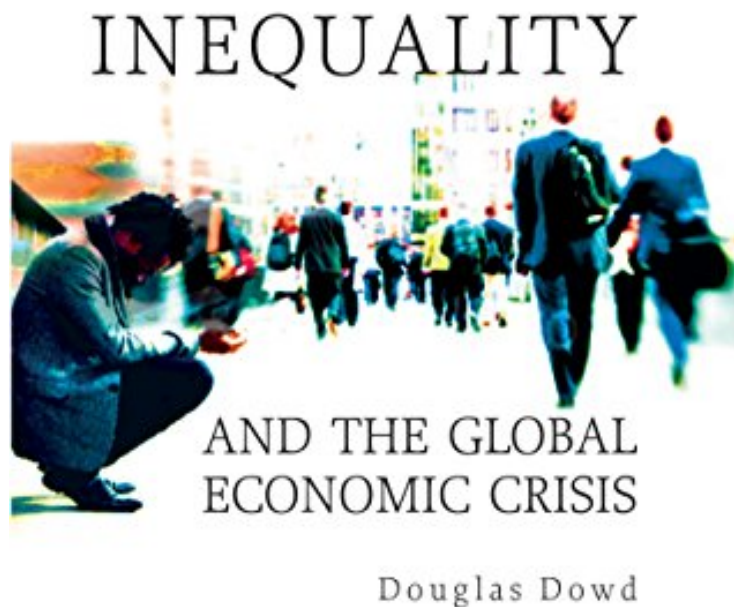


# Inequality and the Global Economic Crisis

*Douglas Dowd*

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'A penetrating analysis of where we are today... Douglas Dowd is our most reliable economic historian.' **Howard Zinn**



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**Douglas Dowd : Inequality and the Global Economic Crisis** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inequality and the Global Economic Crisis:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Dowd gets us to see what we've always seen in ways we never thought we could see...By KostisI started to read this book with the eye of an old (retired) college teacher, always on the lookout for a good primer for the uninitiated in the social sciences, and became engrossed in its erudite and lucid exposition; the beauty is that it fully succeeds in satisfying both kinds of reading. It begins by defining the subject ("Inequality of Whom, Regarding What?") and explaining its dimensions (by reference to class, race, gender,

nationality, religion). It then fans out to five well-documented chapters on the factors or processes that engender and deepen inequality today (big business; consumerism and the media; globalization; financialization; militarism). This middle section is the part that I appreciated the most--and not because the evidence it presents is unfamiliar, but rather because of the clarity with which it shows how inequality is compounded by these very central elements of contemporary economic and political reality. The book ends with three chapters, dedicated to the consequences of inequality for its victims and victimizers as well as "the economy, democracy, and social decency," followed by a sobering comparison of the US and EU. Here, too, the familiarly banal and the incisively perceptive mix to produce a thought-provoking and galvanizing grasp on our social condition: Dowd manages what few authors can accomplish; he gets us to see what we've always seen in ways that that we perhaps never thought we could see. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy sandra brimClear, delightfully written, and still rings true for 20165 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Dowd: A Marxist With Plenty to SayBy Mr. Rodney MaraI was a student in Douglas Dowd's Economics class at San Jose State University in the 1970's. He is extremely learned and intelligent. Be aware he speaks from a Marxist analytical viewpoint. His writing is concise and understandable for even the layman. As he does with all of his works, Dr. Dowd traces the history of world capitalism and spends only a little time on the most recent collapse of the capitalist financial system. Read this book if you want another viewpoint of the crisis of the "Great Recession," albeit a radical one that many will not be comfortable reading.

Inequality, per se, has been with us for millennia. With the creation, growth and deepening of Capitalism across the globe, inequalities take on new dimensions, unknown in previous eras. As Capitalism has spread its wings across the globe over the last 200 or so years, so inequalities have deepened and widened, both inside Nation States, between nation States. These inequalities are of income, wealth and of power. This book, written by the widely respected economic historian Douglas Dowd at the age of 90, is notable for his own experience and vivid memory, of the 1929-31 recession. Since the 1980s, and the predominance of the present neo-liberal ideology, all of the inequalities that the book presents have grown rapidly. Written as a critique of the counter-productivity of growing economic inequality and vindicated by the present world banking crisis, Dowd presents a strong argument against capitalist expansion, exploitation and oligarchic rule. Dowd's conclusions, that the globalization and growth of the financial sector will impact painfully upon hundreds of millions of people, unknown to most of us in our lifetime, Dowd's book deals with these issues from the unique perspective of inequality. Presenting both a history of the current crisis and an overview of it's, Inequality will appeal to both a broad general readership, and provides an extremely useful reference point for students of political economy, economic history, contemporary economics and global politics.

There's no person alive that I've learned more from than Doug Dowd. And it never stops! I'm eager to read this latest book--and his next one! -- Daniel Ellsberg, author of "Secrets: A Memoir of Vietnam and the Pentagon Papers." Douglas Dowd is our most reliable economic historian, and in this book he skilfully weaves together the current economic crisis, the globalization factor, and the persistence of equality to come up with a penetrating analysis of where we are today. The book is full of useful, often startling information. It is an ideal antidote to the nonsense we get from the so-called experts. -- Howard Zinn Once again, as he has done so often in the past, Douglas Dowd offers readers a reliable, clear-headed and compassionate analysis of the current global economic crisis. Inequality and the Global Economic Crisis is an invaluable guide to our current woes -- Marilyn B. Young, Professor of History, New York University and co-editor of Bombing Civilians: A 20th Century History. About the Author