

NEWS FROM THE RURAL WV DEMOCRATIC VIEWPOINT

CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM, AND MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a Georgia Republican, warned folks at a conservative conference that President Joe Biden is addressing such issues as “education, medical care, urban problems, rural poverty, transportation, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, and welfare.”

Under Biden, Greene said, the U.S. has made “the largest public investment in social infrastructure and environmental programs, that is actually finishing what FDR started, that LBJ expanded on, and Joe Biden is attempting to complete.”

That sounds good, right?

But then Greene hit her point: “Biden is trying to complete socialism.”
Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid.

And that is ludicrous.

The U.S. is the strongest and most powerful capitalist country in the world.

We have an economic and political system in which our trade and industry are controlled by private owners for profit. That is capitalism.

Capitalism is based on individual initiative. It favors market mechanisms over government intervention. Socialism is based on government planning and limitations on private control of resources.

Modern economies, like ours, combine elements of both systems because uncontrolled capitalism creates great inequality. Most Americans make their money by working - that’s ordinary income. But the rich make money from their capital, that is, by investing the money they’ve already piled up.

In the United States, capital gains are taxed far less than normal income, if at all - and those capital gains are heavily concentrated at the top. In 2011 Jeff Bezos qualified for the Child Tax Credit because he made so little traditional income.

Republicans believe that the rich should simply be allowed to get richer, maybe until they have it all. If you believe this, the fat cats thank you for your service.

Democrats believe that the rich should be fairly taxed, at least equal to taxes on the poor and middle class. Then the government can afford to provide benefits to individuals and communities that they cannot get alone, especially infrastructure benefits that we all share such as health care, roads, bridges, water systems, airports, and high-speed internet

Democrats are proud of the beneficial programs that Greene attacked, proud of FDR and of Johnson's Great Society accomplishments. Most Americans like those programs, too. A March 2023 poll found that 80% of Americans like Social Security, 81% like Medicare, and 76% like Medicaid - a large majority of members of all political parties.

A big thanks to Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) for pointing out how well this Democratic government in a capitalist economy is doing, providing the benefits the American people want and need.

~ Deirdre Purdy, Chairperson, Calhoun County Democratic Executive Committee