Across America today, great opportunities exist alongside vast inequities. In our country, and in our region, how do we confront the deepening inequality that stifles our children’s – and our region’s – growth and potential?

The Philadelphia region is a diverse exciting area with thriving businesses, highly-regarded universities, innovation in established fields, and entrepreneurism working to move us to an international, world class city. Yet, many obstacles remain. Philadelphia is one of the poorest cities in America with 27 percent of its population – and nearly 40 percent of its children – living in poverty. From creating more jobs and better training, to ensuring an educational system that delivers for every child, there is much work to do.

Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), the Economy League of Greater Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Bar Association Public Interest Section invite you to join us for a special conversation with Peter Edelman, author of the recently published book, “So Rich, So Poor: Why It's So Hard to End Poverty in America,” which offers an uncompromising look at the increasing poverty in America today.

Mr. Edelman will share his insights and engage attendees in a conversation about what is happening to the people behind the statistics, including the crisis of young people of color, whose possibility of a productive life too often is lost on their way to adulthood.

More about Peter Edelman: Currently a professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center where he teaches constitutional and poverty law, Mr. Edelman was a top advisor to Senator Robert F. Kennedy and a member of President Bill Clinton’s Administration (from which he famously resigned in protest after Clinton signed the 1996 welfare reform legislation). He clerked for Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg and for Judge Henry J. Friendly on the US Court of Appeals, and served as special assistant to US Assistant Attorney General John Douglas. He is currently chair of the District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission and is board chair of the American Constitution Society, the Public Welfare Foundation, and the National Center for Youth Law. He received his BA from Harvard College and his MA from Harvard Law School.