Basic Income and the Crises of Care
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BIEN 2023, Seoul
The Ethos of Capitalism and the Ethos of Care

Ethos of Capitalism:
- Accumulative
- Exploitative
- Alienating

Ethos of Care:
- Unprofitable
- Reciprocal
- Relational

Market Fundamentalism prioritizes the ethos of capitalism while relying fundamentally on the ethos of care.
Senator Russell Long’s Care Crisis

I can’t get anybody to iron my shirts!

EIGE Gender Equality Index 2022

European Union 68.6

More on EU

Violence

Work 71.7

Health 88.7

Money 82.6

Power 57.2

Knowledge 62.5

Time 64.9
Two Memes about Basic Income

UBI is CAPITALISM
WHERE INCOME DOESN'T START AT 0

UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME
What is a Basic Income?

A regular payment to **all members** of a political community that is

- **Unconditional** (without conditions or behavioral tests)
- **Universal** (not targeted or means-tested)
- **Individual** (calculated and paid on an individual, not household basis)
Three Facts about Capitalist Social Policy States

- Economic Security = Earned Income + Income Support
- Paid “productive” work depends on a foundation of unpaid “reproductive” work
- The timing of social policy state development embeds a relation of dependency between a “breadwinner” and a “caregiver”
Women’s U-Shaped Labor Force Participation


Figure 1
Labor Force Participation Rates for Women 45 to 59-Years-Old (c. 1980) and the Log of GDP/Capita (1985, 1985 $)
Other countries have safety nets. The U.S. has women.

Sociologist Jessica Calarco, as quoted by Anne Helen Petersen
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Group</th>
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<td>Means-Tested, Targeted to Poor</td>
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<td>Poverty Trap and Marriage <em>Penalty</em> if the poor marry</td>
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<td>Joint Taxation of Married Couples</td>
<td>Single-Earner Married Couples</td>
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<td>Marriage <em>Bonus</em> of lower taxes for primary earner upon marriage</td>
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<td>Standard Tax Exemption Amount</td>
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<td>Tax Filing Status (highest for married couples, lower for single parents, lowest for single taxpayers)</td>
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<td>Individual Deduction for Each Household Member</td>
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THE IDEA OF WOMEN VOTING

WAS ONCE JUST AS EXTREME
AS THE IDEA OF A BASIC INCOME
Thank You!

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