

# Our Spirits Slaving in Despair

Taxation, the blood coursing through every facet of government existence, is the pressure point in any abuse dating back to the beginning of Man, exemplified by the phrase:

*"For the love of money is the root of all evil" <sup>1</sup>*

While government casually throws our hard earned money around, every single disappearing dollar drastically affects quality of life for many families. The total bill for all of government (and misgovernment) is taxation. Tally your records to see how much of your working life you are forced to dedicate to paying taxes:

1. Federal and State "Income taxes" - sometimes 2 different States (double / triple taxation)
2. City Tax – for some people
3. Social Security tax
4. Medicare, Disability, Health, and Life Insurance (If social security is a tax, so are these)
5. Real estate taxes (if you own a home)
6. Sales tax on houses, cars, boats, etc.
7. Excise taxes on motor vehicles, boats, trailers, etc.
8. Taxes on Electricity, Heating Gas / Oil, Phone, Cable TV, etc.
9. Sales tax on gasoline, household items, certain clothing, alcohol, dining, entertainment, etc.
10. Marriage, Driver's, Hunting, Dog, and/or Fishing licenses
11. Tolls on Highways, Bridges, etc.
12. Additional – This is for other taxes we might pay that don't fit the above, such as:
  - a. "Death tax" on inherited assets
  - b. Forced union dues at your place of employment
  - c. Gift tax
  - d. Vehicle Safety Inspection

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<sup>1</sup> the New Testament (1 Timothy 6:10) in the King James translation

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To understand the total effective drain on your *spiritual essence* that taxation causes, you must consider four factors:

1. Your usable income is the only income that matters. If you didn't pay any taxes, that would be equal to your gross income. As can be seen from above, a considerable amount of income goes to different "excuses". To calculate your usable income, from your total gross income subtract the total taxes you paid (from above).
2. Then divide your total taxes paid by your usable income to begin to get a true representation of the percent of time you spend working to support government.
3. Next, there is a cost-of-living (inflation) hidden tax. While you might think government can't control this, they manipulate everything, especially money. History shows that before the Federal Reserve was established, we experienced steady deflation, not inflation. This makes sense. When companies first start up, their overhead is high. Their research and development costs are high. As time marches on, some of these costs disperse. With each new byproduct comes lower development cost, not higher, when managed correctly. Business costs should decrease over time.

Government regulates the value of money. Government controls our economy, effectively assessing a cost-of-living tax. Government's conservative Cost-of Living Chart is on record in the Library of Congress, depicting the averaged percentage of increase in cost of commodities each year, assuming accurate publication. Over long periods of time we'll use a cost-of-living average of 3% each year. That's 3% of your usable income after all other taxes every year. Over ten years, that produces a compounded conservative 34% decrease in spending power.

The effective Cost-of-Living should address two of our most expensive necessities for independence in today's world, houses and cars.

An average house went from \$30,000 approximately 35 years ago to \$200,000 today, a 700% increase, an averaged 20% increase every year.

A new car went from \$10,000 approximately 30 years ago to \$50,000 today, a 500% increase, an averaged steady 16% increase every year.

How were your pay "raises"? Did you get anywhere near a 16% cost-of-living increase every year? If not, you are steadily sliding backward. You are working harder and harder for less and less.

4. Another hidden tax is the global value of our paper money (Federal Reserve Notes) in light of our deficit, global banking, and global business. Government's overspending, the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve Notes (our paper money, with no backing), and Fractional Reserve Banking (lending money banks don't have) have astronomical manipulation possibilities to deplete our purchasing power, way beyond my ability to calculate.

Having converted our monetary system from a solid (gold and silver) backing to a floating base, government is responsible for its impact on our livelihood. Our original precious-metal backed money system was stable, secure. Why fix something that wasn't broken, unless manipulation was the goal.

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Mismanagement of our natural resources contributes to our unstable economy through constantly fluctuating oil prices. In President Bush's reign<sup>2</sup>, gasoline alone rose more than 200%. Then, in less than one month, gasoline went from \$4.00 a gallon to \$1.50. One week later, it headed back up. Gasoline is almost as vital as the air we breathe. Is this political ineptness or purposeful manipulation of business (global 2<sup>nd</sup> class citizen soldier) profits?

Government consists of humans, not robots. People naturally seek growth, not just survival. Given human statistical propensity to spend more than we have, government's natural tendency toward growth perpetuates escalation. Acting like a child with money burning a hole in his pocket, government spends money as if it grows on trees. The deficit is enormous. Taxation and government deficit rest on the backs of working Americans. Government responsibility for fiscal performance is not linked to their salaries. While the deficit grows, they enact their own raises. Are their salaries commensurate with job performance or average American lifestyle? Do their unlinked salaries impress falsely biased priorities into job function? Private business bad fiscal performance ejects officials. Prolonged bad performance reorganizes. Instead, the strongest union ever formed continues to grow.

We don't worry about paying sales tax when we buy items in a store or gasoline tax when we fill our tanks. If we own a house, then we pay real estate tax. These taxes are more straightforward.

Picturing the approach of April's deadline each year, do you feel despair, stress, and crushing insecurity? Why is "income tax" different, complicated? Do you know why you pay it? Do you know if you pay more than required? Do you pay more not understanding why? Do you overpay for fear of error? Overpayment of taxes under threat, duress, and/or coercion equals overtaxing and abuse of power, repeating our history 200 years ago, which was then resolved only by war. Was that bloodshed for nothing?

Present financial instability is causing everyone to live day-by-day. The increasing financial stress weakens our health and increases medical needs and expenses, further draining our finances. What kind of security is this? How can the average working person maintain a budget, save money, afford a vacation, or attain retirement? Both parents must work, sacrificing child development. How can he feel his children stand any chance for happiness?

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<sup>2</sup> I use reign instead of term in office because it accurately depicts decades of failure to follow our Constitution.