individual level, the average credit card debt per card-carrying adult is \$5,839. Notably, there are 253 million credit card-holding adults.

Based on the household measurement, that's \$1.07 trillion in total credit card debt divided by 128 million U.S. households, according to St. Louis' Federal Reserve Bank branch.

Yet, based on the individual measurement, 253 million adults multiplied by \$5,839 per adult equals just over \$1.477 trillion. You read that correctly—nearly 1 ½ trillion dollars just in credit card debt!

However, consider the overall consumer debt, which consists of revolving loans—the kind of loans that theoretically are paid off each month. That category includes credit card. However, we all know that most of us do not or cannot pay off all of our credit card debt each month. And then there are non-revolving loans, which require ongoing installment payments. That includes student loan debt. When overall consumer debt is considered, the numbers get even more daunting.

## **CONSUMER DEBT RIVALS FEDERAL DEBT**

In June 2019, according to the Federal Reserve:

- U.S. consumer debt rose by 4.3%, thereby reaching \$4.1 trillion, surpassing the previous month's record of \$4.09 trillion.
- Of this, \$3.03 trillion was non-revolving debt, and it rose 5.8%. Most non-revolving debt is student and auto loans. In June 2019, student debt totaled \$1.605 trillion and auto loans were \$1.174 trillion. And none of this includes mortgage debt, nor have we even touched on municipal, state and federal debts.
- The total 2018 U.S. mortgage debt chimed in at a whopping \$15.4 trillion. Add that to the \$4.1 trillion of consumer debt, and you get \$19.5 trillion! That nearly equals the U.S. federal debt as of early September 2019, which exceeded \$21 trillion.

Now, we need to realize that if the average person or family had more purchasing power that did not enter the economy in the form of debt, then, obviously, the non-debt option would be selected.

So how do we devise a new system which does away with the chronic borrowing and interest-bearing debt that the current system forces on us? How do we reform the system to where people DO NOT have to cover their spending shortfalls, achieve their goals and meet their housing needs and other vital things with debt instruments like credit cards, student loans, mortgages etc.?

Apart from the obvious observation that the debts described here, by and large, will never be paid off, we must learn to think "outside the box."

Simply put: We need to go from a debt-based system to a debt-free system which, at first, might seem to resemble Universal Basic Income. However, the crucial difference is that <u>UBI is debt-based and redistributes tax dollars</u> whereas these pages outline a <u>distributive alternative that taps new money and is not debt-based.</u> But before we outline this debt-free system, let's measure the money supply against the total production of goods and services.

## GDP vs. MONEY SUPPLY = GLARING GAP

The U.S. economy's money supply is divided into four parts — M0, M1, M2, and M3. The M1 category, a measurement of the total amount of currency in circulation, includes paper currency and coins, plus publicly held checking accounts. Other forms of M1 are traveler's checks, automatic transfer service accounts, and credit union accounts.

M2 is a broader money-supply classification. It includes assets that are highly liquid but are not cash. The M2 money supply, which takes M1 into account, averaged just over \$4 trillion per year from 1959 until 2019 in the U.S., while reaching an all-time high of just under \$15 trillion in July of 2019, according to TradingEconomics.com.

However, according to the World Bank, the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (the familiar "GDP") for 2017 was \$19.39 trillion with a "T." The GDP is the total monetary or market value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country in a specific time period. Here's the huge question . . .

How can a domestic society purchase over \$19 TRILLION worth of output (GDP) with LESS THAN \$15 TRILLION in purchasing power?

## ADOPTING A NEW MODEL

About 100 years ago, a gifted Scots-English engineer, Clifford Hugh Douglas, was assigned to the Royal Aircraft Works in Farnborough, England, Douglas examined the plant's accounting system and discovered that the production cycle compiled costs and prices far in excess of what the workers earned in wages per production cycle.

From there, he analyzed the accounts of some 100 other firms, and found, just like at Farnborough, that they all created costs and prices far faster, and at a greater amount, than the generation of wages. So, over time it became clear that people were compelled by the financial system to borrow from the future to compensate for the monetary shortcomings of the present.

Credit cards and other debt instruments are modern society's way of mortgaging our future just to pay for the present.

Douglas would go on to establish "Social Credit" economics, while writing books about the concept—long before the advent of China's current black-listing effort ironically called "social credit."

For the record, the "Social Credit" conceived by Douglas BEARS NO RELATIONSHIP WHAT-SOEVER to that Chinese surveillance-and-scoring system which punishes those who disobey China's centralized government. Mr. Douglas' Social Credit is a liberating economic model that decentralizes power and empowers the individual.

In his books "Social Credit," "Economic Democracy" and several others, and in radio speeches and addresses to Parliament, Douglas explained his findings that all production cycles worldwide produce inventories and price structures that far exceed the wages and salaries of consumers.

In other words (as the GDP and money-supply figures cited above indicate) the people's purchasing

## to Prosperity A Springboard



very concept of debt being largely if not completely no mortgage debt and no car loans. Imagine the Imagine no college debt, no credit card debt,

laid to rest.

Politicians come and go. What really matters is dates who want your vote but not your input. ises often offered by political parties and their candi-Well, we are not talking about the empty prom-How could this be?

position individuals hold in life. sources—to satisfy humanity's needs no matter what which utilizes real wealth—our earthly natural reto institute an honest monetary-economic system identifying sound accounting principles with which

partake of the abundance that naturally exists all many defects—so we can ALL experience and by fixing the current economic-monetary system's our political worldview, and find common ground We all need to come together, regardless of

dissolution and make it a better place for all. try back from the abyss of extreme depression and individual and family lives better and pull our counlittle else we do will matter in trying to make our Unless our monetary predicament is solved,

Consider this:

was \$8,398 as of June 2019. The average credit card debt per U.S. household

... And according to CreditCards.com, on the

income without incurring debt.

calling in life. alone would be better enabled to find their true come. Others who choose to live on their dividend status. It would often supplement employment inaccount, irrespective of the recipient's employment itance" would be paid out from the national capital The periodic dividend coming from this "inher-

In other words, why get trapped in student amount, calculated with an estimated U.S. pop-Consider a monthly dividend of \$1,200. That

non-citizens), would total \$4.6 trillion—very close ulation of about 300 million citizens (excluding

instead receive dividends of newly created debt-free loans and various other forms of debt when we can to the annual consumer debt cited in this pamphlet.

To be sure, the central bank known as the

The government already pays out Social Secu-TRIBUTE existing money in a socialistic fashion. DISTRIBUTE NEW MONEY and NOT RE-DISthe U.S. Treasury to act in the people's interest and per-haps dissolved. Either way, the goal would be for Federal Reserve would have to be reworked and

many taxes could be phased out. Minors could have rity payments (which wrongly stem from debt); the

For more information and details, write to: nomic serfdom that is our grim fate unless we act. pressure to free themselves from the permanent eco-The people need to create a groundswell of public their dividends kept in escrow until they're adults. Security, means-tested invasive welfare systems and retirees, would receive debt-free dividends. Social key difference would be that all citizens, not just

Bob Van Bemmelen at rvanbem@hotmail.com. Samuel Anderson at truthhound2@yahoo.com or Oliver Heydorn at oliver.heydorn@gmail.com, M.

An especially good and current source for more

website socred.org. This brochure is also posted at Eco-nomics" available via Amazon or go to the information is Dr. Heydorn's book "Social Credit

thetruthhound.com

So, we could all work less and receive more

the money supply surpasses the amount of goods for negated partly by the fact that prices only rise when

filled without resorting to debt.

ty," or "full stores and empty wallets."

being counted as debt. Inflationary concerns are

dividend with new money that is created without How? By adopting what's called the national

prices of what's for sale. And that gap needs to be

little money we have in our wallets and the high

So, there is, in fact, a glaring gap between what

We are suffering from "poverty in the midst of plen-

power simply isn't enough to buy what's produced.

to heavily rely on borrowing is a key cause of rising end consumer. So, keeping a system that forces us charges are among the cost factors passed on to the in comparison to the GDP. Furthermore, interest Yet, we've shown that our money supply pales

of time. This value would all build up in a "national industrial progress of their country over the course accumulated value of the agricultural, scientific and zens ought to be issued an inheritance based on the being "shareholders" of the U.S., all American citi-On the foundation of their cultural legacy of

people's pockets—and pay out only the amount of amount of incomes and purchasing power in the the amount of costs and prices—compared to the This data-gathering account would calculate

capital account."

purchasing power and prices. the dividend required to close any gaps between

tion and cancelled at the rate of consumption, as Money would be created at the rate of produc-

And automation would become our friend, another hedge against price inflation.

same time reducing prices. everyone to the national credit account while at the efficiency and low costs, would add more wealth for since automated production, through its high