

## **Republicans Returning to the Trough**

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Republicans now want to change the way capital gains are taxed. Currently, you deduct the purchase price from the selling price and pay taxes on the profit. Actually, many people don't do that because they don't have enough money to have capital gains profits. This mostly affects the wealthy although middle class people selling stocks get a bit from this. House sales, where most people get some capital gains, have a large one time exemption and don't fall under this.

What Republicans want to do is change the calculation to include the impact of inflation on the purchase price of the stock or artwork or whatever is being sold. And that actually makes some sense, after all, I paid for that Picasso using 1980 dollars and I'm selling it in 2018 dollars. Shouldn't the purchase price be adjusted for the rate of inflation since 1980?

Yes, I could argue that it would be fair to do so. But, the 2018 Republican Tax Scam actually cut the capital gains taxes and now they want to change the basis on which those taxes are based? Of course they do, because the Republican Party only cares about rewarding the billionaires who keep them in power. They will get more donations by doing this.

Of course, cutting revenue means that someone else has to make it up, or programs that benefit regular people will get slashed.

I'm willing to bet that the inflation calculation they come up with will be much more generous than the one that increases Social Security payments.