'FRED' is (IIRC) the name of the Saint Louis US Federal Reserve System's public portal.

The top hundredth of 1% of wealth group could (can) sell it now

for about 20 trillions of dollars. Instead of about $20,000 now, for each of these people.

[Authored by Charles Hugh Smith via OfTwoMinds blog,](https://charleshughsmith.blogspot.com/2025/05/ours-is-system-of-fraud-swindles-and.html)

"Charles Hugh Smith asserts "

**I submit that the United States is in the firm grip of the single-minded few focused solely on maximizing their gains and distributing costs and losses to others by any means available.** The social and political restraints that placed modest limits on the aggregation of power and wealth into the hands of the few have crumbled, and this structural collapse has been hidden behind flimsy billboards hyping the latest in distractions: AI, tariffs, stablecoins, Rich Mom fashions, etc.

**These flimsy distractions are about to be blown over by the windstorm of recession and social disorder** as the American households clinging on to the fantasy of The American Dream as all the costs and losses are dumped on them as the gains flow to the top 10% finally throw in the towel on the status quo.

**The entire bloated, distorted beast has been living on buy now, pay later skims and scams**, and the debt pushers have turned enough of the populace into debt-junkies that there's few new customers left to addict.