

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL PEOPLE FROM BIRTH

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According to The Global Wealth Report 2016 by Credit Suisse Research Institute^[1], the 0.7% richest of the world population owns 45.6% of the world's wealth, while the 73.2% poorest of the world population own only about 2.4% of the world's wealth (Figure 1).

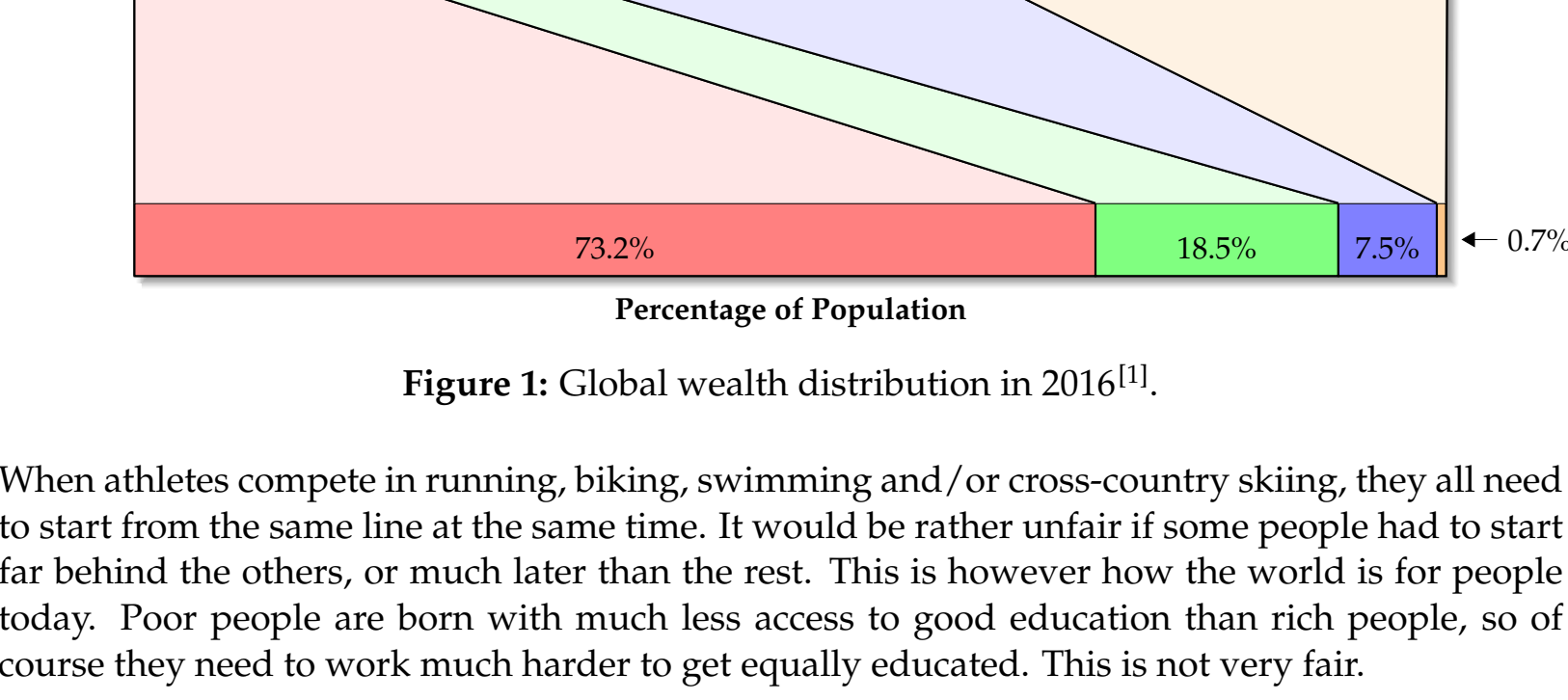


Figure 1: Global wealth distribution in 2016^[1].

When athletes compete in running, biking, swimming and/or cross-country skiing, they all need to start from the same line at the same time. It would be rather unfair if some people had to start far behind the others, or much later than the rest. This is however how the world is for people today. Poor people are born with much less access to good education than rich people, so of course they need to work much harder to get equally educated. This is not very fair.

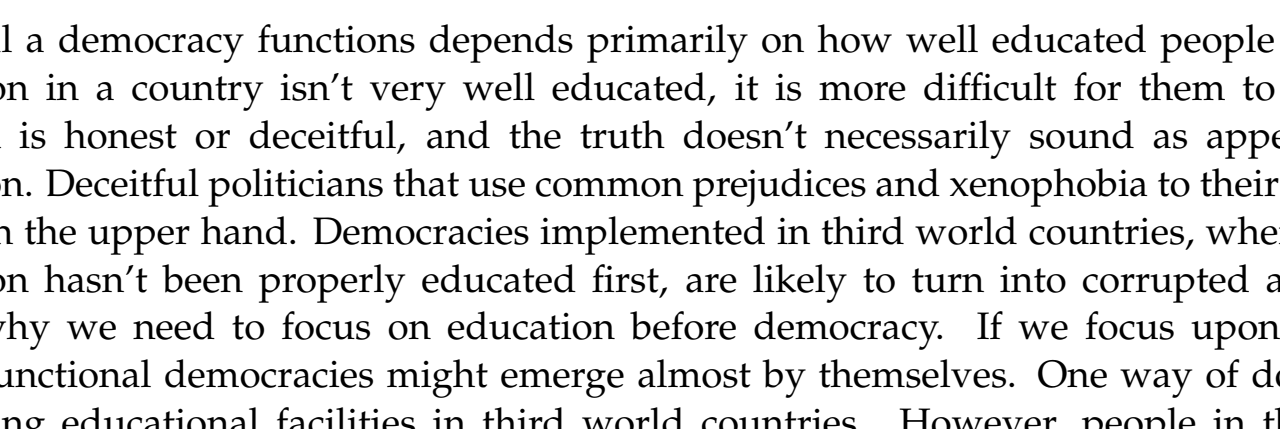


Figure 2: In a fair world we would all have access to equally good education from birth.

A standardized system for educating third world countries

How well a democracy functions depends primarily on how well educated people are. If the population in a country isn't very well educated, it is more difficult for them to know if a politician is honest or deceitful, and the truth doesn't necessarily sound as appealing as a fabrication. Deceitful politicians that use common prejudices and xenophobia to their advantage often gain the upper hand. Democracies implemented in third world countries, where the local population hasn't been properly educated first, are likely to turn into corrupted autocracies. This is why we need to focus on education before democracy. If we focus upon educating people, functional democracies might emerge almost by themselves. One way of doing this is by building educational facilities in third world countries. However, people in third world countries are often skeptical to the idea of getting educated by foreigners. To increase the local popularity of the educational facilities, they should also offer free food and medical aid. Much of the food can be grown at the facility, which will also serve to teach the local population about more efficient ways of farming. Many third world countries are unfortunately dangerous, so there should be armed guard towers to protect the people working in the educational facilities.

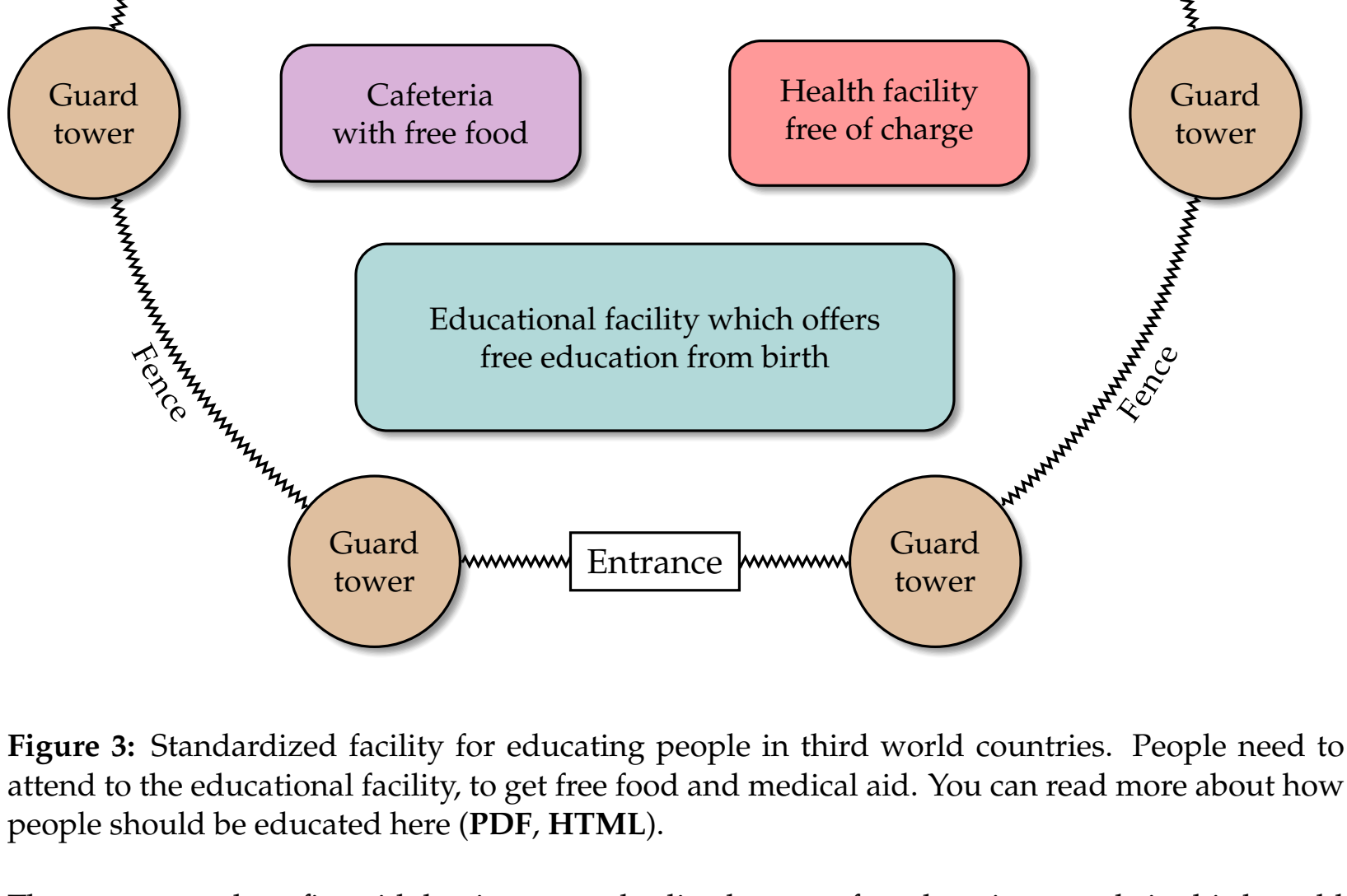


Figure 3: Standardized facility for educating people in third world countries. People need to attend to the educational facility, to get free food and medical aid. You can read more about how people should be educated here (PDF, HTML).

There are many benefits with having a standardized system for educating people in third world countries. The components to the different buildings can be mass-produced in factories. It is also much easier to oversee that the educational facilities work like they should, and that they aren't getting corrupted when they are standardized. Study programs can be made available in universities, which give graduated students the opportunity to work in any of these standardized educational facilities all around the world. Employees can then also easily change to work in different facilities in different countries if they desire to broaden their experiences.

Funding a global welfare system with progressive taxes

Building and maintaining these standardized educational facilities in third world countries is going to be expensive. A global welfare system can however be funded by a highly progressive tax system (Figure 4), so that people pay a higher percentage in taxes the more they earn, while the poorest individuals are completely exempt from taxes.

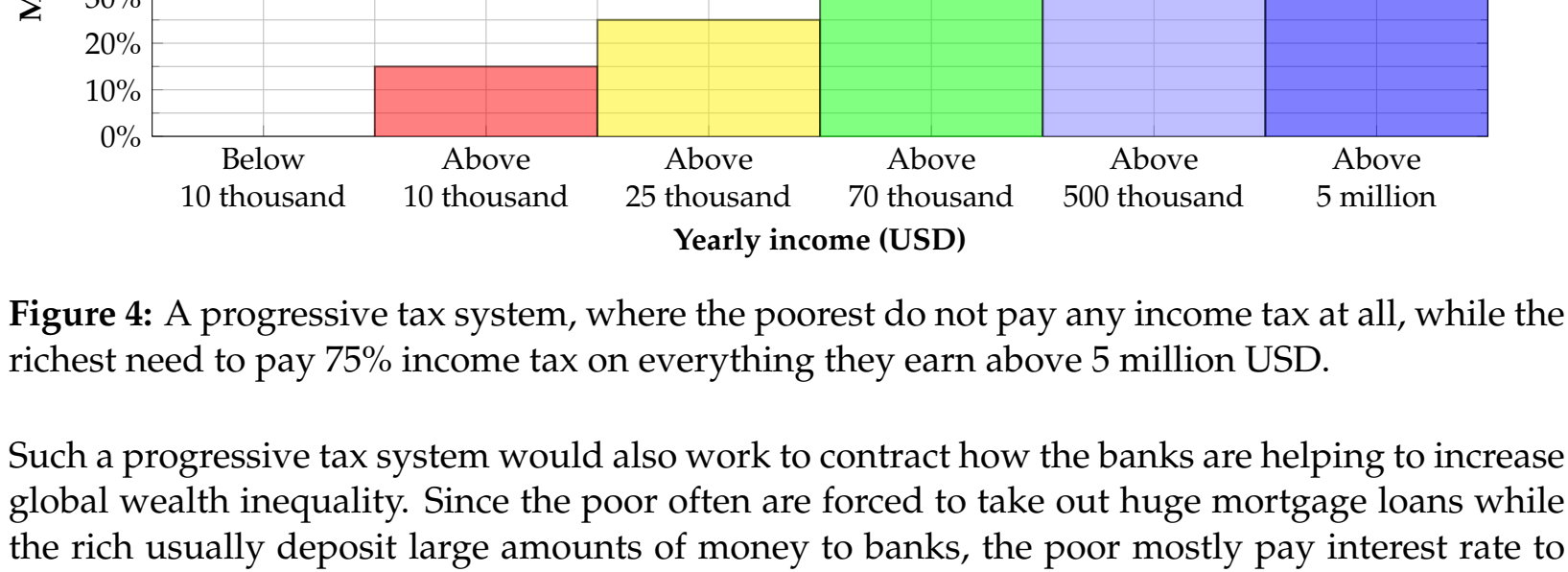


Figure 4: A progressive tax system, where the poorest do not pay any income tax at all, while the richest need to pay 75% income tax on everything they earn above 5 million USD.

Such a progressive tax system would also work to contract how the banks are helping to increase global wealth inequality. Since the poor often are forced to take out huge mortgage loans while the rich usually deposit large amounts of money to banks, the poor mostly pay interest rate to banks while the overly rich mostly receive interest rate from banks. So the banks we have today actually take money from the poor while they give money to the rich (the opposite of what the English folklore hero Robin Hood did^[2]), and this does not just apply to individuals but to whole nations as well (Figure 5).

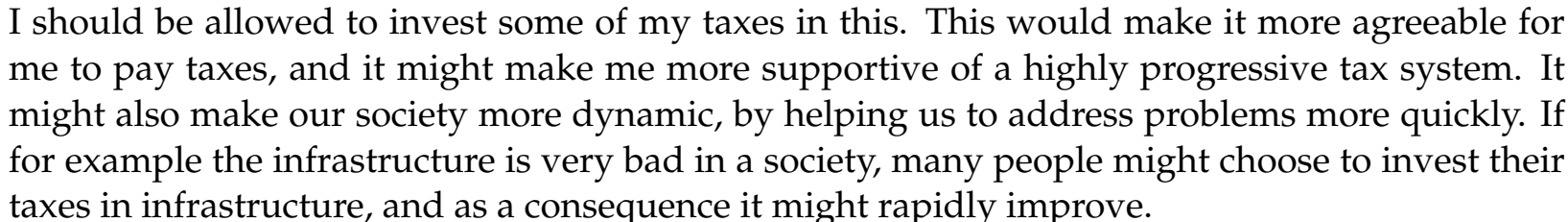


Figure 5: How the poor mostly pay interest rate to banks, while the rich mostly receive interest rate from the banks.

It seems fair to decrease global wealth inequality with a progressive tax system. However, it also seems fair that people are partially involved in deciding what their taxes are used for. If I am a pacifist and my country is waging war, it seems fair that my taxes aren't used to fund that war. If I believe in the importance of free mandatory education with healthy food and clothes included, I should be allowed to invest some of my taxes in this. This would make it more agreeable for me to pay taxes, and it might make me more supportive of a highly progressive tax system. It might also make our society more stable, by helping us to address problems more quickly. If for example the infrastructure is very bad in a society, many people might choose to invest their taxes in infrastructure, and as a consequence it might rapidly improve.

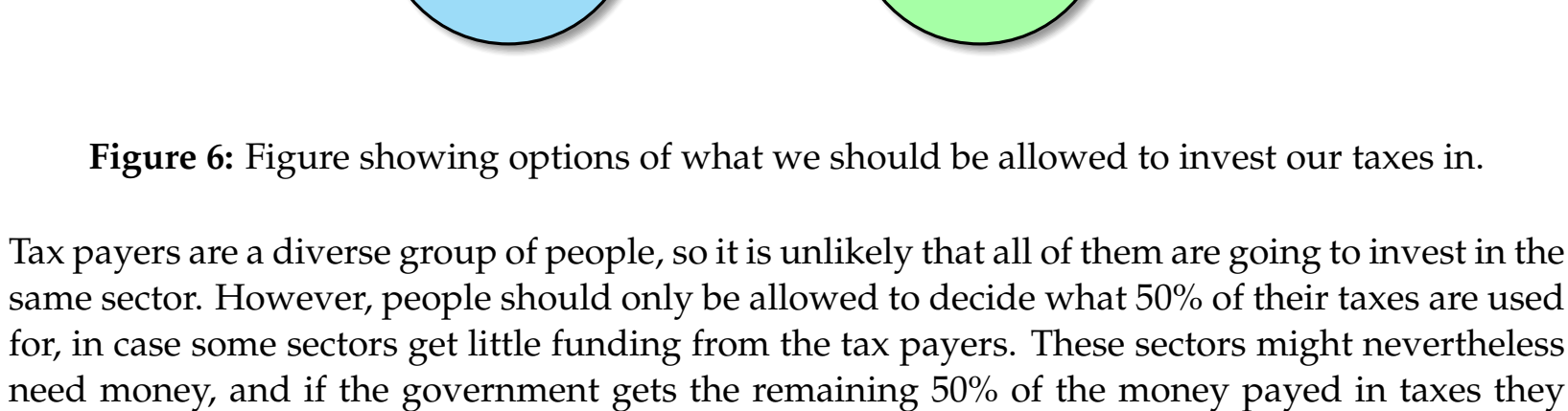


Figure 6: Figure showing options of what we should be allowed to invest our taxes in.

Tax payers are a diverse group of people, so it is unlikely that all of them are going to invest in the same sector. However, people should only be allowed to decide what 50% of their taxes are used for, in case some sectors get little funding from the tax payers. These sectors might nevertheless need money, and if the government gets the remaining 50% of the money paid in taxes they should have more than enough to ensure that all sectors get sufficient funding.

Ending international competition for the lowest corporate taxes

In the current multinational world, countries are competing to have the lowest corporate taxes and the lowest taxes for the rich, since it tends to attract businesses^[3,4]. But wealth inequality also increases with less corporate/progressive taxes. So countries have the choice between more wealth inequality or less businesses. Since countries are completely dependent upon businesses for less unemployment and economic growth, the choice tends to be in favor of the right-wing argument. This is one of the main reasons why global wealth inequality continues to increase.

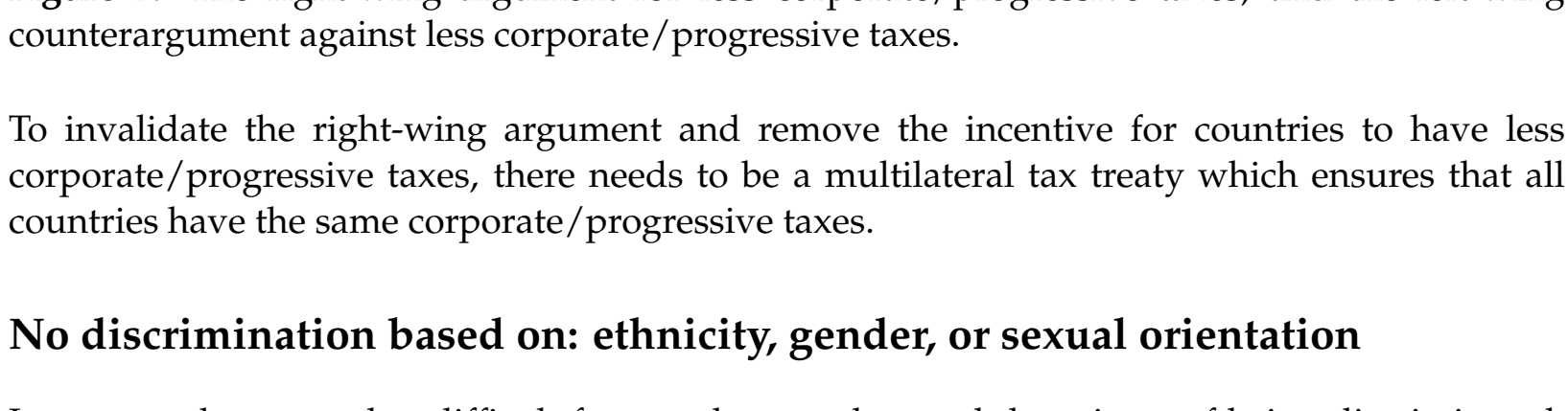


Figure 7: The right-wing argument for less corporate/progressive taxes, and the left-wing counterargument against less corporate/progressive taxes.

To invalidate the right-wing argument and remove the incentive for countries to have less corporate/progressive taxes, there needs to be a multilateral tax treaty which ensures that all countries have the same corporate/progressive taxes.

No discrimination based on: ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation

It seems to be somewhat difficult for people to understand the misery of being discriminated, unless they have experienced it themselves. However, discrimination tends to be detrimental for everyone in a society. Discriminated ethnicities will for example often rebel against and terrorize their suppressors. In the worst cases, discrimination has led to ethnic cleansing and genocide. There is a long history of the discrimination against black people in the United States and Latin America. As of 2016, homosexual intercourse has death penalty in Yemen, Saudi-Arabia, Mauritania, Sudan, Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan^[5]. While most of these countries also have much less rights for women. One of the biggest achievements of modern western democracies, is equal rights for people of different ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation (Figure 8). We believe these civil rights must be implemented globally.

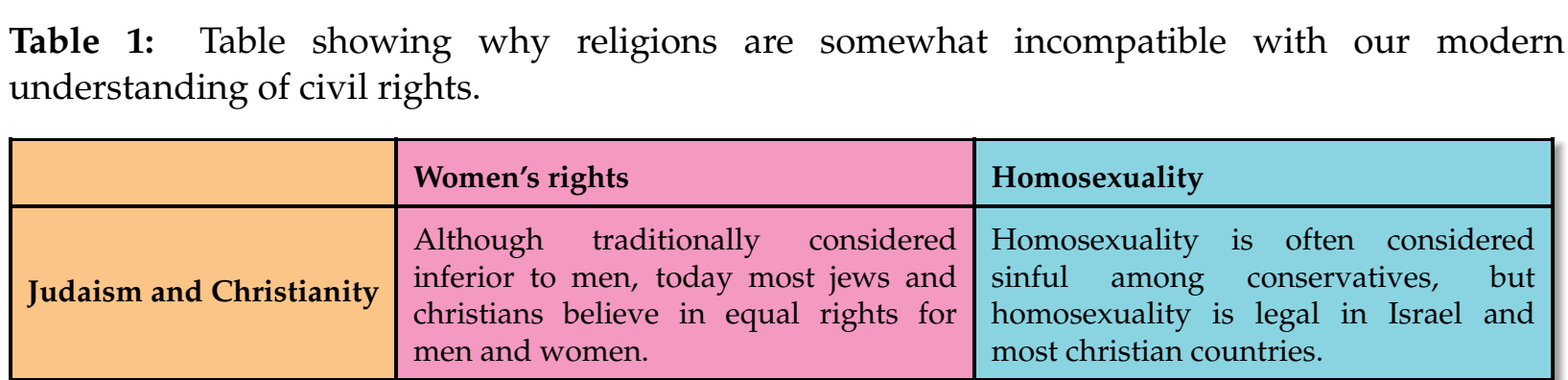


Figure 8: Our modern understanding of civil rights in western democracies.

Religions are somewhat incompatible with our modern understanding of civil rights

Article 18 of the human rights declaration says that everybody should be free to believe in whatever religion they want, but the religions themselves are somewhat incompatible with modern ideas of civil rights (Table 1). The idea that certain rights are natural or inalienable with modern religious undertones, since there is nothing in science which says that humans (or other animals) are given certain rights by nature. Rather, we as a society should give civil rights to our citizens (Figure 8), and these rights should take precedence over religious freedom.

Table 1: Table showing why religions are somewhat incompatible with our modern understanding of civil rights.

	Women's rights	Homosexuality
Judaism and Christianity	Although traditionally considered inferior to men, today most Jews and Christians believe in equal rights for men and women.	Homosexuality is often considered sinful among conservatives, but homosexuality is legal in Israel and most Christian countries.
Islam	Women are worth half as much as men according to the Quran, and most Islamic countries have less rights for women than for men.	Homosexuality is illegal in many Muslim countries, and some even have death penalty for homosexuality.
Hinduism	Varies due to the pluralistic nature of Hinduism. However, women in India face numerous problems, including victimization when raped and forced prostitution of young girls.	Varies due to the pluralistic nature of Hinduism. However, sexual activity between people of the same gender is forbidden in India, and is punishable by lifetime imprisonment.
Buddhism	Women are often considered to be spiritually inferior to men.	Early texts do not mention homosexuality. Buddhist countries tend to be the most liberal for homosexuals in Asia.
Modern civil rights	Equal rights for men and women.	Equal rights for homosexuals.

In addition to discrimination against women and homosexuals, the Hindu caste system discriminates people according to which caste they are born into. This is also completely unfair, since all people should have equal rights and opportunities from birth. Religious groups also often discriminate people adhering to other religions.

Children of mixed heritage have less recessive genetic disorders

Marriage of first cousins is common in many middle eastern countries today, and cultural prejudices against marrying foreigners is common in many countries all around the world. However, to children of mixed heritage are actually generally more healthy. If both of your parents are carriers of a recessive genetic disorder, you have a 1/4 (25%) likelihood of getting the recessive disorder (Figure 9).

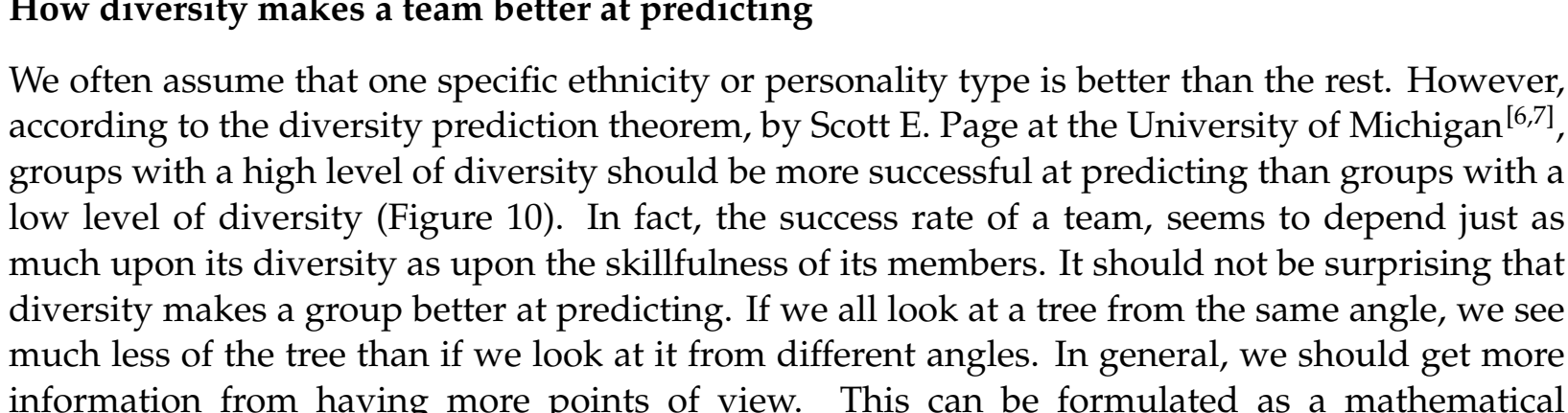


Figure 9: Showing that there is 1/4 (25%) chance that a child will get a recessive disorder from its parents, if both of the parents are carriers of a recessive disease.

Many recessive genes are shared within an ethnicity, so the likelihood of both parents being carriers of a recessive disorder, is larger if both of the parents belong to the same ethnicity than if they are of different ethnicities. The detrimental effects of recessive genetic disorders can be seen clearly with inbreeding.

How diversity makes a team better at predicting

We often assume that one specific ethnicity or personality type is better than the rest. However, according to the diversity prediction theorem, by Scott E. Page at the University of Michigan^[6,7], groups with a high level of diversity should be more successful at predicting than groups with a low level of diversity (Figure 10). In fact, the success rate of a team, seems to depend just as much upon its diversity as upon the skillfulness of its members. It should not be surprising that diversity makes a group better at predicting. If we all look at a tree from the same angle, we see much less of the tree than if we look at it from different angles. In general, we should get more information from having more points of view. This can be formulated as a mathematical theorem, which describes how diversity influences a group's ability to predict.

$$(C - X)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - X)^2 \right] - \frac{1}{n} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - C)^2 \right]$$

The team's square error = The mean square error - The diversity of the team

Figure 10: The diversity prediction theorem, formulated by Scott E. Page at the University of Michigan. A more detailed explanation of the theorem can be found here (PDF, HTML). The theorem has huge implications for how one might choose to put together a team.

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