the distribution of resources more equal or increasing social mobility is generally effective in producing a high cooperation, high trust equilibrium; increasing punishment severity is not.

Weak Communities Are Where Gangs Grow



1. Weak communities are places with lower communication, fewer resources, and less problem-solving to create wellbeing for their community members.
2. They are places where gangs grow.
3. With poor education, lack of guidance for youth, and weak community structures, gangs flourish.
4. Gangs are growing worldwide in a culture of poverty.



The Growth of Gangs

Lack of

Guidance, Values, Mentors, Education, Employment, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



GANGS WORLDWIDE



Benefits

- Sense of identity
- Sense of belonging, family, community
- Protection against other gangs
- Adventure, intensity
- Sense of spirituality, group ritual
- Money
- Avoid thinking about the future

Consequences

- Dropping out of school
- Teen parenthood
- Unemployment
- Victimization
- Drug, alcohol, and sexual abuse
- Petty and violent crimes
- Juvenile conviction and incarceration
- Being harmed or killed

Gangs to Transnational Organized Crime to War

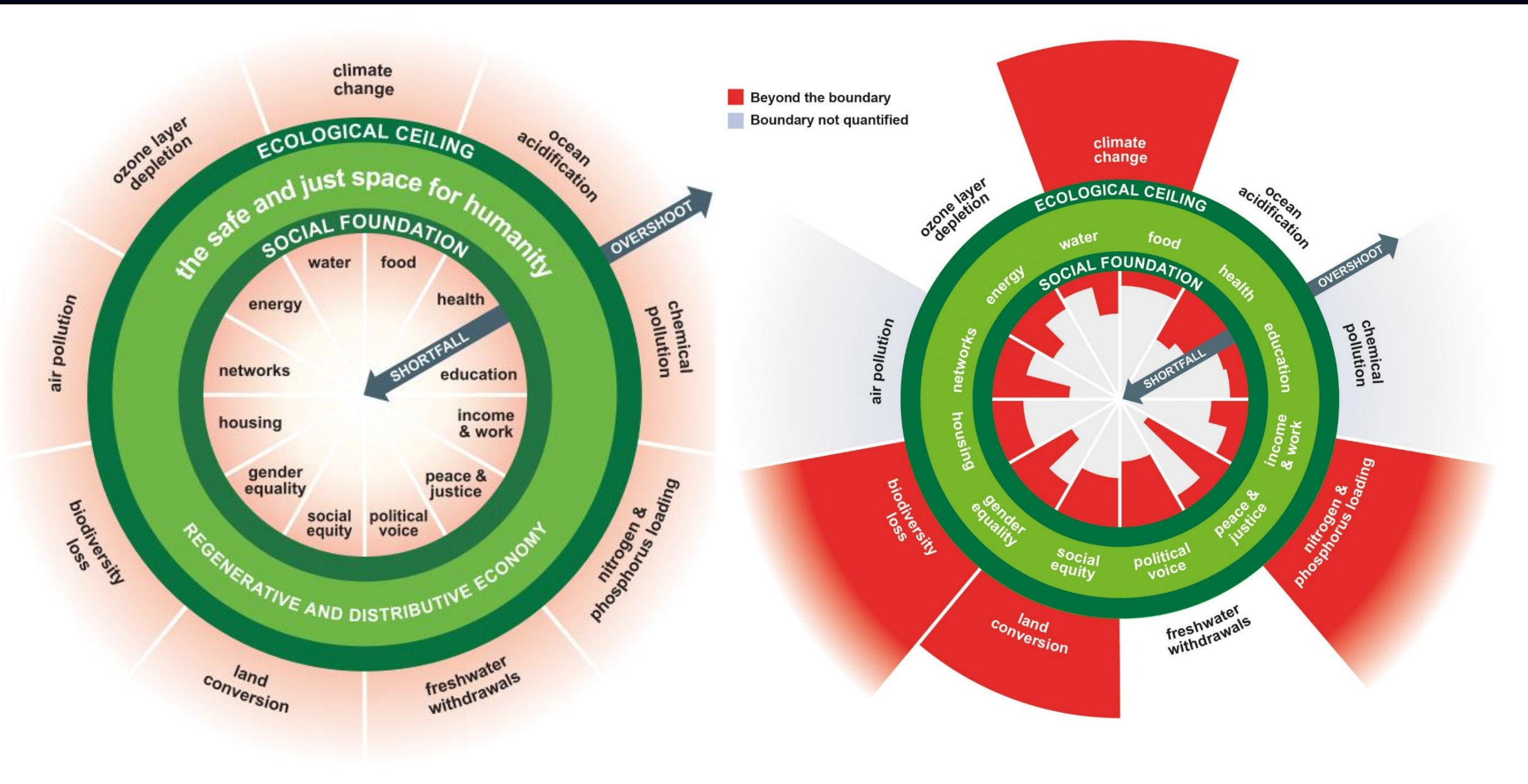


1	Neighborhood-based gangs
2	Prison gangs, white nationalist gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs, national-level street gangs
3	Transnational gangs
4	Organized crime, cartels-consortiums
5	Global hackers, ransomware, money laundering, traffickers in drugs, weapons, guns, sex, data
6	Militias, mercenaries, terrorists

Public Investment to Strengthen Communities

Public Health & Prevention	Economic Opportunity & Housing Security	Youth Development & Education	Built Environment & Community Spaces	Institutional Transformation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create sustainable funding streams for community violence intervention programs. • Scale civilian crisis-response models. • Increase funding for community health clinics, trauma recovery centers, and community health workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand access to workforce development and employment programs. • Fund summer jobs for youth. • Fund targeted cash assistance programs for harm survivors. • Expand economic opportunity for formerly incarcerated individuals. • Expand access to housing through eviction defense, vouchers, and alternative real estate models. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a grant program to fund local youth violence prevention plans. • Increasing resources for low-income schools. • Fund youth centers, sports, enrichment activities, and neighborhood-based wraparound support programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built environment and community spaces to lower stress can significantly reduce crime. • Increase grant funding for place-based neighborhood improvement projects. • Transform abandoned homes and buildings and clean vacant lots. • Create green neighborhood-led projects for “third spaces” such as parks, cafes, and community centers to lower stress & increase connections. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide sustainable and accessible funding for grassroots organizations. • Enhance the capacity of community-based organizations. • Create a community safety division at the Department of Health and Human Services for civilian agencies dedicated to community safety. • Fund additional research on the social determinants of safety.

Doughnut Economics



Wellbeing Economy Alliance



We all need...

FAIRNESS

Justice in all its dimensions at the heart of economic systems, and the gap between the richest and poorest greatly reduced



We all need...

NATURE

A restored and safe natural world for all life



We all need...

PARTICIPATION

Citizens are actively engaged in their communities and locally rooted economies



We all need...

CONNECTION

A sense of belonging and institutions that serve the common good



We all need...

DIGNITY

Everyone has enough to live in comfort, safety and happiness



We need people who care and collaborate to solve local, national, and global problems.
 We need to find ways to communicate it is in people's interest to support peace and nature.

SURVIVING	2 billion people	Can't afford to care	Struggling to survive	Finding water, food, shelter	Living day-to-day
STRIVING	2 billion people	Can almost afford to care, may not seem to care	Struggling to succeed	Finding work, transportation	Living week-to-week
SUCCEEDING	1 billion people	Can afford to care, but don't seem to care very much about the environment or future generations	Average status quo	Climbing the ladder of success	May have no time May vote for who supports cheap gasoline Fear of crime and competition, support police & military to preserve gained advantages Very high CO2 emissions
ADVANTAGED	1 billion people		Elite status quo	Competitive Protecting wealth Some are proud of high-carbon lifestyle	
CARING	2 billion people	Can afford to care, and do care	Many NGOs, Nonprofits, Health & Human Services, Educators Philanthropists	Competing for attention, positions resources, and recognition	Attend many conferences Little to no incentives to collaborate



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