

## Letter: Crime Is the Mute Man's Holler

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We live in a society where everything is a crime.

Walking in the dark with a hoodie, sleeping on a public bench, sitting in a restaurant or cafe without purchasing anything. We live in a society where you can be judged if you are not in a certain class or organization.

There are roughly 553,000 people unhoused on a given night.

There are roughly between 130,000 to 200,000 unhoused veterans on a given night.

22 veterans a day commit suicide.

28% of LGBT Youths will experience homelessness. 45% of LGBTQ Youths have seriously considered suicide.

In the United States, food waste is estimated at between 30-40 percent of the food supply.

According to Giving USA, religious organizations received \$128.2 billion in contributions in 2019.

Elon Musk purchased Twitter for \$44 Billion dollars—enough to solve world hunger.

We discard our homeless population as undesirables and disown their humanity and existence.

We live in a society where we criminalize poverty. We live in a society where the wealthy hoards all the profits and tells the working poor class they are beggars and lazy. They call us criminals because we want common decency.

They pay off politicians to change the tax codes for them and hurt the average American who is trying to pay the rent/mortgage on time, put a hot plate on the table, put their children through a decent education system and to live comfortably in their everyday lives. Gas prices has skyrocketed, food prices is outrageous and the rent bill keeps going up. We are getting priced out of living in the United States of America. Inflation is the inflammation of our economy being too regulated and not overstimulated.

Terry Brooks