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 **TICE ON
INEQUALITY:
LETTER WRITERS
MISS THE POINT**

By Steve Bakke  December 26, 2018



On December 16, D.J. Tice offered excellent incite into the problems we have measuring, and as a result, deciding on effective solutions for reducing economic inequality in the U.S. The article's title stated his purpose: "*Scrutinizing what all 'know' on inequality.*"

On December 23, letter writers took his article to task because his analysis suggests that our common measurements might exaggerate the extent to which economic inequality exists in the U.S. They suggest "quibbling over numbers may confuse some people," and that questioning the measurements is somehow denying the problem. They imply that it matters only that inequality exists and the amount is unimportant.

I think the letter writers miss the valuable point Mr. Tice placed before us. I came away from his article with renewed concern that perhaps our historical inability to find solutions is because we work with inaccurate facts.

Successful policies require the accuracy and relevancy of the facts being analyzed. Simplistic statements from those letters are well intended but won't lead to any solutions for the problem.