

GROWING INEQUALITY BETWEEN RICH AND POOR FAMILIES IN THE 1990s

POOREST FAMILIES WORSE OFF BY THE END OF THE DECADE

- The lowest 10% of families with children experienced falling incomes throughout the decade. While all other families gained some ground, those families at the very bottom were actually worse off by 1999.

GAP BETWEEN RICHEST AND POOREST FAMILIES CONTINUES TO GROW

- While the poorest families saw a loss of income by the end of the decade, the richest 10% of families gained almost \$30,000 since 1993. By 1999, the richest families were 11.5 times better off than the poorest families - a growing gap from a difference of 9.5 times in 1993.

<i>Average Total Family Income in a Year (Constant 1999 dollars)</i>			
<i>Deciles of Children</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>Difference between 1993 and 1999 Average Total Income</i>
Lowest 10%	\$14,931	\$14,897	-\$33
Second	\$25,482	\$26,354	\$872
Third	\$34,703	\$34,970	\$267
Fourth	\$42,816	\$43,761	\$945
Fifth	\$50,740	\$52,644	\$1,904
Sixth	\$57,985	\$61,204	\$3,219
Seventh	\$66,230	\$70,935	\$4,705
Eighth	\$76,361	\$82,675	\$6,314
Ninth	\$90,947	\$99,260	\$8,313
Highest 10%	\$141,871	\$171,464	\$29,593
Canadian Average	\$60,547	\$65,842	\$5,295
<i>Ratio of Lowest to Highest decile (highest divided by lowest)</i>	9.5	11.5	

Source: CCSD using Statistics Canada's Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, 1993-1999.

