

“Social Justice in Scholarly Publishing: Open Access is the Only Way”

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Information Privilege:

“the affordance or opportunity to access
information that others cannot”

Hare & Evanson, 2018



Social Justice:

“the process through which the key principles of fairness, equality, opportunity and needs within society are established, protected and realized to ensure that all people benefit from its productive capacity”

Scruton, 2008



Open Access (OA):

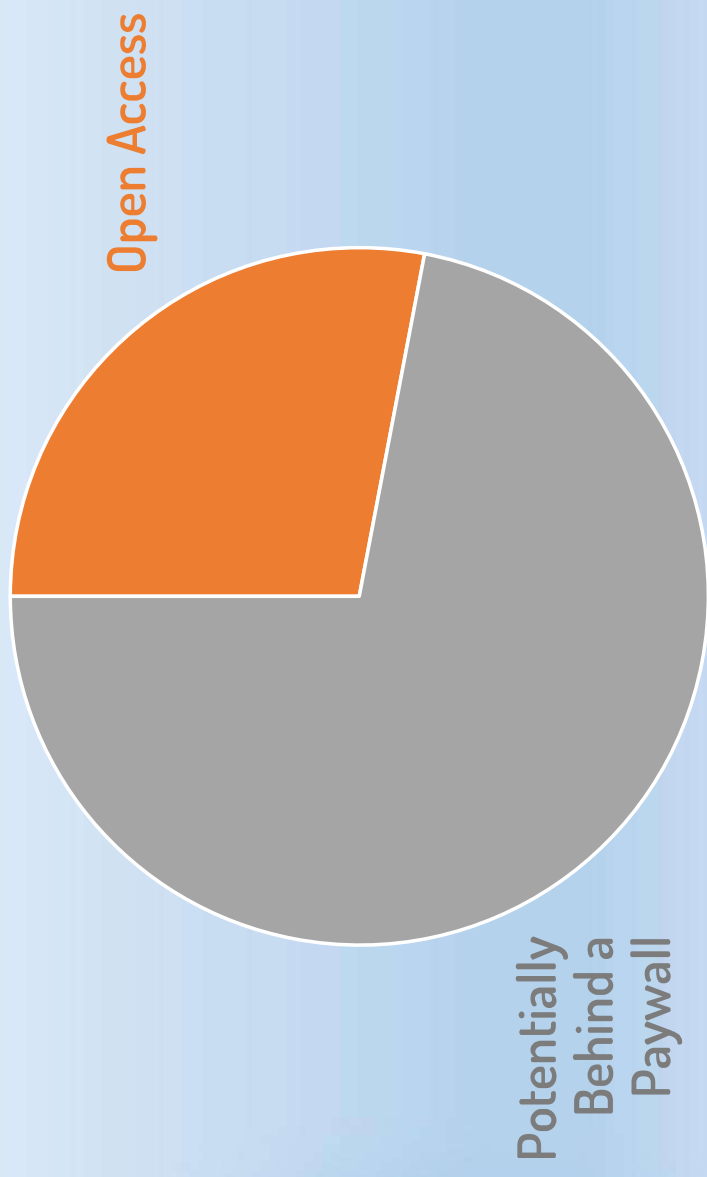
“Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research articles combined with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment.”

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition



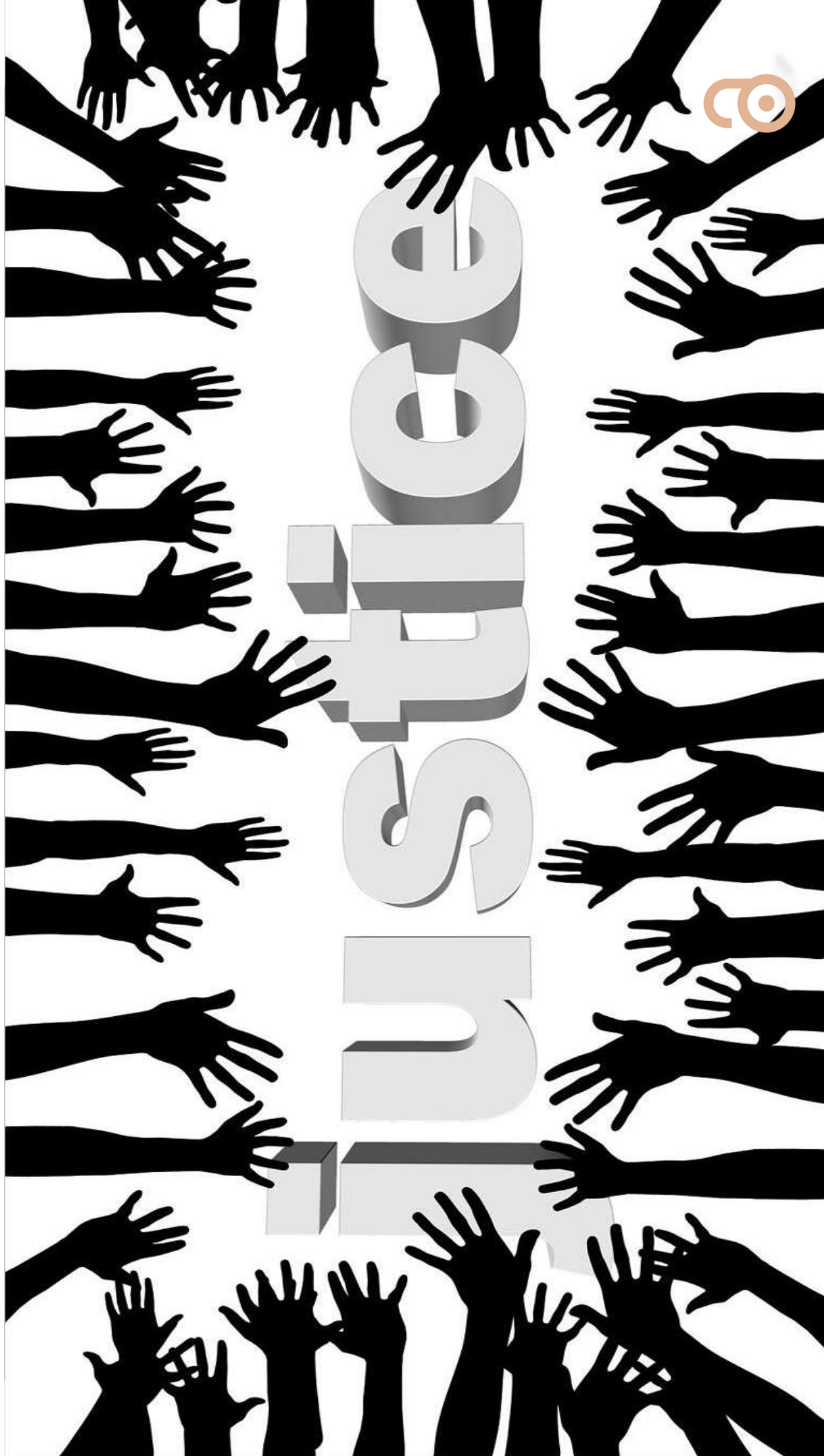
**“We estimate that at least 28% of the
scholarly literature is OA....”**

Piwowar et al., 2018





JUSTICE



“First off, I honestly thought finding information for my researcher profile would have been easier, even without access to the University of Lethbridge Library but I was dead wrong.”



“...information is essential, but it is crucial to have access to correct and unbiased information as it can affect future development not just in a specific field but worldwide relations and progress.”



“...there is a lot of information that people are restricted from seeing without paying the money to do it, and this restricts their ability to gather all of the information that they can for their research projects.”



**“...using only open access journals are not
enough to create an in-depth and thorough
research paper.”**



“This is troubling in a way because you could have a brilliant researcher, but if they do not have the money they need to be able to afford these journals and databases, their research can only go so far.”



“I would wonder how people do feel in those other countries who are stuck with limited research options due to their lack of information privilege...Even then, I considered how some open access journals still had article publishing fees.”



“This assignment also opened my eyes to the corrupt nature of journal subscriptions themselves. These journals come across as spreading knowledge being their main goal. But that cannot be the case...these journals are just another way to make money.”



“While some may argue that open access negates the value of scholarly work, I would suggest that it instead enhances the value of the work. Scholarly work becomes most valuable when it is allowed to be shared with everyone.. The goal of conducting research is not to hide it away, it is to be curious, and in the process of your curiosity spark the curiosity of others”



“The issue international researchers face is an issue for all of humanity. We are wasting a tremendous amount of research capacity by limiting sources to an elect few in the west. The more researchers we have, the quicker we will advance which is a net benefit to all of us.”



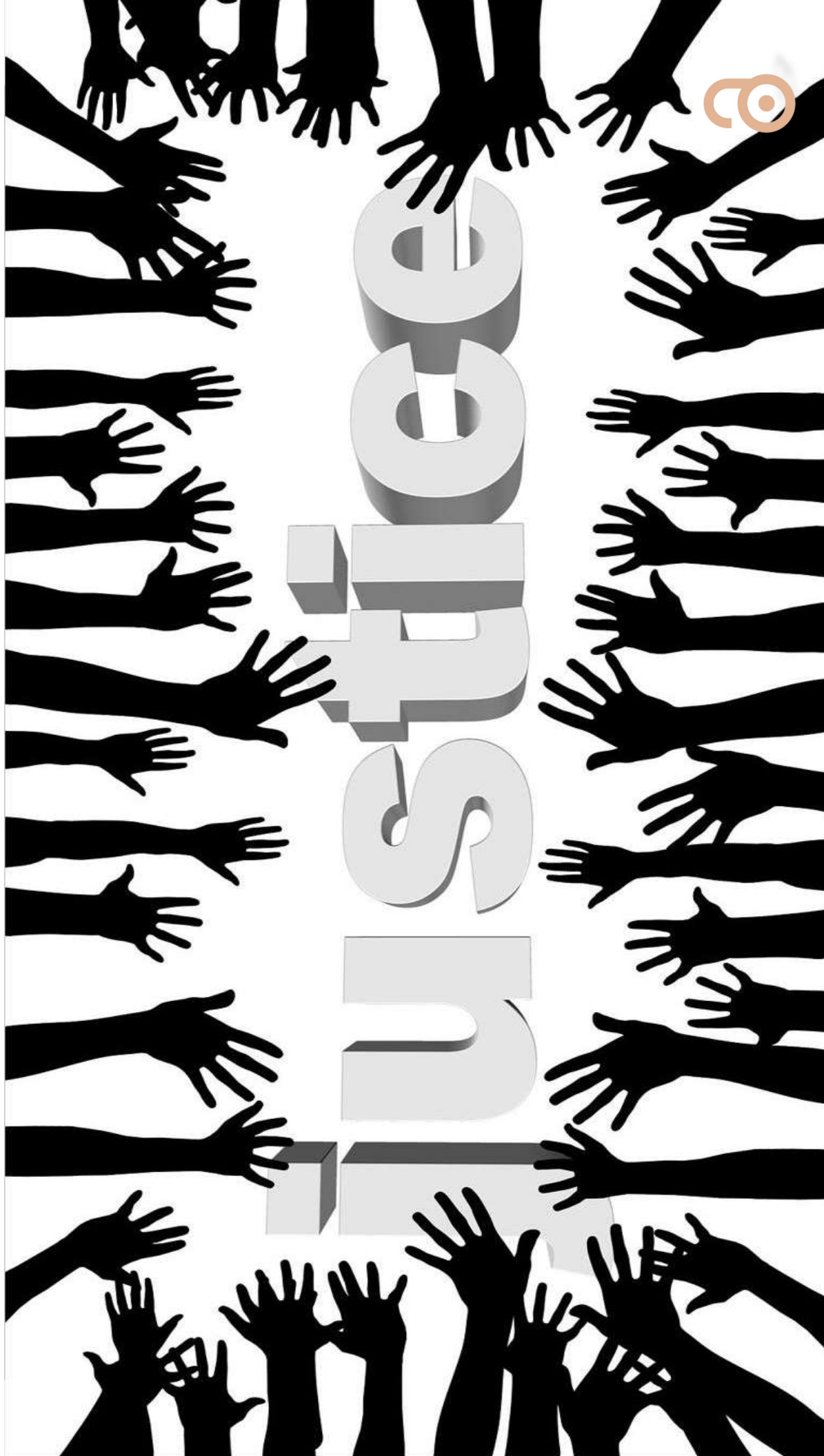
“The immense tragedy of living in the most interconnected age of humanity while simultaneously having so many intelligent voices unheard and inadequately appreciated if for no other reason than artificially imposed impermeable barriers is never so more greatly felt than in

academia.”





JUSTICE



THE COST OF INEQUALITY

"A great book—read it!"
Richard Wilkinson, co-author of *The Spirit Level*



WHY ECONOMIC EQUITY IS ESSENTIAL FOR RE

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JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

"A searing read." —Nicholas Kristof

THE PRICE OF INEQUALITY

HOW TODAY'S DIVIDED SOCIETY
ENDANGERS OUR FUTURE

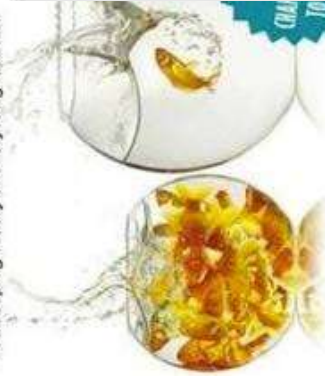


The Spirit Level Why Equality is Better for Everyone

Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett

"A big idea, big enough to change political thinking"
Sunday Times

"A sweeping theory of everything" *Guardian*



WORLD INEQUALITY REPORT

2018



WORLD INEQUALITY REPORT

THE INNER LEVEL



HOW MORE EQUAL SOCIETIES

REDUCE STRESS, RESTORE

SANITY AND IMPROVE

EVERYONE'S WELL-BEING



RICHARD WILKINSON

AND KATE PICKETT



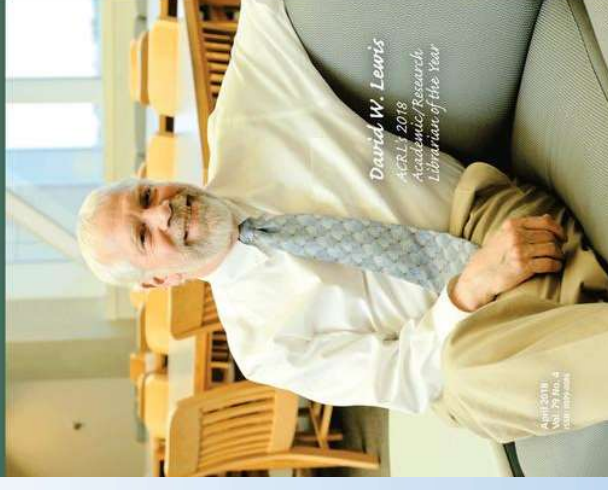
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only way. *The
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Bioethics*, 17(10), 15-17.



What can we do to
meaningfully
counterbalance the
inequity inherent in our
information privilege?




“ ... our goal should be equitable global scholarly exchange rather than a one-way bestowal of knowledge from the Global North to the Global South... OA is one of our most powerful tools to dismantle a global system of information privilege” (Baildon, 2018)



David W. Lewis
ACRL 2018
Academic Research
Librarian of the Year

April 2018
Vol. 27, No. 4
www.acrl.org





**What can we do to
meaningfully counterbalance
the inequity inherent in our
information privilege?**

**How can Open Access
help?**



Sources

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