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Class is a highly integral part of US culture. However, class stratification and inequality are frequently denied by middle-class and wealthy US citizens. Multiple factors contribute to the inconspicuousness of class and inequality in the United States, such as how the media rarely addresses class stratification, voluntary isolation, and the fact that the consumer culture cultivated by the United States mandates spending money in almost all aspects of life.

The media’s inattention to class inequality, voluntary isolation from citizens particularly low in class, and the United States’ obsession with spending money all contribute to the general idea of class stratification being nonexistent in the US. For example, only 0.02% of *New York Times* articles focused on poverty. As one of the most popular newspapers in the United States, these stories reveal much about how important class stratification is to the average US citizen. Another example of the invisibility of class division in the United States pertains to how middle- and high-class Americans tend to separate themselves from citizens in poverty. Gated communities, physical barriers separating the wealthy from the poor, are the most prominent example of this unwillingness to see or interact with lower-class individuals.

Class inequality in the US is caused by a number of factors. By combating these factors, we as US citizens can foster a newfound understanding of the inequalities in American society.