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***Public Forum and Film, "Capitalism Hits the Fan," Examines the Root Causes of the U.S. Economic Meltdown Not Covered in Michael Moore's new film, "Capitalism: A Love Story"***

**Film consultant and economist Richard Wolff discusses structural changes needed to fix today's broken economy and prevent future crises at an October 24<sup>th</sup> event in Hamden, CT**

Renowned University of Massachusetts economics professor emeritus Richard Wolf is coming to the Unitarian Church in Hamden on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, where using his film and recently published book, he'll present a disturbing examination of the Wall Street schemes that triggered the economic collapse not included in Michael Moore's new film "Capitalism: A Love Story."

This public forum addressing the nation's worst economic downturn since the Great Depression is titled, ***"Capitalism Hits the Fan: The Global Economic Meltdown and What to Do About It,"*** and will be held from 2-4:30 p.m. Saturday, October 24th at the Unitarian Society of New Haven, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. Richard Wolff's talk and Q &A with the audience will be preceded by a screening of the film, ***"Capitalism Hits the Fan,"*** based on Wolff's recent lectures.

Wolff's talk coincides with the release of Michael Moore's new film, "Capitalism: A Love Story," on which he was a consultant. "Michael Moore's new film is an important event," said Wolff. "Together with capitalism's current crisis, it returns public attention to the question of our current economic system and whether we can do better. The Cold War stifled honest debate about capitalism. Moore's film helps us to resume a long overdue public discussion. As a professional economist concerned with comparing the strengths and weaknesses of capitalist and socialist economic systems, I was pleased to assist in the film's production."

Wolff's new book, ***"Capitalism Hits the Fan The Global Economic Meltdown and What to Do About It,"*** published this month, chronicles one economist's growing alarm and insights as he watched, from 2005 onwards, the economic crisis build, burst, and then dominate world events. The argument here differs sharply from most other explanations offered by politicians, media commentators, and other academics. Step by step,

Wolff shows that deep economic structures--the relationship of wages to profits, of workers to boards of directors, and of debts to income--account for the crisis. The great change in the US economy since the 1970s, as employers stopped the historic rise in US workers' real wages, set in motion the events that eventually broke the world economy.

Richard Wolff has been a professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts since 1981. Wolff's major interests include the critical comparison of alternative economic theories (neoclassical, Keynesian, and Marxian), the application of advanced class analysis to contemporary global capitalism, and new developments in Marxian economics. He has written, co-authored, and co-edited many books and dozens of scholarly and popular journal articles.

Wolff lived in New Haven from 1964 to 2003. In 1985, he ran for mayor of New Haven on the New Haven Green Party ticket winning 10 percent of the citywide vote; in 1987, he ran for alderman of New Haven's 10th ward, also on the Green Party ticket where he got 46 percent of the vote. He was an economic advisor to the Greater New Haven Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO for 25 years from 1973 to 1998. His wife was a practicing psychotherapist in New Haven; his two children graduated from the New Haven public school system.

Net proceeds from the event will benefit **Squeaky Wheel Productions**, nonprofit distributor of **Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine** broadcast on 45 radio stations in the U.S. and Australia. Suggested donation is \$15, \$5 for students. Seating is limited, advance reservations recommended. For tickets or more information call 1-(203) 268-8446 or visit [www.squeakywheel.net](http://www.squeakywheel.net) or [www.btlonline.org](http://www.btlonline.org).

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