

Bruce Handy/Glynis Sweeny

# Let Us Now Praise Resentful Men

SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS HAVE DIAGNOSED A GROWING SOCIOECONOMIC ILL: THE DESPERATE PLIGHT OF LAWYERS, BANKERS, MANAGEMENT consultants and other members of the “merely rich” who are forced to keep up with the new “superrich”—hedge-fund managers, CEOs, YouTube founders and the like.\* The gap between a seven-figure income and a nine-figure income is certainly a glaring one, yet society forces such families to share gated communities, country clubs and private-school auctions. What does it profit a man to have a showy house if his neighbor has an even showier one? In a kingdom of billionaires, can a millionaire still land a passable trophy wife and buy her a spot on the board of a prestigious charity? Following in the footsteps of Depression-era photographers Walker Evans and Dorothea Lange,† we have sought to document a looming threat to the American way of life...



Investment banker upset to realize that last year not only did he make less than a former colleague who now runs a hedge fund but he also made less than a journeyman outfielder who now plays for the New York Mets

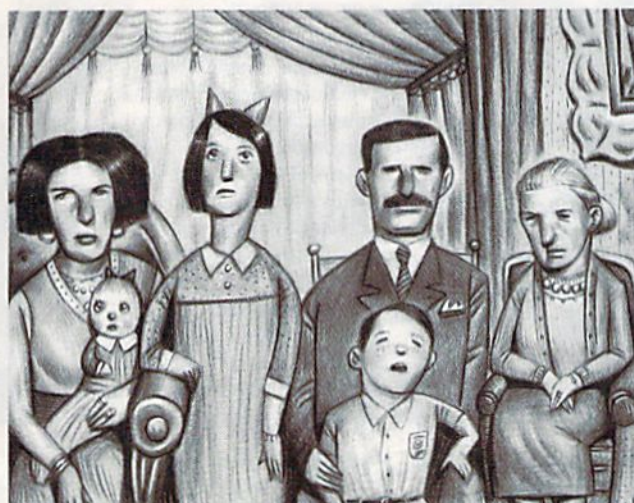


Woman disturbed at being the only mother at the Greenwich Country Day School who's still driving a 2006 Cadillac Escalade when everyone else is driving 2007 Porsche Cayennes

## WORLD'S HIGHEST STANDARD OF CORPORATE LUXURY



Line of senior vice presidents humiliated by the fact that they have to “fly commercial”



Family of six forced to live in a home with neither an indoor driving range nor a dedicated yoga room

### † THE SOURCE MATERIAL

With apologies to these Depression-era icons, from left: a sharecropper; a migrant mother; flood victims lining up for Red Cross aid; a sharecropper family



\* SEE “REVOLT OF THE FAIRLY RICH,” FORTUNE, OCT. 30, 2006, AND “A NEW CLASS WAR: THE HAVES VS. THE HAVE MORES,” NEW YORK TIMES, NOV. 19, 2006

FROM LEFT, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (2); TIME & LIFE PICTURES—GETTY, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS