

# Trump's Billionaire Cronies Feed at Public Trough as He Disses Puerto Rico

By [Prof. Juan Cole](#)

Global Research, October 02, 2017

[Informed Comment](#) 1 October 2017

Region: [Latin America & Caribbean, USA](#)

Theme: [Police State & Civil Rights, Poverty & Social Inequality](#)

*Trump's petulant tweet storm on Saturday accused Puerto Ricans of wanting everything done for them.*

*He expressed these sentiments as his secretary of Health and Human Services, **Tom Price**, was [forced to resign for flying around on expensive government airplanes or charters](#), costing tax payers over \$1 million, even though many of these flights could have been replaced by inexpensive train rides or economy seats on civilian airliners.*

So who is it again who has things done for him by the Federal government?

The whole point of the Trump cabinet is to allow filthy rich groups and individuals to feed at the public trough.

[Rick Perry wants](#) artificially to use government to make consumers buy electricity generated by coal and nuclear plants. This is a way of deploying the state to benefit one narrow sliver of the wealthy, while harming everyone else.

**Scott Pruitt** has turned the Environmental Protection Agency upside down, using it to increase corporate profits by allowing the pollution of public spaces, including the sources of our [drinking water](#).

In contrast, San Juan mayor **Carmen Yulin Cruz** has been out in the water with a bullhorn trying to find people still trapped by the flooding.

The illegitimate POTUS dares to call Carmen Yulin Cruz "Nasty"? He plays golf all day, she wades through sewage trying to help her people!  
[pic.twitter.com/aABj4Q9iiq](https://pic.twitter.com/aABj4Q9iiq)

— Tom D'Angora (@TomDangora) [October 1, 2017](#)

In trying to portray the 3.4 million Puerto Ricans, all of them US citizens, as welfare queens, Trump in typical fashion used a Reagan cliché so stupidly as to undermine Republican Party ideology. Reagan demeaned the working poor for resorting to the social safety net erected for that purpose. Trump attempted to use the same meme with regard to pure victims. The Puerto Ricans did not get hit by Maria because they don't know how to save money or because they spend it frivolously. They cannot exploit the system. They are outside the system. They are drowning or dying of hunger and thirst, in part because the Trump

administration watched Hurricane Maria head for Puerto Rico for five days and did not swing into action to prepare for the aftermath.

Featured image is from [@TomDangora](#).

The original source of this article is [Informed Comment](#)  
Copyright © [Prof. Juan Cole](#), [Informed Comment](#), 2017

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Prof. Juan Cole](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.  
For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)