

# Inequality and All That

The US and EU compared

# Differences start early in life

- 9 percent of US children are not immunized against measles before they are 2 years old, compared to only 6 percent in the EU
- 7 US children in every 1000 die before they are 5 years old, compared to 5 in Europe (and only 3 in Japan)
- US teenage girls are 3 times more likely to become pregnant than European girls

# Differences continue until you die

- Americans are 50 percent more likely to suffer from diabetes than Europeans
- They are also 30 percent more likely to die of communicable diseases, maternal or prenatal mortality or poor nutrition
- US life expectancy has risen by 9 years since 1960 but by 11 years in Europe where people now live 2 years longer than Americans

# Money doesn't always buy health

- Governments in the US and EU both spend about 8 percent of GDP on health
- But private spending in the US is another 9 percent of GDP, compared to 2 percent in the EU.
- Despite higher spending, the US has 30 percent fewer physicians per head of the population.
- This higher spending is also not reflected in better health for Americans

# Different ways of dying

- American women are four times more likely to die giving birth than European women
- Americans are almost five times more likely to be murdered than Europeans

# Rich but not equal

- US incomes per head are 50 percent higher than European incomes
- More Americans work than Europeans – 59 percent of the adult population against 52 percent
- But incomes are more unequal. The US Gini coefficient is 41, compared to Germany (31), France (32), Italy (36) and the UK (38). Scandinavian countries are all lower

# Americans pay fewer taxes but get fewer services

- Americans pay 11 percent of GDP in taxes, compared to 19 percent in the EU.
- US government spending on goods and services is only 15 percent of GDP compared to 21 percent in the EU

# Who gives the young a better chance?

- The American population is younger, which means that there are almost 5 workers supporting every pensioner, compared to fewer than 4 in the EU.
- But Americans have to support more young people in school.
- But the US government spends only the same share of GDP as the EU on primary education, less on high school and even less on college. US high school classes are bigger than European

# Heating up fast

- US people emit 17 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> each every year, compared to 7 tons for Europeans
- Americans use more than twice as much electricity as Europeans – 13,000 kwh against 6000 kwh.
- Europe gets 14 percent of its energy from renewables against 8 percent in the US
- Gas is less than half the price in the US compared to the EU – 80 cents a liter against 1.8 cents

# Technology helps the US

- Americans apply for almost three times as many patents as Europeans
- High tech shipments are 18 percent of US exports, compared to 14 percent for the EU.
- 84 percent of Americans use the Internet, compared to 76 percent in the EU.
- Although Europeans have more mobile phones with 124 per 100 people compared to 95 in the US.