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Ger Sto

Billionaire Sam Zell Defends Tom Perkins: 'The 1 Percent Work Harder'

The Huffington Post | by Harry Bradford

Posted: 02/05/2014 5:29 pm EST | Updated: 02/06/2014 6:59 pm EST



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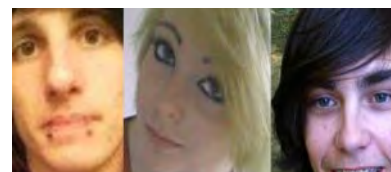
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MORE: Rich People, 1 Percent, Sam Zell 1 Percent, Sam Zell Rich, Income Inequality, Tom Perkins, Tom Perkins 1 Percent, Sam Zell, Tom Perkins Sam Zell, Business News,

When the going gets tough, the rich dudes stick together. Or at least rich dude Sam Zell did in an interview with Bloomberg TV Wednesday.

The billionaire chairman of Equity Group Investments backed up fellow rich guy Tom Perkins, who set off a firestorm when he recently compared the "progressive war on the 1 percent" to Nazi anti-Semitism in a letter to the Wall Street Journal. (He later apologized for using the word "Kristallnacht" but defended the overall "message.")

"I guess my feeling is that he's right," Zell said when asked by [Bloomberg's Betty Liu](#) [how he felt about Perkins' stance](#). "The 1 percent are being pummeled because it's politically convenient to do so."

Zell then said the problem is that all non-rich are just jealous that they don't have the same work ethic that the country's wealthiest do.

"The problem is that the world and this country should not talk about envy of the 1 percent. It should talk about emulating the 1 percent," he said. "The 1 percent work harder. The 1 percent are much bigger factors in all forms of our society."

Liu countered that the ever-widening gulf between the richest and poorest Americans must make it harder for those living under the poverty line to get ahead, no?

Nah, said Zell.

"Lots of people have come from nowhere and become part of the 1 percent," he said.

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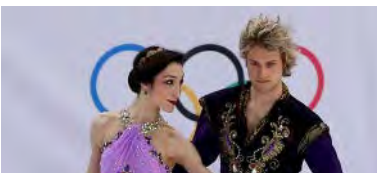
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Karl Hildebrand (Karl_Hildebrand)

1,683 Fans · The GOTP Is Disorganized Hypocrisy

★ 469

There are 60 guys erecting a building two blocks from my house that work harder in a week than these clowns work in a year.

5 FEB 4:57 PM

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John Dickey (mxfw9999)

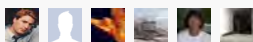
220 Fans

★ 13

They work with their heads and those guys working on the building if they invest they can be where he is shortly

5 FEB 8:39 PM

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Miles K. (MilesToGo)

SUPER USER · 883 Fans

★ 327

Claiming the wealthy work harder than the rest is an old gambit, meant to justify questionable ethics and morality as they exploit virtually everyone around them, even their fellow billionaires. Read up on Sam Zell sometime...he's a classic.

5 FEB 5:21 PM

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Mike G. (Mikeygr)

2,931 Fans

★ 43

well said

6 FEB 4:39 AM

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Peterson M. (onePERSONoneVOTE)

913 Fans · We The People

★ 225

It's so hard to write a check to an elected official to cut your taxes or give a contract.

Other "hard" 1% tactics ...

- insider trading

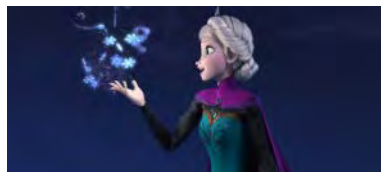
- outsourcing to slave wage country's



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Candide Thirtythree (Candide33)

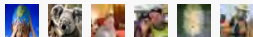
★ 107

SUPER USER · 4,469 Fans · I heart Bernie Sanders

Exactly! It is impossible to get that rich honestly... you can make a comfortable living by being honorable and ethical but you can't rich, it takes a certain kind of evil for that.

6 FEB 6:14 AM

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26 PEOPLE IN THE CONVERSATION

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Guy Lauten (Guy_Lauten)

★ 221

SUPER USER · 132 Fans · Everything I say is a lie

I'd love to see Mr. Zell tell a coal miner to his face that the miner doesn't work as hard as Mr. Zell does. I'd even pay to watch it for 10 minutes (or however long it took).

5 FEB 4:50 PM

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Annieke G. (Annieke)

★ 78

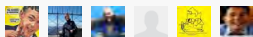
1,070 Fans · Rules are not necessarily sacred, principles are.

In my mind I thought about 'garbage collector'but the sentiment is exactly the same.

F&F

6 FEB 3:35 AM

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Frank O. (frank1946)

★ 10

SUPER USER · 670 Fans · Tell the Truth

Magna Carta did all this in 1215.

Progressives hate Freedom of all kinds.

Not much has changed for 799 years.

5 FEB 11:58 PM

REPLY FAVE SHARE MORE



Jane S. (peacekitten)

★ 143

POLITICAL PUNDIT · 5,140 Fans · primum non nocere.

hello.

you have landed on the planet EARTH.

it seems that perhaps your "universal translator" is broken, because what you said makes no sense whatsoever.

please sit down, and have a cup of tea with some nice biscuits while we try to fix it



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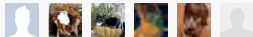
Today's Markets as of Feb 18, 4:30 PM EST

S&P 500	1840.76	+2.13	+0.12%
NASDAQ	4272.78	+28.75	+0.68%

for you.

6 FEB 3:20 AM

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41 PEOPLE IN THE CONVERSATION

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Joeline K. (The_Joler)

175 Fans · nil sine labore

★ 191

Well actually a lot of them don't work at all. Really getting tired of this never ending parade of greedy old white men rationalizing why they have rigged the system so that they get nearly everything and everyone else gets practically nothing.

I support success but lets have it on a level playing field, not with all the rules bent in the favour of the successful.

5 FEB 4:58 PM

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Tietou Chiang (IronHead)

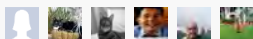
SUPER USER · 98 Fans · Obey Kitty

★ 13

I think Jay-Z and his cohorts have more in common with Mr. Billionaire than you or I at this point. But as Chris Rock pointed out, being rich and being wealthy are too different things. Oprah's rich, the Rockefeller's are wealthy. So I see your point, but I just think tossing race in is kind of specious.

6 FEB 4:52 AM

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Carlos S. (rottnkid)

SUPER USER · 532 Fans · Do as I say, not as I do-Oh wait that's the 1%

★ 176

"The 1 percent work harder."

Yeah. I see y'all working up a sweat using people in congress as hand puppets.

5 FEB 6:23 PM

REPLY FAVE SHARE MORE



Brent Steel (nzbrent)

29 Fans

★ 20

lol

5 FEB 6:50 PM

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9 PEOPLE IN THE CONVERSATION

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David Ochs (dave_ochs)

SUPER USER · 734 Fans

★ 135

the one percent works harder than say a someone picking Strawberries in the hot sun for 12 hours a day, a nurse that works a double shift, taxi drivers, thats laughable. The one percent gets other people to do their work.

dave

5 FEB 5:43 PM

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A David Burdoin (A_David_Burdoin)

82 Fans

★ 13

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CHTP	\$6.73	+1.78	+35.96%
UCTT	\$14.50	+2.56	+21.44%
SIG	\$90.00	+10.73	+13.54%

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Yes!

6 FEB 4:27 AM

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Jomayra Kees Hazelhoff (jistinnkees)

516 Fans · i am so liberal I will hug a conservative

★ 66

disclaimer; I am a man of financial means and health. But I also remember the days I worked for \$800 a month. I know coming home after a stressful job, and the insecurity of having that job tomorrow, and still needing to buy groceries, clean the house and cook. The days never ended. On top of that I was a good saver of money and put away 20% of my monthly income along with my wife.

I now can afford not to look at the prices of the food I buy. I now don't have to cook. I now don't have arguments with my wife about financial stuff. I now don't need to worry about putting 5 bucks in my gas tank or buy food.

I don't need to clean, I don't need to worry about my kids education, and I know my wife is home with the kids. Her choice.

It is true that I worry about my employees and there families night and day, and how in this financial environment I need to keep the business running for their sake.

But compared to yesteryear and today, I work less. Why because all the stuff that needs to be done gets done because I have the people to do it.

No way is my work harder than a roofer, a plumber, or a teacher living from pay check to pay check. And in no way am I any smarter than them.

6 FEB 4:47 AM

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A David Burdoin (A_David_Burdoin)

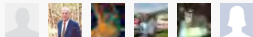
82 Fans

★ 17

Well said, and thank you for your honesty.

6 FEB 4:52 AM

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Mike M. (Gator10069)

58 Fans

★ 75

Congrats on your wealth whether you worked for it or not but you're a dhead claiming you work harder than any blue collar person

5 FEB 5:21 PM

REPLY FAVE SHARE MORE



Anthony Perone (PERONEANTHONY)

SUPER USER · 127 Fans

★ 3

Not 'work harder'...think harder!

6 FEB 4:09 AM

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