When and Why Do Inequalities Matter?

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14th Amendment, Section 1

- All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.
Domains of Equality/Inequality

- Economic (income and wealth)
- Legal
- Political
- Educational
- Social
- Health-related
- Housing
Rawls’s Two Principles of Justice

1. “Each person is to have an equal right to the most extensive total system of equal basic liberties compatible with a similar system of liberty for all.”

2. “Social and economic inequalities are to be arranged so that they are both:
   a. to the greatest benefit of the least advantaged, consistent with the just savings principle, and
   b. attached to offices and positions open to all under conditions of fair equality of opportunity.”