The following is a “letter to editor” appearing in the “Telegram-Tribune” on December 25, 1995, page B-5. This letter was entitled: “It’s still not a crime to be among the wealthy.”

To the editor:

In her letter of Dec. 18, Judith A. Graham cites a long list of things wealthy people can afford, and I have only one thing to say ... SO!?

The problem is she characterizes this as some sort of crime. Ms. Graham, what have wealthy people done to you that makes you feel as though they owe you something?

She also states that it's only fair that the more money a person made the more money should be paid. Why?! Where did you pull this idea out of?

As it stands, wealthy people are already carrying the largest percentage of the tax burden because their tax rates are so astronomically high. If, in fact there was a flat tax rate they would still be paying more simply by virtue of the fact that they earn more.

So where do people like Ms. Graham get the idea that paying more than half of your earnings in taxes simply because you have worked hard to become successful is "fair" is incomprehensible to me.

I work hard, save, and would like to be rich someday too. And if I do, believe me, I owe you nothing. It is a part of the American dream, and part of the reason why so many wish to flock to this land of opportunity.

So if you believe so firmly in the redistribution of wealth and socialized medicine such as the Clinton health care plan that you also tout in your article and, if you believe that it's the government's responsibility to take care of you, then perhaps you ought to speak with a travel agent.

There are places for people who share your ideas, albeit they are becoming fewer and farther between. They are referred to as Cuba, China, North Korea, and a handful of others. Bon Voyage, Ms. Graham.