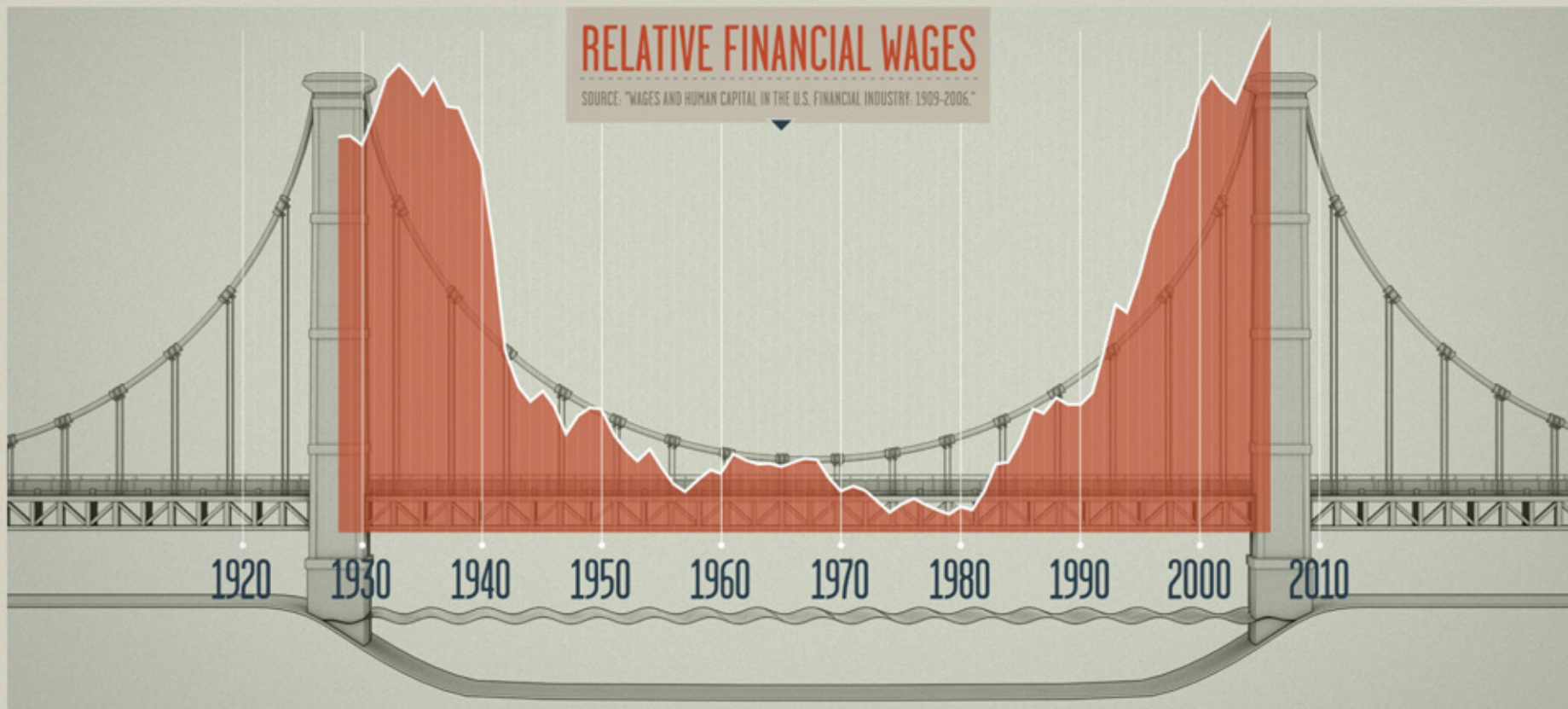


And the financial sector ballooned.

We can see that these trends match exactly with our inequality “bridge” graph, illustrating how it is all interconnected.



The first question is: why didn't we deal with it?

The answer is, the middle class came up with 3 ways to keep spending even while wages were flat. Those 3 coping mechanisms were:

- 1 Women went in to paid work in huge numbers
- 2 People worked longer hours (productivity went up and up)
- 3 People went into debt, particularly housing