American Economic Inequality and Immobility and Its Impacts on Society John DiStefano Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahwah, NJ 07430

Introduction

Inequality By the Numbers

• The top 0.1% earn more than 184 times the income of the bottom 90%

• The U.S. scores a .42 on the Gini coefficient (or index) which quantifies the level of inequality in countries around the world, indicating higher levels of inequality than in all other industrialized nations, which tend to average closer to .30