Polarization

Everyone rightly laments polarisation, but what's often overlooked is that it's creating a novel sense of belonging and identity, in societies that were getting scarily atomised. ...

The new political tribes can provide a stronger identity than nation or even family, as witness the quarrels in American homes when liberal kids visit Trumster parents at Thanksgiving. These conflicts are stressful.

These conflicts are stressful. But the upside is belonging.

Simon Kuper, Financial Times, January 20-21, 2018