

Atkinson, Anthony B. *Inequality: what can be done?* Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015. 384 p. Cloth, \$29.95. ISBN: 978-0-674-50476-9

Based on his nearly 50 years of research regarding the economics of inequality in multiple countries, Atkinson argues that inequality is not inevitable within a capitalist society. Providing easily understandable explanations of complex economic concepts, the renowned economist discusses the various dimensions of inequality, describes changes in economic inequality over time, and suggests policies that could significantly reduce this inequality by shifting income distribution in developed countries. Atkinson presents 15 ambitious proposals to significantly reduce inequality including: global taxation of wealth, a minimum inheritance, increased spending on social protection, and guaranteed public employment. He then discusses the feasibility of his proposals, considers objections, and outlines approaches to implementation. Throughout the book, Atkinson maintains an optimistic view of the global economic future. He concludes with a call to action: "It is individuals who will ultimately determine whether the proposals set out here are implemented and whether the ideas are pursued" (p. 307).