Tea with the Chancellor
Challenges for Changing Times

Sir John Daniel, O.C.
Chancellor
Previous Topics

• Challenges for Changing Times: Work

• Challenges for Changing Times: Inequality

• Being Canadian; Being Courteous

• Meet Dean Duperron: Founder of predecessor of Acsenda
Future Topics

• Promoting Truth in a ‘Post-Truth’ society
• Trust: Can we halt its decline?
• The Rule of Law: what does it mean?
• Topics for YOU to suggest…..
With the result that the US no longer figures in the 2019 list of the (22) ‘full democracies’ EIU
Future Topics

• Promoting Truth in a ‘Post-Truth’ society

• Trust: Can we halt its decline?

• The Rule of Law: what does it mean?

• Topics for YOU to suggest.....
Challenges for Changing Times: JUSTIFYING INEQUALITIES

Sir John Daniel, O.C.
Chancellor
2002-02-25
A nation will not survive morally or economically when so few have so much, while so many have so little.
Thomas Piketty – French economist
Published 2013
THOMAS PIKETTY

CAPITAL ET IDÉOLOGIE

French: 2019

CAPITAL AND IDEOLOGY

THOMAS PIKETTY

Author of the #1 New York Times Bestseller
Capital in the Twenty-First Century

TRANSLATED BY ARTHUR GOLDSMITH

English: March 2020
“Each human society must justify its inequalities: it must find reasons for them, otherwise its whole political and social structure will face the threat of collapse…”
KEY FEATURES

- Goes back in history

- Worldwide focus

- Increasing inequality NOT inevitable
The Ternary Society

Nobles

Priests

Workers
Slavery and Colonial Rule

Transatlantic slave trade

Colonial rule in Peru
India’s Caste System

Brahma and the origins of caste

- Brahmins: priests & teachers
- Kshatriyas: warriors & rulers
- Vaishyas: farmers, traders & merchants
- Shudras: labourers
- Dalits (outcastes): Street sweepers, latrine cleaners

Source: Alamy
The French Revolution - 1789
Societies of Owners – US billionaires
20th Century Cataclysms

First World War

Russian Revolution
Reducing inequality
(The Four Horsemen)

- Mass mobilisation warfare
- Transformative revolutions
- State failure / system collapse
- Severe epidemics
Black Death
14th century
Europe

Coronavirus
21st century
China
1950 – 1980

- High taxes on the rich in US and Europe

BUT

- Strong economic growth
Thatcher & Reagan were wrong!

Low taxes on the rich do not promote economic growth!
Gilets jaunes
Thank you

For slides see:
www.sirjohn.ca
How do the countries that you come from justify the inequalities in your societies?

What do you think should be done to increase equality?

What trends so you see in world politics today and how do they address the challenge of inequalities?