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3.1 million families will be cut from the heating program. This budget is to be implemented next year. The nation's economy has not rebounded. There is a need for these programs.

In 2009 there was decline in median wealth of 36% due to "changes in stock and in house prices. Also that wealth had decreased for persons under 45 yrs old," said Economic

Professor at New York University, Edward N. Wolff, in his 2010 publication, Recent Trends in Household

Wealth in the United States: Rising Debt and the Middle-Class Squeeze.

When will Americans speak up and stop carrying the nation's financial setbacks in silence? Recent events across the Middle East have toppled governments over economic

"What you see happening on the streets of Cairo is not all that surprising when you see the lack of steps that their government has taken to meet their concerns," according to an interview with White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs and reported by the New York Times two weeks ago.

There is no indicator that the U.S. is in the

same economical dilemma as Egypt.

What will it take for Americans to stand up to the representatives that were elected to protect their interests? What will it take for citizens to stand up and say "it is enough either do

the job you were elected for or step down?"

AIDS continued from page 1

papillomavirus (HPV). According such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids to a website owned by the Freedom Network, some STD's are treatable with antibiotics, for example chlamydia and gonorrhea, because they are bacterial and can be treated with medication. Contracting one of these diseases puts people at a greater risk for getting HIV or AIDS.

Sexually transmitted diseases and infections are transmitted through sexual contact with another person. Diseases like HIV/AIDS can be transmitted through bodily fluids

and even through breast milk.

Here are just a few ways you can better protect yourselves according to the flyer posted by FSU Health Services and the CDC.

Use a condom, preferably made of latex EVERYTIME! Even if you are in a monogamous relationship.

When using a condom, read the instructions. Make sure the condom is still in good condition and

that no part of the genital area is exposed.

ABSTINENCE! Abstinence is the only fool proof method.

Get tested and have your partner get tested as well. Knowing your status can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

■ It is okay to ask about your partner's sexual history. You have the right to know.

Have open discussions with everyone you know about HIV/ AIDS, it helps alleviate the negative stigmas and makes people feel more comfortable about going to get tests.

With all the different methods of protection, the only fool proof method that works one hundred percent of the time is abstinence. Refraining from sexual activity until one is in a solid, trusting, monogamous relationship with a spouse is the best bet to remain free from disease and infection.

If you have any questions, concerns or just want to talk to someone you can make an appointment to speak with a counselor at the Center for Personal Development. Or you can go to the Spaulding Infirmary and ask for assistance.

If you want to get checked for HIV/AIDS or other STD's, testing is available on campus for free. Call and make an appointment at Health Services at 910-672-1454.

