

THE INSTITUTE FOR ANACYCLOSIS

THE DEFINITION OF THE MIDDLE CLASS

We understand the “middle class” to be:

FREE CITIZENS OF MODEST INCOME AND WEALTH, WHO ARE MEMBERS OF A POLITICAL COMMUNITY, WHO ARE INDUSTRIOUS AND INDEPENDENT, AND WHO COLLECTIVELY MAKE AN INDISPENSABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THAT COMMUNITY

Where:

1. *The middle class must be free, or else it would constitute the property or slaves of the upper class and thus have no separate existence of its own.*
2. *The middle class must be or become citizens, or else they would be legally disqualified from any claim to participate in the government of the community.*
3. *The middle class must have modest income or wealth, or else it would either be unwilling or unable to make an indispensable contribution to the community.*
4. *The citizens of the middle class must share membership in a political community in order to share common cause with one another, or else they would be disorganized and divided.*
5. *The middle class must be industriousness, meaning that it must work and does work for a living, or else its members would fall into idleness and mischief.*
6. *The middle class must be independent, or else it would need to be obedient to the patrons or other powers upon which it depended for its livelihood.*
7. *The middle class must make an indispensable contribution, or else it could be easily replaced or suppressed once it asserted its rights to participate in government.*

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