

# Focus on inequalities : a visual story

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VICKY PAPAGEORGIOU

ESL/EAP INSTRUCTOR

# Why are artists interested in social inequalities ?

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Social inequalities are evident every day in our society and they affect everyone. Stories regarding inequalities (sexism, racism, and economic inequality) are daily all over the internet.

# How can art have an impact and bring about social change?

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Good art can educate and create empathy. Empathy then leads to change.

([Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy](#) Documentary Film-maker, SOC Films)

People are increasingly aware of this. So are people in power who have started witnessing and acknowledging the effect that art has in social issues.

# What does the current presentation show?

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It is about artworks that bring several social inequality issues into an artistic light.

The artists chosen for this presentation have tried to make a comment on these issues through their work.

Also, they tried to make the problems discussed more relatable to the public.

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1. Can you define 'social inequalities'?
  2. Can you decide some of the parameters of social inequalities?

# Social inequalities : definition

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**Social inequality** is the existence of unequal opportunities and rewards for different social positions or statuses within a group or society.

**Social inequality** has several important dimensions :

**Economic** (wealth/poverty, power politics, habitat/urban space)

**Gender** (sexuality, power, stereotypes)

**Racial** (ethnicity, socially displaced people, stereotypes)



# Gender inequality

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# Objectification of women

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London-based illustrator **Laura Callaghan**'s colour female characters pop to life in layers of personalised details. Ladies in power, ladies in repose, and ladies painted in everyday settings reinforce the humanity of human beings who are all too often objectified.





# Women and freedom

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**Hayv Kahraman** is an Iraqi artist who paints works with controversial topics such as gender, war, and honor killings. She moved from Baghdad, Iraq to the United States and now lives and works in San Francisco.



This picture depicts the lack of freedom Iraqi women receive. In the picture, the subject is cutting off her tongue to symbolize her lack of voice.



# Economic inequality

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# Consumerism and poverty

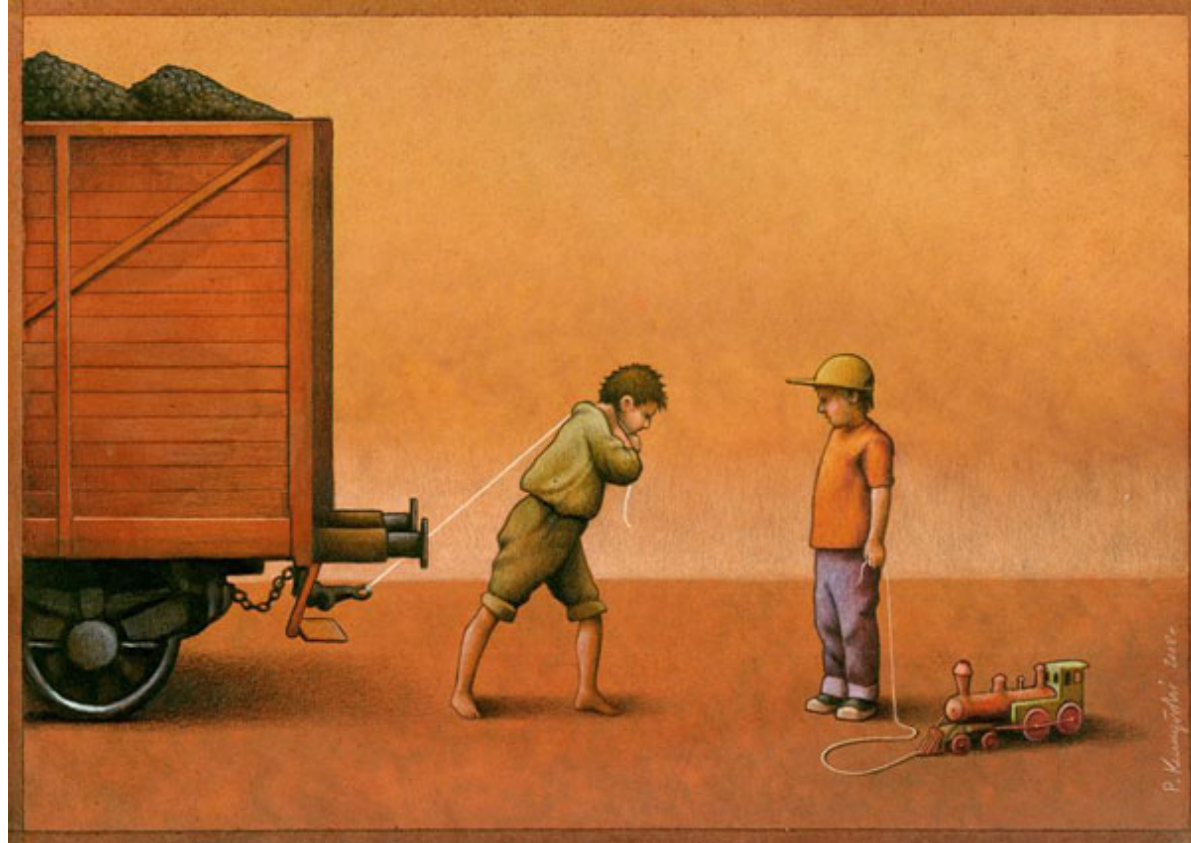
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**David Revoy** is a French artist living in France. He is mainly an illustrator and a “concept-artist”.

Enough food is produced in the world today to feed everyone, but it's not the case... That's the best way to see the total failure of our actual human societies. What can we do? We can help associations like the World Food Programme:  
<http://www.wfp.org/help>.



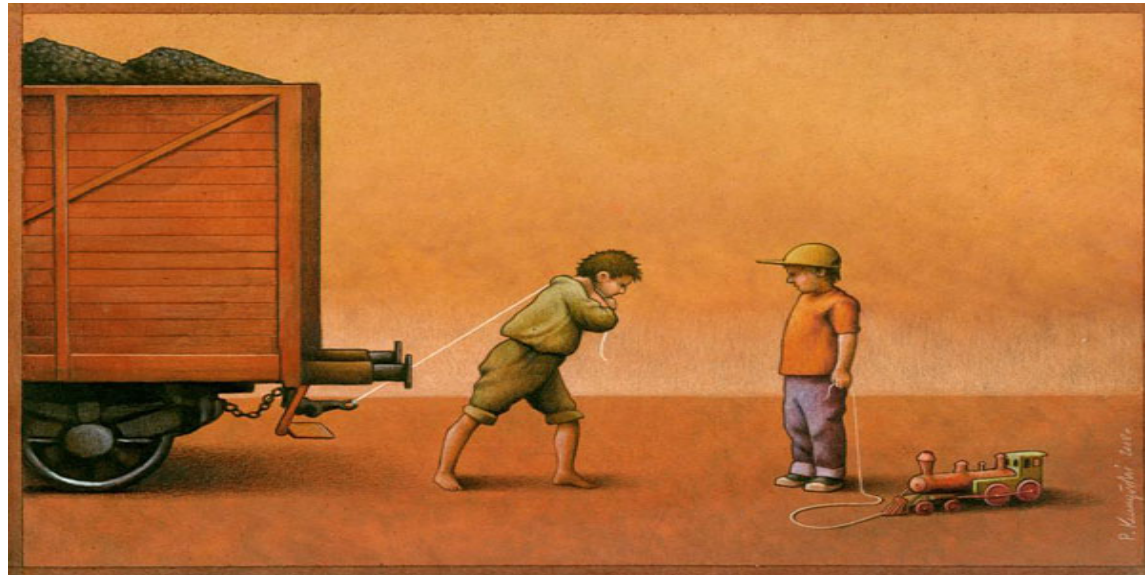


# Economic classes

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**Pawel Kuczynski** is a Polish political art satirist who creates many satirical drawings to bring issues to the public's eye because it almost makes fun of a problem in a way that makes people want to do something about it.



This particular illustration shows the difference between economic classes through the depiction of two boys



# Power politics

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**Banksy**, a renowned graffiti artist based in the UK, who has achieved cult status for his edgy satirical images. The elusive artist has painted six provocative images on buildings around the WestBank town.



This is one of the drawings near the Kalandia checkpoint in the West Bank raising awareness on the division of Palestine and life in the West Bank.



# Racial inequality

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# Refugees and politics

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**Alan Kurdi** was a three-year-old [Syrian](#) boy of [Kurdish](#) ethnic background whose image made global headlines after he drowned on 2 September 2015 in the [Mediterranean Sea](#). He and his family were [Syrian refugees](#) trying to reach Europe amid the [European refugee crisis](#).

Photographs of his body were taken by [Turkish journalist Nilüfer Demir](#) and quickly spread around the world, prompting international responses. Because Kurdi's family had reportedly been trying to reach [Canada](#), his death and the wider [refugee crisis](#) immediately became an issue in the [2015 Canadian federal election](#).

# If The World Were 100 People .....

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFrqTFRy-LU>

Watch the video and note down which facts you considered the most surprising or unexpected!



# Why do people care about gender inequality?

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# Why do people care about racial inequality?

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# Why do people care about social inequality?

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# References

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3. Obaid-Chinoy, S. ( 2017, January 4). Retrieved from : <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/01/how-can-artists-lead-dramatic-social-change/>