

**Stiglitz, Joseph E. *The great divide: unequal societies and what we can do about them*. W. W. Norton, 2015. 428p afp ISBN 9780393248579, \$28.95.**

In his professional journal contributions, speaking engagements, and writings for an intelligent lay public, influential Columbia University economist and Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz has been an indefatigable siren for decades about the maldistribution of income and lack of opportunity in the US. In *The Price of Inequality*, his 2012 scholarly tome (CH, Feb'13, 50-3543), Stiglitz methodically laid out the problems as he saw them and the reforms and ameliorations he envisioned and advocated. *The Great Divide*, in contrast, is a compilation of more than 50 previously published—largely stand-alone—columns from *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *Project Syndicate*, and *Critical Review*, with an original introductory essay accompanying each of the nine broad sections. These introductions contain endnotes; none of the others do, nor is there an aggregate bibliography or index. Themes include the dimensions of inequality, its causes, and its consequences; public policies that are part of the problem and ones that can be part of the solution; and international perspectives and experiences. While some on the political Left may feel mildly rebuked as well as disappointed that Stiglitz does not advocate more revolutionary solutions, conservatives bear most of the brunt of his scorn. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division and upper-division undergraduates; professionals; general readers.