

Re: OT: Inflation in the US

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- *From:* "radiosrfun" <radiosrfun@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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A sign that says "will work for food" doesn't mean that they are serious. Most panhandlers know exactly what works to maximize revenue. In front of our building, the panhandlers work in organized 2-hour shifts. The signs are always crudely lettered on brown cardboard, because that's what works best. The panhandlers are almost universally youngish white males; in a town that's 30% Chinese, I've never seen a Chinese beggar.

You certainly demonstrate that is one way of "looking at it." However, I live in Stockton, California. We are inundated with Indians from Mexico representing themselves as Spanish. They gather, every morning, in various locations in the poorer districts, liquor store parking lots, vacant lots, quick stop lots, etc. You can hire them for ~\$5.00 an hour cash. If the "homeless" must compete with them for "start positions", "take-a-job-just-to-survive-situations", etc.—they probably opt for a sign in front of your building ... can't really say what I'd do

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myself--keep an eye out for me. :-D
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