

## Diary from the United States

*My old image of the United States as a society that we in Europe should try to copy on point after point no longer held up. It had become quite the opposite. The European countries, and particularly the welfare states of northern Europe, appeared to be the more developed societies.*

**Diary from the United States** is a critical examination of American society. It's partly a diary from long road trips in the country, the latest from the fall of 2011. But above all it's a careful examination of the American social model, the model Europeans so long have admired and imitated. We do not need to do so any more, says the author. The modern welfare state is a superior model. Europeans today live a better life in many ways. Ordinary American families with middle class incomes are nowadays worse off financially than a corresponding family in Europe, not to mention the 49 million Americans living in poverty.



**Karl-Henrik Pettersson** is a former banker, economist, and author. He has written several acclaimed books on the subject of economy and society. He also runs the blog:

[www.karlhenrikpettersson.se](http://www.karlhenrikpettersson.se)