



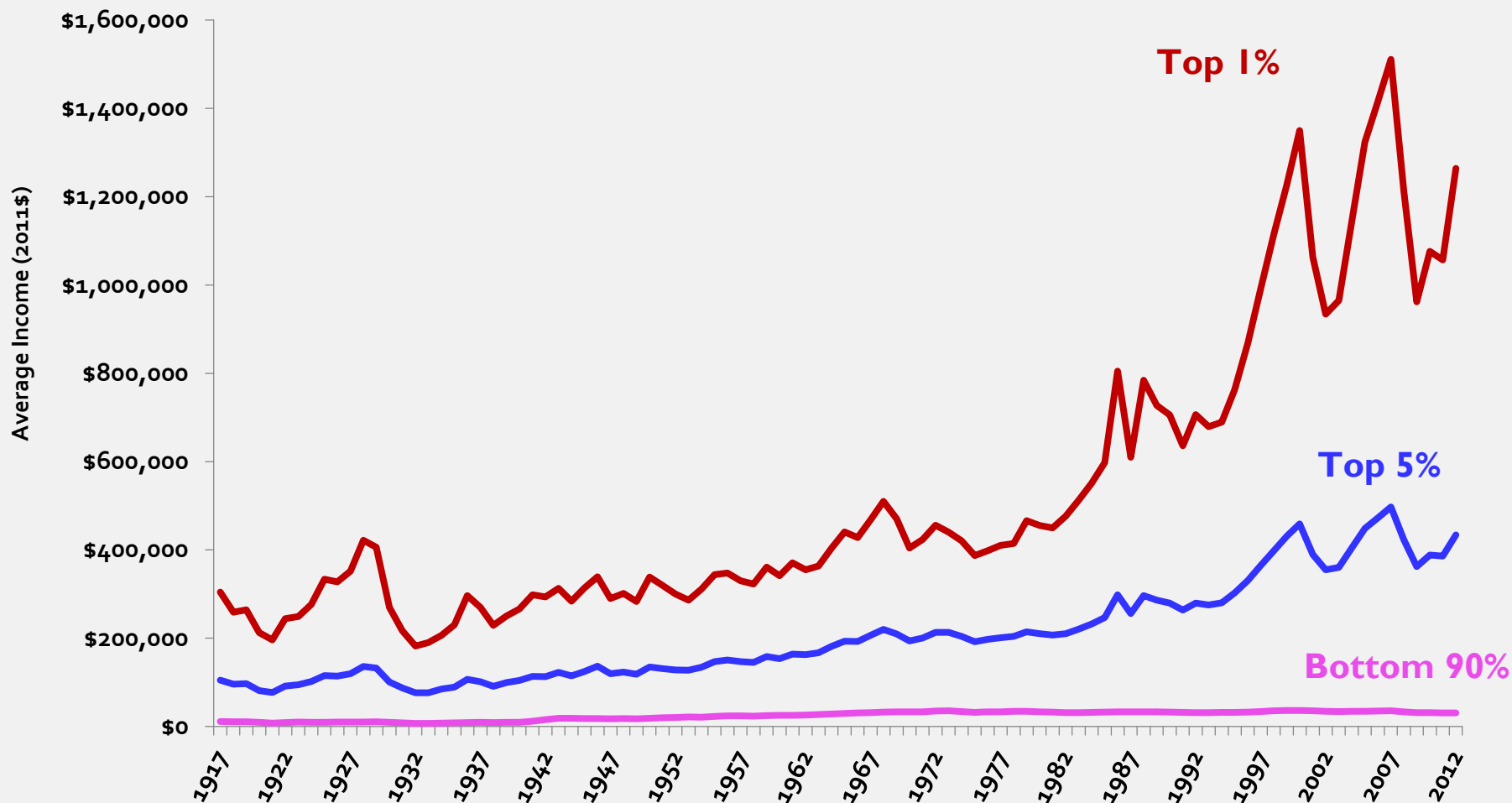
“The reason they call it the American Dream is because you have to be asleep to believe it.”

~ George Carlin

Bridging the Inequality Gap
UCLA Hammer Forum
March 11, 2014

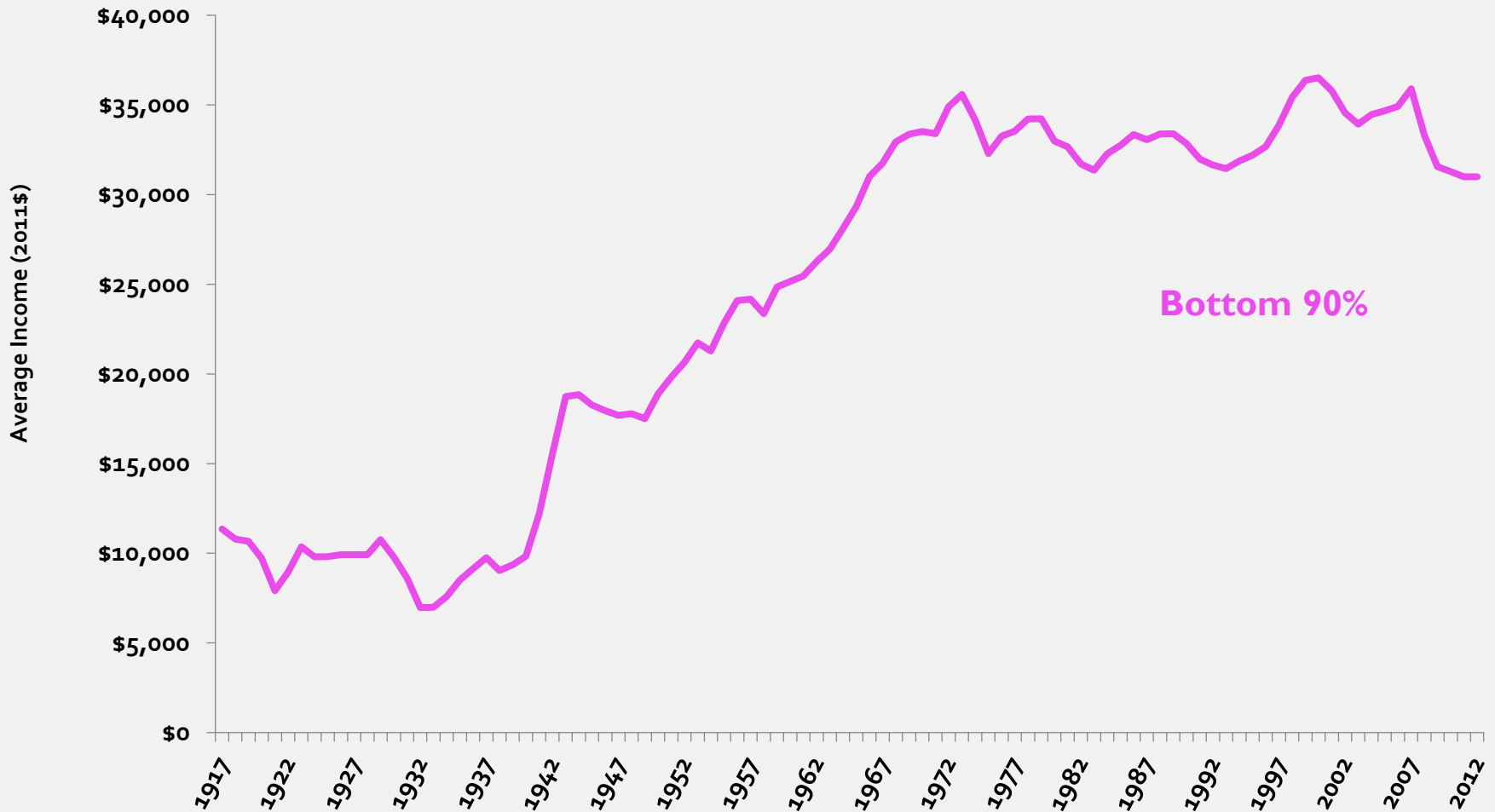
Sylvia A. Allegretto, PhD
Co-Director, Center for Wage & Employment Dynamics
Institute for Research on Labor & Employment
University of California, Berkeley

Dude, the rich are getting richer!

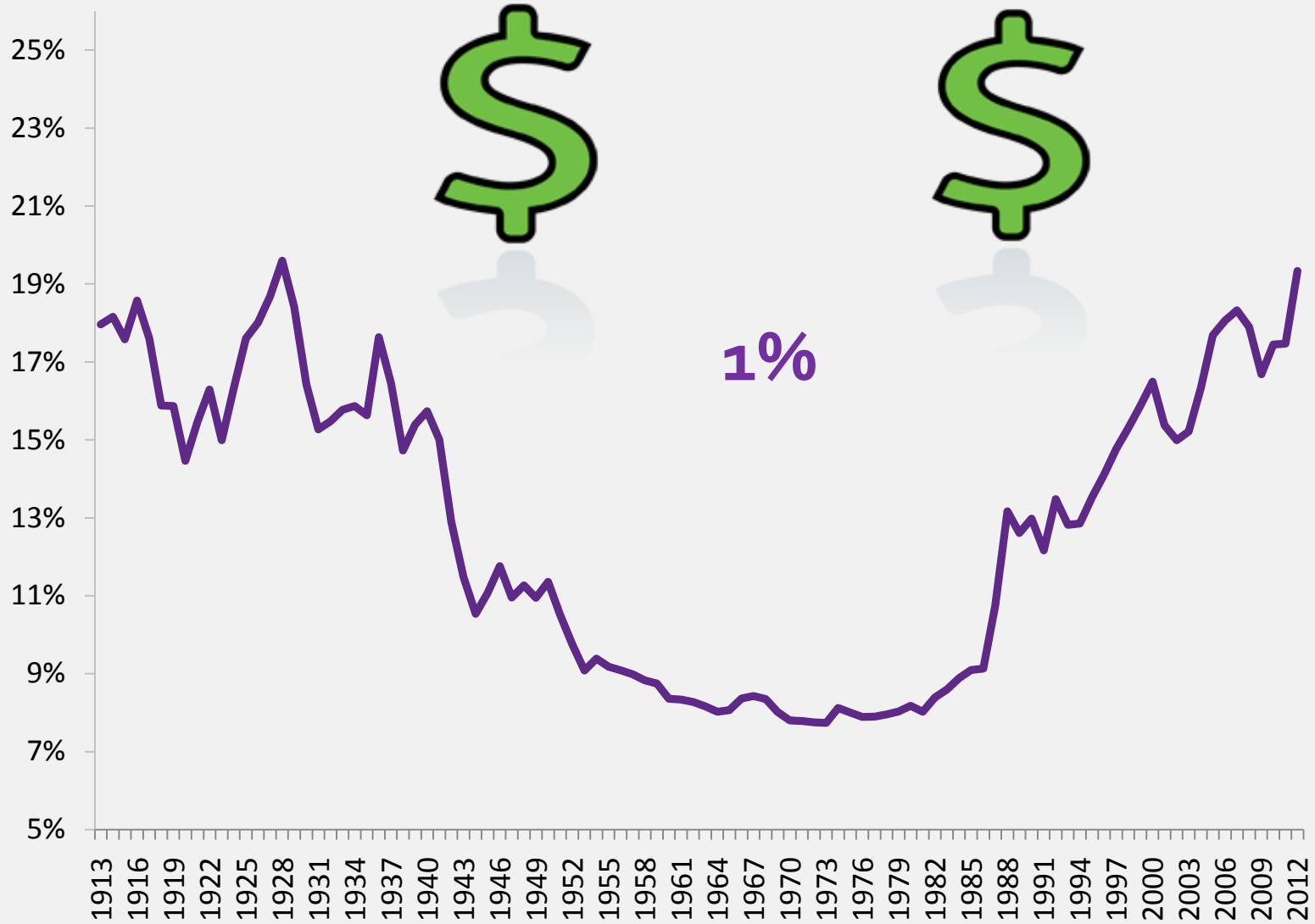


Source: Piketty, T. and Saez, E., The World Top Incomes Database. U.S. before-tax income including K-gains.

A rising tide...

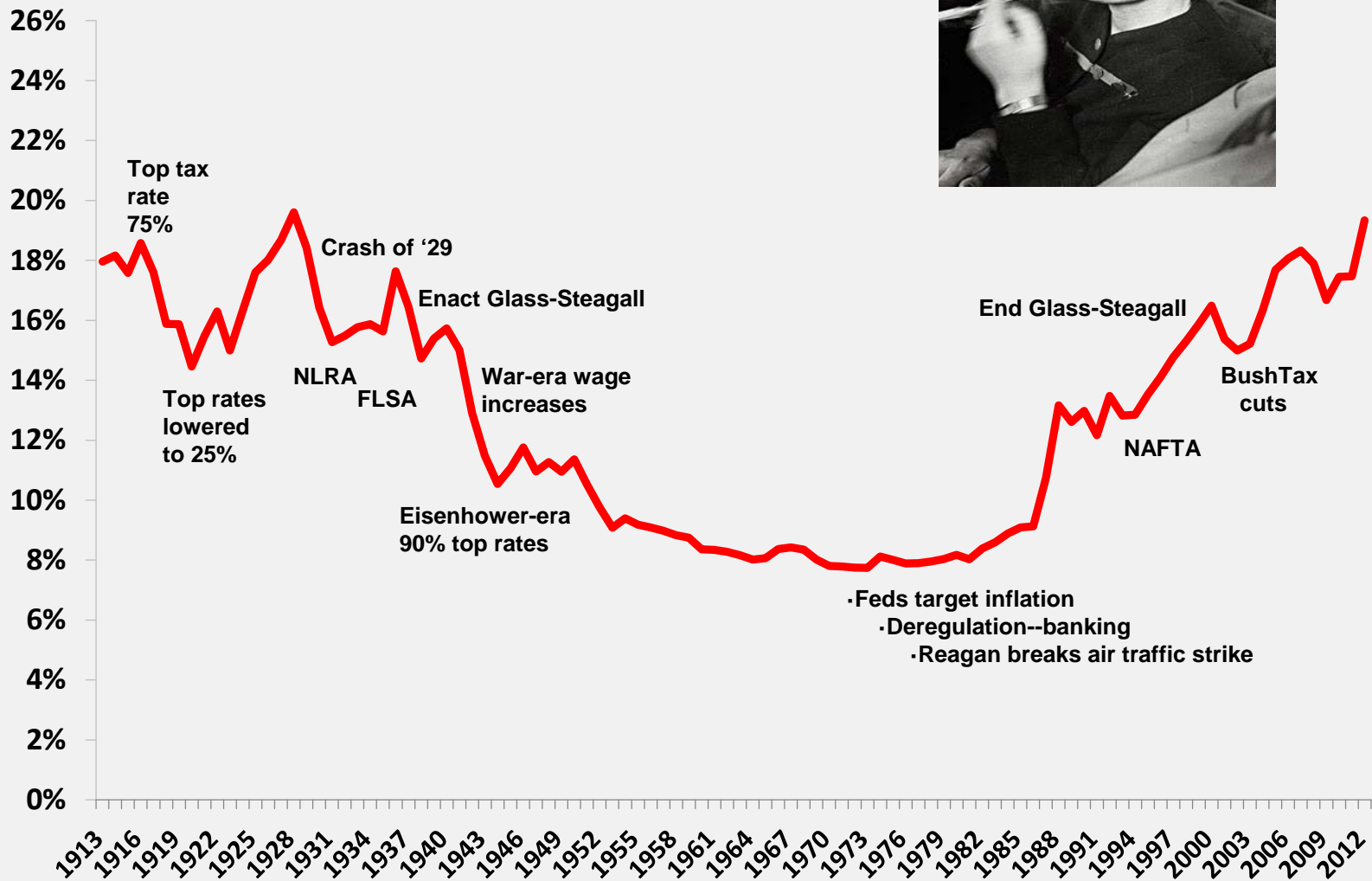


Source: Piketty, T. and Saez, E., The World Top Incomes Database. U.S. before-tax income including K-gains.

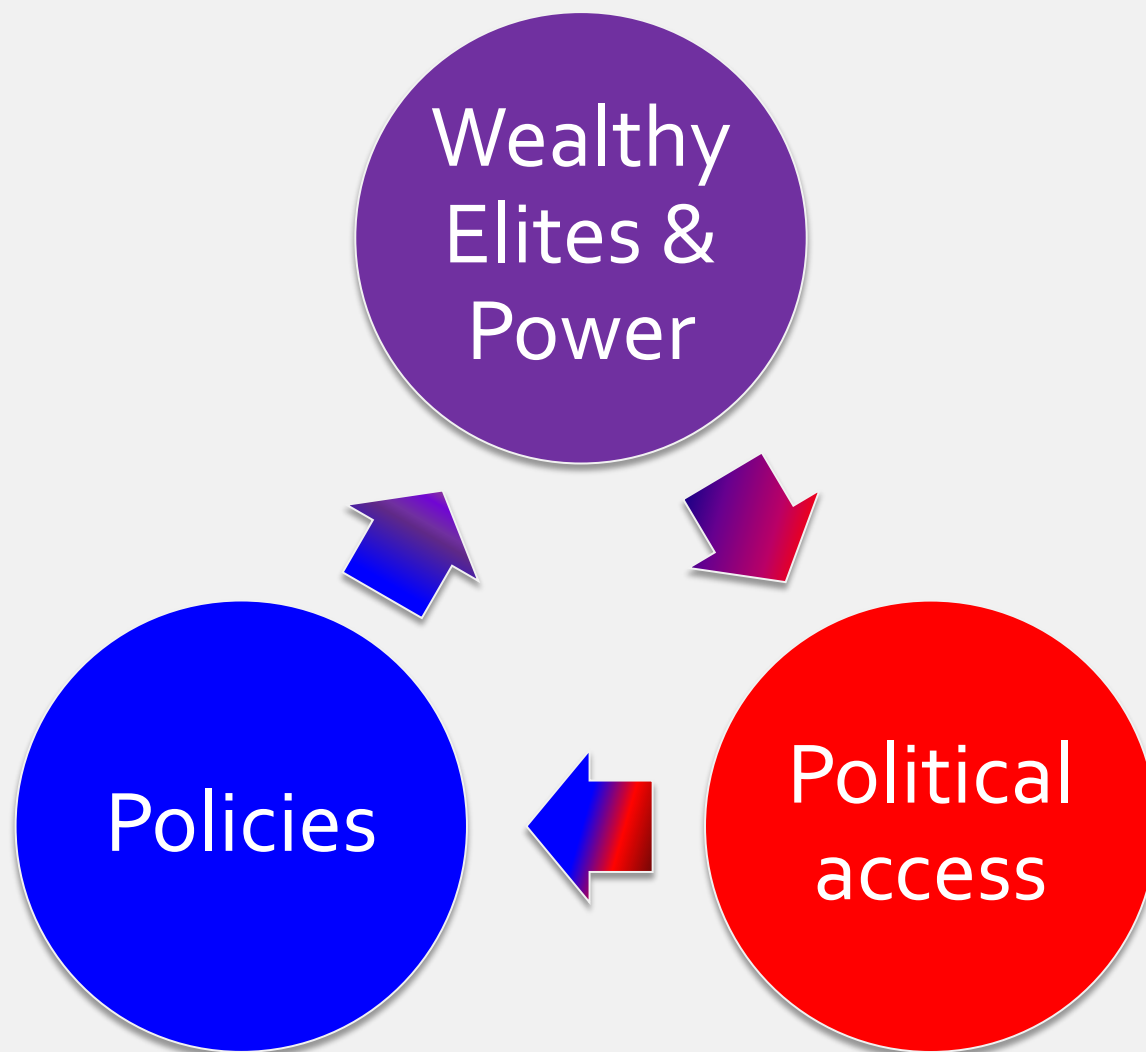


Source: Emmanuel Saez and Thomas Piketty. Top 1% income shares (excluding capital gains) in the United States.

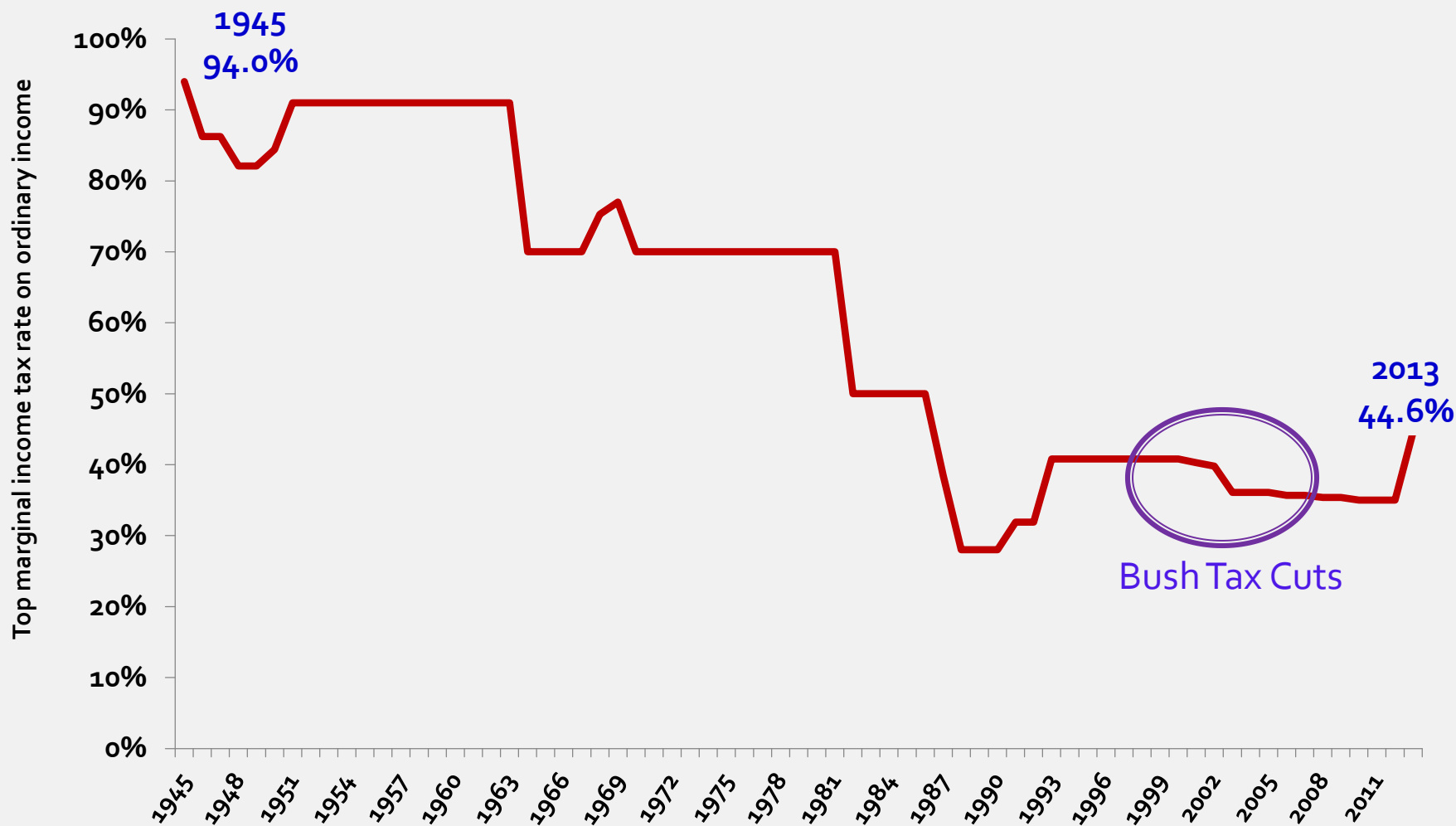
The 'free market' fallacy



Inequality is a function of *Purposeful Policy*



Falling top-marginal tax rates

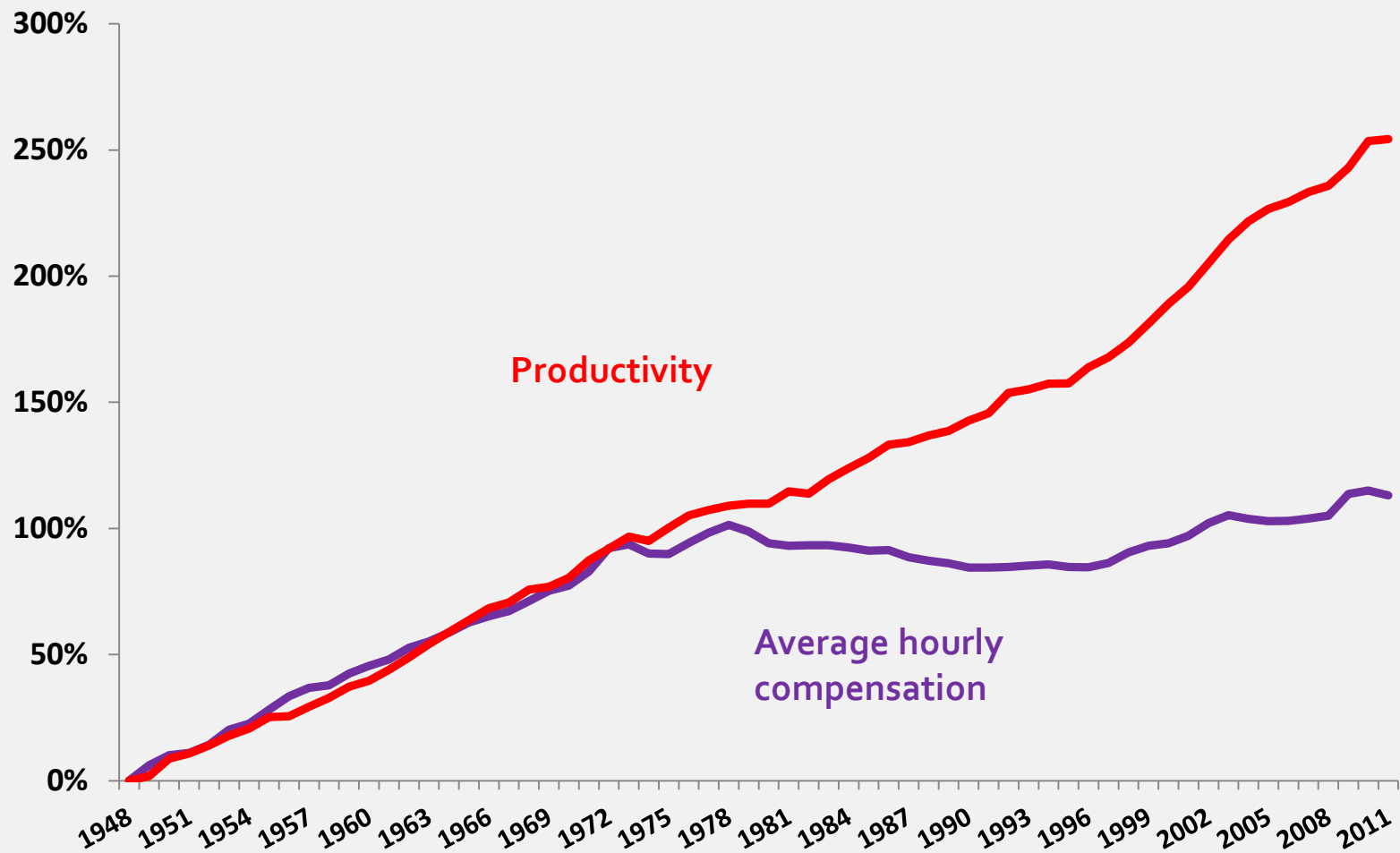


Source: Citizens for Tax Justice.

Allegretto 2013

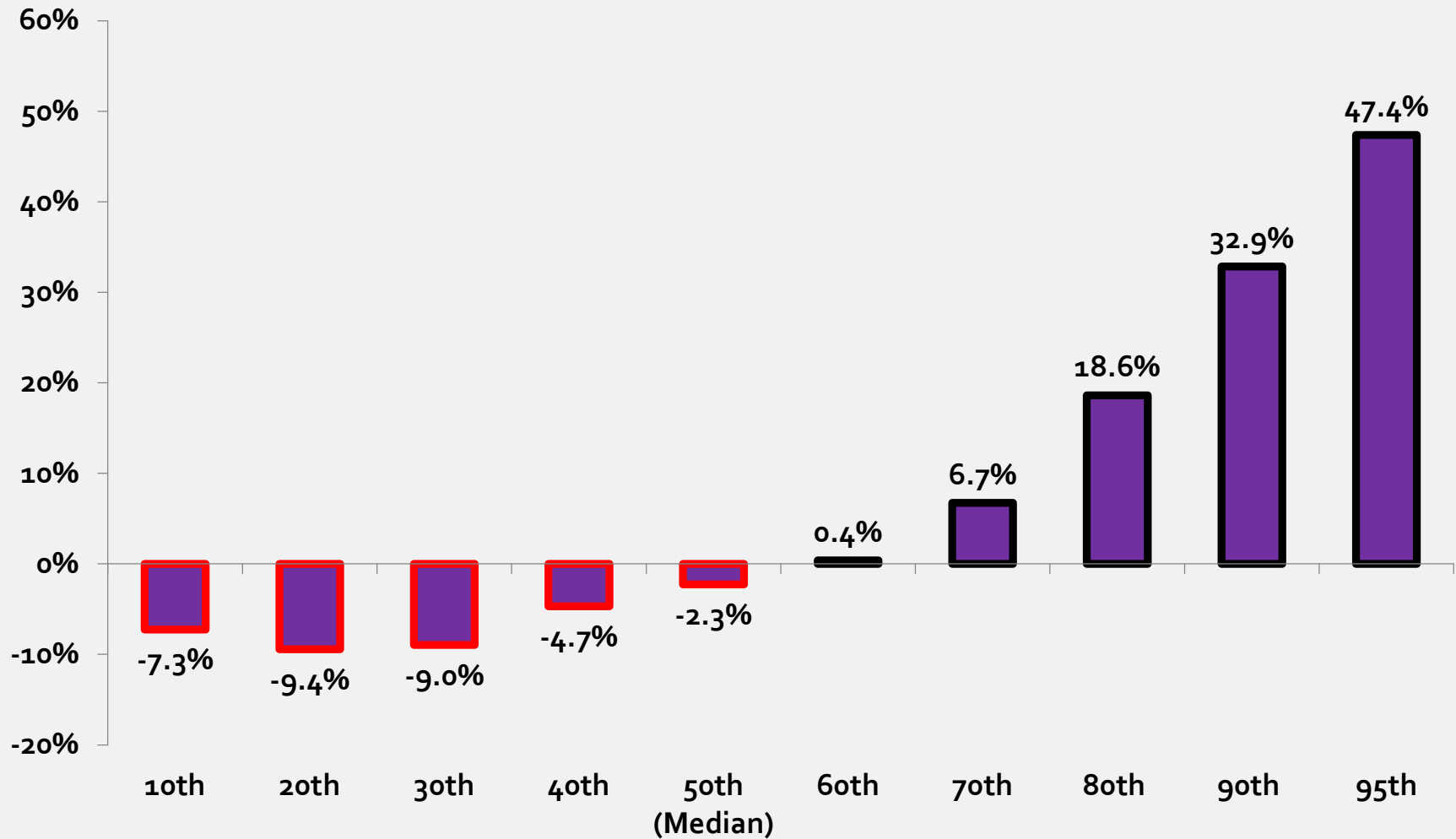
"I am trying to enjoy the fruits of my labor"

~Lucinda Williams lyrics



...some will win and some will lose

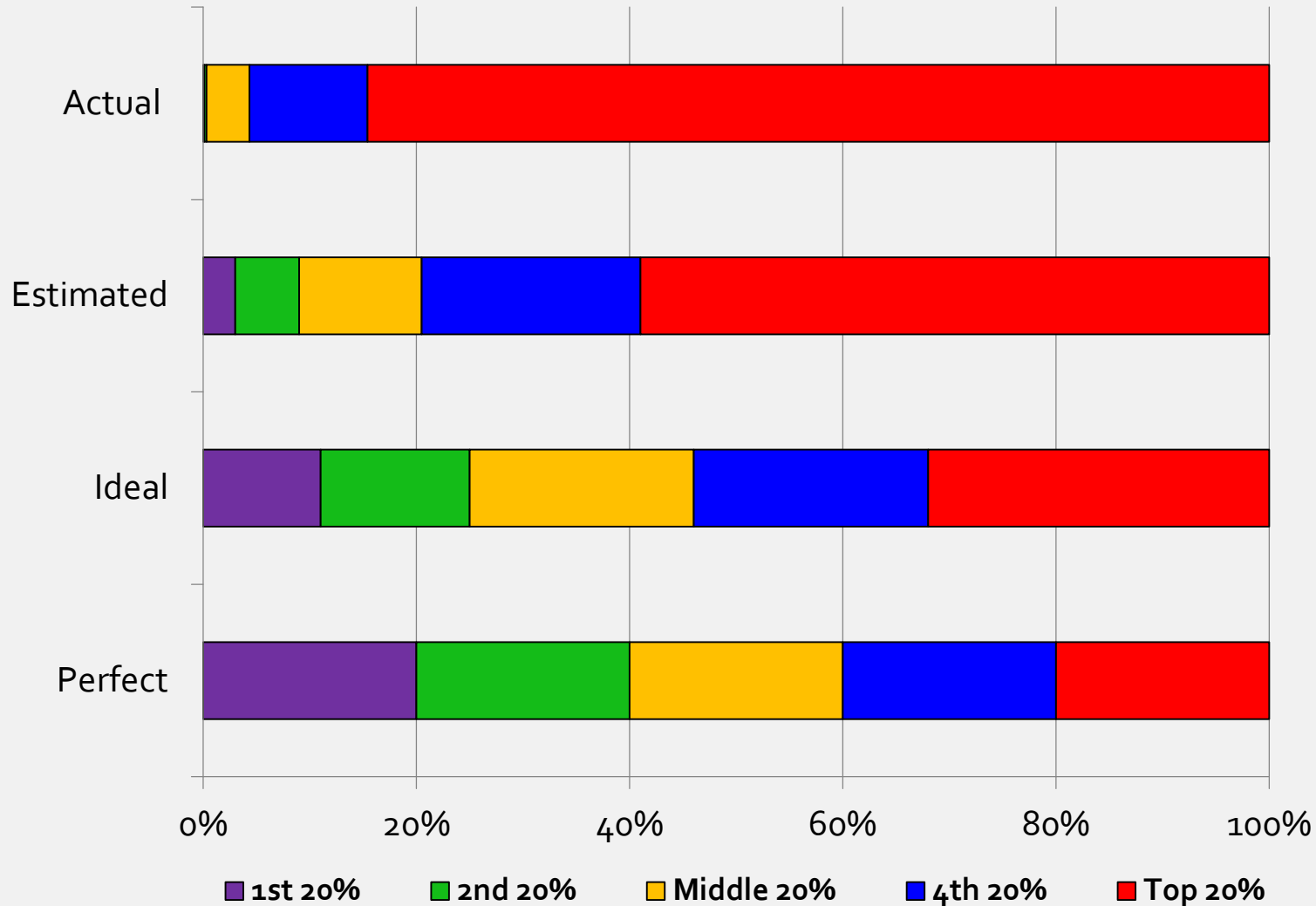
Wage Growth in California: 1979-2013



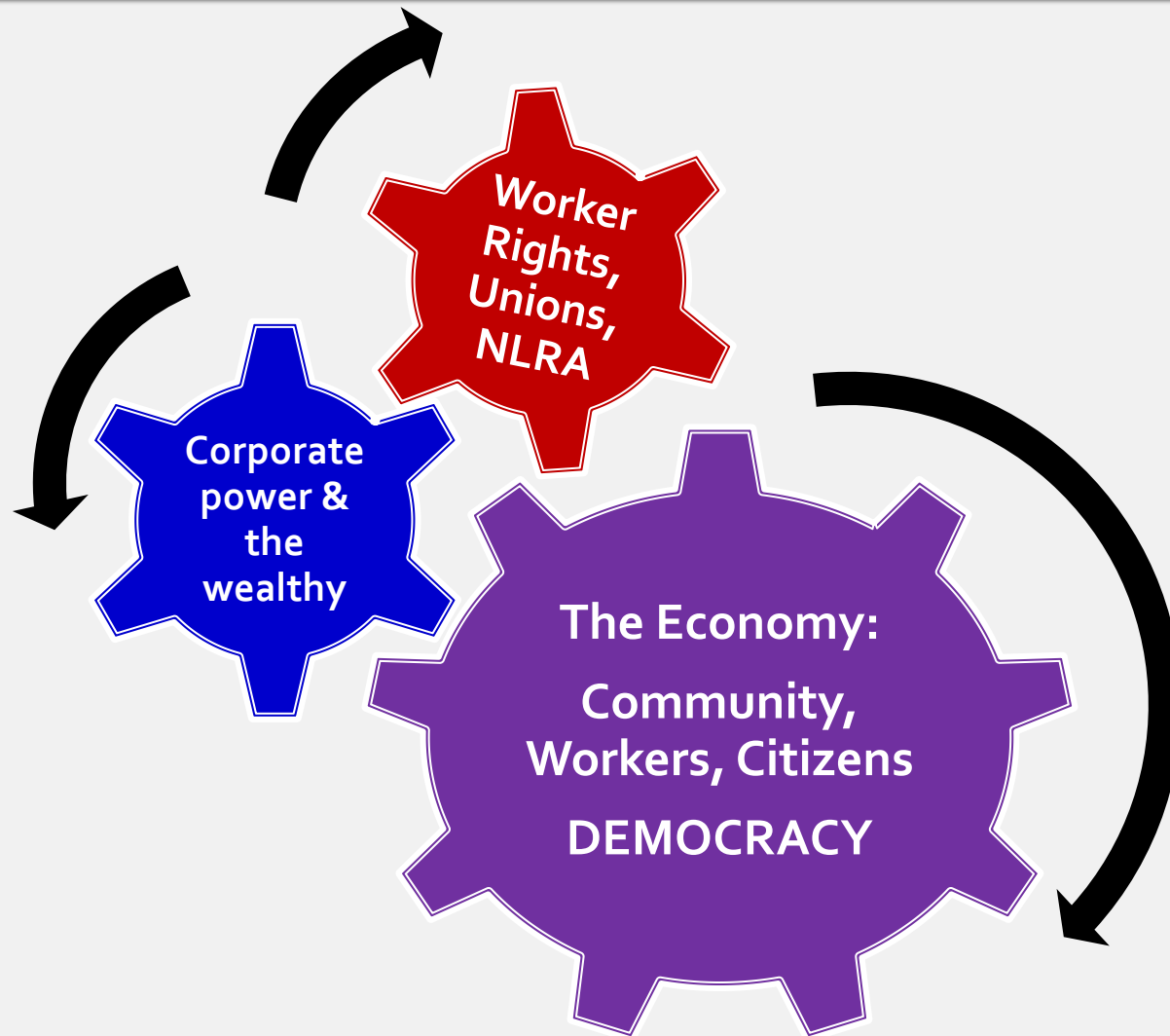
Source: BLS Current Population Survey.

Allegretto 2014

The Wealth of a Nation



A well oiled machine



Out of whack

