

What is the difference between socialism and communism?

Definitions

<http://www.summit.org/resources/dictionary/>

Socialism:

an economic system in which the ownership and operation of the means of production and distribution (land, factories, railroads, etc) are controlled by the government. According to Marxism, socialism (i.e. abolition of private property) is the transitional phase between capitalism and communism.

Communism:

a dream of future utopia brought about by a proletariat revolution and ultimately leading to a classless society in which all property is publicly shared and each person works and is paid according to their abilities and needs.

IS THERE ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM?

http://www.fdrs.org/difference_between_communism_and_socialism.html

Discover Why There's no Difference Between Communism and Socialism as Both are Enacted in America.

What's the difference between Communism and Socialism?

What a choice!

In our honest opinion, the similarities between Socialism and Communism are much more important than any differences.

When we did some reading in books and websites regarding this subject, it all started sounding like the adults speaking in a Charlie Brown episode – Blah, blah, blah, blah.

That might be funny except for the fact that these two political ideas have infiltrated the once wonderful land called America.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: WHAT DIFFERENCE?

There's not much difference between Communism and Socialism. They're essentially the same thing. Sure, we can talk about the minor differences like how Socialism has a dictatorship government while Communism is supposed to do away with central government and the ruling class.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: TROUBLE IN AMERICA

One thing Karl Marx seems to actually have been right about is that Socialism is a stepping stone on the way to achieving Communism. How can we say this? Because we've watched America go from its Franklin Roosevelt era of socialist programs in the 1930's to outright [abolition of our basic rights in 2006](#).

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: CAPITALIST CABAL LOOKS TOWARD COMMUNISM

Why is a communist dictatorship next if we don't change America's trend of stripping rights in the name of fighting some terrorist boogie-man?

Just look at history. Power corrupts.

Absolute power in the hands of one or a few people has always turned into corrupt dictatorships. While representative democracy isn't perfect, it sure has proven to be more user friendly to the masses than having the masses ruled by a so-called "elite" leader.

What you must understand in this discussion on the difference between Communism and Socialism is that there's a secretive [banking cabal](#) set on turning America into a dictatorship. This will help them realize their New World Order objectives.

Although these powerful, occultist maniacs (see [satanic Rothschild dynasty](#)) have already gained control of America's media, government, education, and financial centers, they want more.

These are the same people who financed people like Hitler and Stalin. They look forward to a time when they can [brainwash the masses](#) into complete slaves who exist for nothing but to do the grunt work for their "elite" group.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: THEY SAID IT

Do you doubt this? Listen in to what these people say that they censor so it never blares into your living room on FOX News:

"We can't be so fixated on our desire to preserve the rights of ordinary Americans."

- Bill Clinton had this to say in 1993 and George Dubya Bush made it true with his Military Commissions Act of 2006.

"The invisible Money Power is working to control and enslave mankind. It financed Communism, Fascism, Marxism, Zionism, Socialism. All of these are directed to making the United States a member of a World Government"

- *American Mercury Magazine*. 1957

"I am concerned for the security of our great nation; not so much because of any threat from without, but because of the insidious forces working from within."

- General Douglas MacArthur

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

Now that you know there's little difference between Communism and Socialism, let's look at seven of the ten Communist Manifesto points and consider how it all applies to America today:

- Abolition of property
- Heavy, progressive taxes
- Abolition of inheritance
- Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels
- Central banking
- State-controlled communication and transport
- State-controlled education of the children

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: COMMUNISM IN AMERICA

Again, there's little difference between Communism and Socialism. Both are alive and well in today's America. Just look at the similarities between the above Communist Manifesto points and the reality we live with in America.

Research how much of your state land the government owns. Next, research [land patents](#) and find out how you don't even own the land you're paying a mortgage on! Which direction do your taxes keep going? Ever pay attention to the ridiculous inheritance tax this country uses to steal a dead person's wealth?

A central bank is already entrenched in the form of the Fed ([Secrets of the Federal Reserve](#))

[Our media is controlled](#) by the state.

The [Freemason education conspiracy](#) is one that's designed to proliferate [propaganda](#) and teach our children a "doctored" history.

Any questions?

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM: WHAT YOU CAN DO

Learning the truth regarding the fact that there's little difference between Communism and Socialism, and that it's been forced upon us by a corrupt group of power-hungry madmen can seem overwhelming. These people already control all our lives through their complete banking domination. Every month, you're forced to send payments in to their corrupt banks that report to our corrupt central bank, the Fed.

The debt they created for you is fraudulent. It's what provides much of the funding they need to continue blurring any lines of difference between Communism and Socialism as they work toward a New World Order.

What is the difference between socialism and communism?

http://www.marxmail.org/faq/socialism_and_communism.htm

Socialism and communism are alike in that both are systems of production for use based on public ownership of the means of production and centralized planning. Socialism grows directly out of capitalism; it is the first form of the new society. Communism is a further development or "higher stage" of socialism.

From each according to his ability, to each according to his deeds (socialism). From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs (communism).

The socialist principle of distribution according to deeds— that is, for quality and quantity of work performed, is immediately possible and practical. On the other hand, the communist principle of distribution according to needs is not immediately possible and practical—it is an ultimate goal.

Obviously, before it can be achieved, production must reach undreamed of heights—to satisfy everyone's needs there must be the greatest of plenty of everything. In addition, there must have developed a change in the attitude of people toward work— instead of working because they have to, people will work because they want to, both out of a sense of responsibility to society and because work satisfies a felt need in their own lives.

Socialism is the first step in the process of developing the productive forces to achieve abundance and changing the mental and spiritual outlook of the people. It is the necessary transition stage from capitalism to communism.

It must not be assumed, from the distinction between socialism and communism, that the political parties all over the world which call themselves Socialist advocate socialism, while those which call themselves Communist advocate communism. That is not the case. Since the immediate successor to capitalism can only be socialism, the Communist parties, -like the Socialist parties, have as their goal the establishment of socialism.

Are there, then, no differences between the Socialist and Communist parties? Yes, there are.

The Communists believe that as soon as the working class and its allies are in a position to do so they must make a basic change in the character of the state; they must replace capitalist dictatorship over the working class with workers' dictatorship over the capitalist class as the first step in the process by which the existence of capitalists as a class (but not as individuals) is ended and a classless society is eventually ushered in. Socialism cannot be built merely by taking over and using the old capitalist machinery of government; the workers must destroy the old and set up their own new state apparatus. The workers' state must give the old ruling class no opportunity to organize a counter-revolution; it must use its armed strength to crush capitalist resistance when it arises.

The Socialists, on the other hand, believe that it is possible to make the transition from capitalism to socialism without a basic change in the character of the state. They hold this view because they do not think of the capitalist state as essentially an institution for the dictatorship of the capitalist class, but rather as a perfectly good piece of machinery which can be used in the interest of whichever class gets command of it. No need, then, for the working class in power to smash the old capitalist state apparatus and set up its own—the march to socialism can be made step by step within the framework of the democratic forms of the capitalist state.

The attitude of both parties toward the Soviet Union grows directly out of their approach to this problem. Generally speaking, Communist parties praise the Soviet Union; Socialist parties denounce it in varying degrees. For the Communists, the Soviet Union merits the applause of all true believers in socialism because it has transformed the socialist dream into a reality; for the Socialists, the Soviet Union deserves only condemnation because it has not built socialism at all—at least not the socialism they dreamed of.

Instead of wanting to take away people's private property, socialists want more people to have more private property than ever before.

There are two kinds of private property. There is property which is personal in nature, consumer's goods, used for private enjoyment. Then there is the kind of private property which is not personal in nature, property in the means of production. This kind of property is not used for private enjoyment, but to produce the consumer's goods which are.

Socialism does not mean taking away the first kind of private property, e.g. your suit of clothes; it does mean taking away the second kind of private property, e.g. your factory for making suits of clothes. It means taking away private property in the means of production from the few so that there will be much more private property in the means of consumption for the many. That part of the wealth which is produced by workers and taken from them in the form of profits would be theirs, under socialism, to buy more private property, more suits of clothes, more furniture, more food, more tickets to the movies.

More private property for use and enjoyment. No private property for oppression and exploitation. That's socialism.

Huberman and Sweezy, "Introduction to Socialism," Monthly Review

Socialism USA

*Author: Gus Hall (1910-2000), former National Chair, First published: 01/01/1996 00:00 by the Communist Party, USA
<http://cpusa.org/article/static/13/>*

We Communists believe that socialism is the very best replacement for a capitalist system that has served its purpose, but no longer meets the needs and requirements of the great majority of our people.

We believe that socialism USA will be built according to the traditions, history, culture and conditions of the United States. Thus, it will be different from any other socialist society in the world. It will be uniquely American.

What will be the goals of our socialist society?

1. A life free of exploitation, insecurity, poverty; an end to unemployment, hunger and homelessness.
2. An end to racism, national oppression, anti-Semitism, all forms of discrimination, prejudice and bigotry. An end to the unequal status of women.
3. Renewal and extension of democracy; an end to the rule of corporate America and private ownership of the wealth of our nation. Creation of a truly humane and rationally planned society that will stimulate the fullest flowering of the human personality, creativity and talent.

The advocates and ideologues of capitalism hold that such goals are utopian; that human beings are inherently selfish and evil. Others argue that these goals can be fully realized under capitalism.

We are confident, however, that such goals can be realized, but only through a socialist society.

Why Socialism?

Since its inception capitalism has been fatally flawed. Its inherent laws - to maximize profit on the backs of the working class - give rise to the class struggle.

History is a continuous story of people rising up against those who exploit and oppress them, to demand what's theirs. Our own country's historic beginning was revolutionary. The ideals of justice and equality have inspired peoples for centuries.

Up until the time of Karl Marx, those that advocated socialism were "utopians", that is, motivated by ideals only. It was Marx and his longtime friend and collaborator, Frederick Engels, who uncovered the inner laws of capitalism, where profit comes from and how societies develop. They transformed wishful thinking for socialism into socialism with a scientific, materialist basis.

Communists say that capitalism won't be around forever. Just like previous societies weren't around forever either. Slavery gave rise to feudalism and feudalism to capitalism. So, too, capitalism gives rise to socialism.

The Foundations of Socialism

Political power would be in the hands of working people. Socialism starts with nationalization of the main means of production - the plants, factories, agri-business farms and everything necessary to produce what society needs. The large monopoly corporations and banks come under public ownership, that is, under the collective ownership of the entire working class and people, who have the leading role in building socialism.

Socialism also means public ownership of the energy industry and all the natural resources. It eliminates forever the power of the capitalist class to exploit and oppress the majority.

A socialist government draws up plans covering the entire economy. They are drawn up with maximum participation of the people, from the shop level on up. Such plans are achieved because they harmonize the interests of all, because there are no conflicts arising from exploitation of workers and no dog-eat-dog competition.

Production increases much faster than under capitalism, with a planned economy, advancement of science and technology, and the protection and preservation of our environment and natural resources.

A socialist government is based on all-around democracy, starting with economic democracy. The more people participate in running their own economy, the more firmly people's power is established, the more successful a socialist America will be.

Trade unions in a socialist USA will insure a fair balance between what workers produce and what they receive. They will have decisive power to enforce safety and health provisions, prevent speedup, and guarantee good transportation, working conditions and plant facilities.

Public services - schools, hospitals, utilities, transit, parks, roads - are crumbling under capitalism. And now corporations are "privatizing" government-run, publicly-owned institutions for private profit.

Under socialism public services and housing will be vastly improved and expanded. They will be broadened in their scope beyond anything dreamed of under capitalism.

The U.S. will become a vast construction site. Homes, schools, hospitals, places of recreation will be built to end shortages, replace substandard infrastructures and public facilities.

Jobs and Education for All

Full employment will be quickly achieved as production is expanded to satisfy the needs of people. Automation at the service of the working people will lead to both reduced hours of work and higher living standards, with no layoffs. There will be no danger of over-production since production will be planned and people's incomes will increase in line with the rising output of consumer goods and services.

Poverty will be ended quickly with the recovery of the vast resources now wasted in war production, corporate profits and the extravagant lifestyles of the filthy rich.

All education will be tuition-free. Every person will have access to unlimited medical and health care without charge. These rights will be realized as rapidly as facilities can be built and the personnel trained.

With capitalism gone, crime will also begin to disappear, for it is the vicious profit system that corrupts people and breeds crime.

To Each According to Their Work

Some ask whether guaranteeing basic necessities, free education, low-cost housing and health care will encourage people to avoid working, or doing their best. The principle of socialism is: From each according to his/her ability, to each according to his/her work.

Socialism provides incentives for working better, producing more and higher quality goods, acquiring advanced skills. It does NOT equalize wages. Wages vary according to occupation and efficiency, although everyone is guaranteed a liveable wage.

Under capitalism, improvements in skill, organization and technology are rightly feared by the worker, since they threaten jobs. Under socialism, they offer the chance to make the job more interesting and rewarding, as well as to improve living standards.

Socialism provides moral incentives because the fruits of labor benefit all. No person robs others of the profits from their labor; when social goals are adopted by the majority, people will want to work for these goals. Work will seem less a burden, more and more a creative activity, where everyone is his/her neighbor's helper instead of rival.

It is true socialism will nationalize or socialize all large-scale production, property and real estate. But socialism does not abolish ALL privately-owned business. It does not require nationalization of those small businesses owned by people who work for themselves and do not hire others to make a profit. Personal property - private homes, automobiles, etc., - will remain just that, personal property.

In highly mechanized U.S. agriculture there will still be a place for the family farmer. But the farm family will be relieved of the pressure of agribusiness monopolies.

There will be rapid abolition of racism and national oppression. Socialism will bring complete equality for all racially and nationally oppressed. There will be no compromise with racism, for there will no longer exist a capitalist class which profits from it. Racism, national oppression, anti-Semitism, sexism, anti-immigrant discrimination and all forms of prejudice and bigotry will be banned by law, with strict measures of enforcement. Affirmative action will be expanded immediately to undo and make up for hundreds of years of the ravages of racism. Full equality will be one of the main priorities of the new society.

War propaganda will be outlawed.

The only privileged sectors will be the children and seniors, who have earned the right to a healthy, happy, secure retirement.

The children will reap all the benefits of socialist child care, free nurseries and schools with the very best facilities and teachers. Children will have wonderful recreational and sports facilities. They will

have the option to choose whatever career they wish, and the free education and training to achieve it.

Socialism provides the economic foundation for effective democracy for the masses of people. To carry through the socialist economic and social transformation requires political rule by the working class - a government of, by and for the working people.

Socialism USA

Socialism USA will benefit from the experiences, the mistakes and successes of the countries who built and are building socialism. But mainly it will reflect the distinctive features of U.S. development and environment.

Unique historical advantages, like the unequalled natural resources, fertile soil and perfect weather, coupled with the contributions of generations of working people, enabled U.S. capitalism to achieve higher productive levels and living standards than capitalism in other countries. So, too, the development of socialism here will have some distinct advantages.

1. We have a highly developed industrial society with a highly trained and educated work force.
2. Free from foreign intervention, socialism will not have to divert human and economic resources to defend itself.
3. Socialism USA will avoid the terrible problems of extreme poverty, illiteracy, civil wars, wars of intervention and world wars.
4. Socialism USA will extend democracy to its fullest, taking as its starting point the democratic traditions and institutions of the American people.

Path to Socialism

We say that it may be possible in the U.S. to bring socialism through peaceful means. Perhaps through the ballot box. One thing is clear, there won't be socialism in the U.S. until the majority of the American people want it.

I like to say that when workers enter the corporate board rooms to take over and the ruling class says: O.K. you're right, we made a mess of things and now you should run it all. Well then there won't be any trouble. But if the ruling class says: Forget it! And call out the army and the police and the national guard, then that is how revolutions become violent. It starts with the ruling class. Workers and their allies have to defend themselves and to fight for what is rightfully theirs.

We believe and advocate that a socialist society in our country will guarantee all the liberties defined in the Bill of Rights but never fully realized. These include the right of people to express themselves fully and freely through organizations of their choice and competing candidates who respect and are guided by the concept of building socialism.

Indeed, the freedoms in the Bill of Rights will take on far greater meaning for the great majority, who will now own the meeting halls, press, radio and TV, and will be able to exercise that freedom effectively.

That's why we call ours Bill of Rights Socialism, USA.

Socialism is our vision for America's future. It is a vision we are winning more and more people to because it is logical - really a great - replacement for capitalism. And because it is the next inevitable step up the ladder of human civilization.