While we continue to have percentage wage raises it is obvious that the less well paid will always go backwards while the most well paid will increase their wealth. Only those in the MIDDLE keep abreast of the cost of living. A suggestion to level this off is to find a median income and apply the percentage raise to that, then give the dollar value of that to each worker. This way the same amount of dollars are being put into the economy for use while giving the lower paid a 'fair boost' to level out the imbalance.. It could also keep people in the blue collar workforce which is needed for a secure future.