

Secrets Behind 85 of the World's Richest People

According to a report issued by a British-based anti-poverty charity Oxfam, the world's richest 85 people control the same amount of wealth as half the world's population.

Basically, that means the world's poorest 3.55 billion people live on what the 85 richest people have as assets. To make it simple you could say, each of the 85 wealthiest people have access to the same resources as the 42 million of the world's poor, a number equal to the population in Canada, Kansas, and Kentucky combine together.

The report was issued on The World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The forum gives you incite about world political academic and business leaders. Oxfam's website revealed there was a growing wealth gap undermining democracy.

Oxfam's website said, "the past quarter of a century has seen wealth become ever more concentrated in the hands of fewer people. The wealth of the 1 percent richest people in the world amounts to \$110 trillion. That's 65 times the total wealth of the bottom half"

The report said 210 people became billions last year with a little over 1,400 total who hold that status worldwide. The report also said, "the recent financial crisis was an enormous burden on the world's poor, it ended up being a huge benefit to the rich elite. The very wealthiest people on Earth collected 95 percent of the post-crisis growth."

The report said it's a trend that's been happening in the United States for years. Only two countries with the wealthiest people not benefit from the poor are Columbia and the Netherlands between 1980 through 2012. In the United States, China and Portugal, the report said the wealthiest 1 percent doubled their income in the same period.

The report said, "to give an indication of the scale of wealth concentration, the combined wealth of Europe's 10 richest people exceeds the total cost of stimulus measures implemented across the European Union between 2008 and 2010."

Oxfam urged countries to take steps to make certain policies, however it didn't help for better or worse. The report said, "when there is growth and diminishing inequality, the rules governing markets are working in favor of the middle classes and the poorest sections of society. However, when only the rich are gaining, the rules start bending towards their interests exclusively."