Good times, bad times
The welfare myth of them and us

John Hills, LSE

“A lively and provocative book that will overturn your assumptions about the welfare state. A great read, and a ‘must read’ for policymakers and the public alike.” Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University

Two-thirds of UK government spending now goes on the welfare state and where the money is spent – healthcare, education, pensions, benefits – is the centre of political and public debate dominated by the myth that the population divides into those who benefit from the welfare state and those who pay into it – “skivers” and “strivers”, “them” and “us”. This ground-breaking book uses extensive research and survey evidence to challenge that view. It shows that our complex and ever-changing lives mean that all of us rely on the welfare state through our lifetimes, not just a small ‘welfare-dependent’ minority.

EPUB £7.99 US$15.00 ISBN 978 1 4473 2005 0
Available on amazon kindle 214 x 138mm 336 pages November 2014

Why we can’t afford the rich

Andrew Sayer, Lancaster University

“Engagingly explains how – and why – we have such trouble seeing what the rich are doing …They're not creating wealth. They're extracting wealth from the rest of us.” Sam Pizzigati, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, D.C., and editor, Too Much

As inequalities widen and the effects of austerity deepen, in many countries the wealth of the rich has soared. In this accessible and forcefully-argued book, leading social scientist Andrew Sayer uses simple distinctions to burst the myth of the rich as specially talented wealth creators. Furthermore, as the risk of runaway climate change grows, he shows how the rich are threatening the planet by banking on unsustainable growth. Sayer exposes the unjust and dysfunctional mechanisms that allow the top 1% to siphon off wealth produced by others and puts forward a case for radical change to make economies sustainable, fair and conducive to well-being for all.

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216 x 148mm 352 pages November 2014
Austerity bites
A journey to the sharp end of cuts in the UK
Mary O’Hara, freelance journalist

“Should be required reading for every MP, peer, councillor, civil servant and commentator.” Melissa Benn, The Guardian

This timely and apposite book by award-winning journalist Mary O’Hara chronicles the true impact of austerity on people at the sharp end of UK government cuts to public spending since 2010. Based on her ‘real-time’ 12-month journey around the countryjust as the most radical reforms were being rolled out in 2012 and 2013, the book draws on hundreds of hours of compelling first-person interviews and explores the grim reality of living under the biggest shakeup of the welfare state in 60 years.

Climate change and poverty
A new agenda for developed nations
Tony Fitzpatrick, University of Nottingham

Climate change is the main challenge facing developed countries in the twenty-first century. To what extent does this agenda converge with issues of poverty and social exclusion? Climate change and poverty offers a timely new perspective on the ‘ecosocial’ understanding of the causes and symptoms of, and solutions to, poverty and applies this to recent developments across a number of areas, including fuel poverty, food poverty, housing, transport and air pollution. Unlike any other publication, the book therefore establishes a new agenda for both environmental and social policies which has cross-national relevance.

The social atlas of Europe
Dimitris Ballas, University of Sheffield, Danny Dorling, University of Oxford and Benjamin Hennig, University of Sheffield

Many of us think of European countries as discrete entities – their own languages, cultures, food, and economies squarely contained within their national boundaries. But in fact Europe is at once a unified place and a sophisticatedly fragmented one, and national boundaries rarely reflect its social and economic realities. Using innovative full-colour visualization methods, The social atlas of Europe is the first human geography social atlas of Europe to consider the European economy, culture, history and human and physical geography as a single land mass and a more unified European people.

The shame of it
Global perspectives on anti-poverty policies
Edited by Erika K. Gubrium, American Association of University Professors, Sony Pelliserry, National Law School of India University and Ivar Lødemel, Oslo University College

The shame experienced by people living in poverty has long been recognised. However, little attention has been paid to the implications of this connection in the making and implementation of anti-poverty policies. This important volume demonstrates the need to take account of the psychological consequences of poverty for policy to be effective. Drawing on pioneering empirical research in countries as diverse as Britain, Uganda, Norway, Pakistan, India, South Korea and China, it outlines core principles that can aid policy makers in policy development and provides the foundation for a shift in policy learning on a global scale.

The political and social construction of poverty
Central and Eastern European countries in transition
Serena Romano, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

This topical book is one of the first to examine the social and political construction of anti-poverty programmes in Central Eastern Europe and their transformation from communist rule to the current economic crisis. It covers the approach towards the ‘parasite’ poor through to Guaranteed Minimum Income Schemes and illustrates how the distinction between different categories of ‘deserving’ and ‘undeserving’ poor has evolved over the years as the result of changing paradigms, combined with the pressure exerted by domestic and international actors, the European Union and the World Bank among others.

World report 2014
Events of 2013
Edited by Human Rights Watch

The reports of the New York-based Human Rights Watch have become extremely important.” Ahmed Rashid, New York Review of Books

This book analyses government relationships with international financial institutions (IFIs) to evaluate the role of citizen participation in formulating national poverty reduction policies in low-income countries.
Inclusive equality
Towards a vision for social justice
Sally Witcher, currently works as a freelance consultant
As inequality increases, it can become harder to empathise with life experiences far removed from our own, particularly when fuelled by a sense of injustice. In this ambitious, wide-ranging book, the author sets out a vision for social justice as ‘inclusive equality’, where barriers to equality and inclusion are removed to the maximum extent possible while preserving and strengthening social cohesion. Weaving together themes from the theoretical literatures on social justice, poverty, discrimination and social exclusion, she explores relationships between equality, diversity and inclusion – revealing clear, practical implications for the design and delivery of social policy.

Hearing the voice of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
Inclusive community development
Edited by Andrew Ryder, Sarah Cemlyn, University of Bristol and Thomas Acton, University of Greenwich
This topical book is the first to chart the history and contemporary developments in GRT community activism, and the community and voluntary organisations and coalitions which support it. Underpinned by radical community development and equality theories, it describes the communities’ struggle for rights against a backdrop of intense intersectional discrimination across Europe, and critiques the ambivalent role of community development in fostering these campaigns.

Access to justice for disadvantaged communities
Marjorie Mayo, Gerald Koessl, Matthew Scott and Imogen Slater, Goldsmiths, University of London
Access to justice for all, regardless of the ability to pay, has been a core democratic value. But this basic human right has come under threat through wider processes of restructuring, with an increasingly market-led approach to the provision of welfare, leaving Law Centres in Britain now struggling to provide vital services to disadvantaged communities. This unique study explores how strategies to safeguard the provision of legal advice and access to welfare rights to disadvantaged communities might be developed in ways that strengthen rather than undermine the basic ethics and principles of public service provision.

An equal start?
Providing quality early education and care for disadvantaged children
Edited by Ludovica Gambro, University of London, Kitty Stewart, LSE and Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University
In this original, topical book, leading experts from eight countries examine how early education and care is organised, funded and regulated in their countries. Bringing together recent statistical evidence, the book gives an up-to-date picture of access to services by different groups, providing rich insights on how policies play out in practice, and the extent to which they help or hinder disadvantaged children to receive high quality provision.

Poverty and inequality
Edited by Chris Jones, University of Liverpool and Tony Novak
This short form book looks at the consequences of poverty and inequality and the challenge they pose to the engaged social work academic and practitioner. The authors argue that, especially for a profession with a claimed commitment to values based on equality, social justice and meeting human need, poverty and immiserisation impose a requirement on social workers to speak out and not to collude with social policies that make the plight of the impoverished even harder and their lives even worse. Part of the Critical and Radical Debates in Social Work series – a series of 6 short digital first products – for more information visit www.policypress.co.uk/crdsw.asp.

Social work and poverty
A critical approach
Lester Parrott
HB £60.00 US$90.00 ISBN 978 1 4473 0795 2
Available onamazonkindle
240 x 172mm 176 pages November 2013

Understanding inequality, poverty and wealth
Policies and prospects
Edited by Tess Ridge and Sharon Wright
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Poverty and insecurity
Life in low-pay, no-pay Britain
Tracy Shildrick, Robert MacDonald and Colin Webster, University of Teesside and Kayleigh Garthwaite, Durham University

Winner of the British Academy Peter Townsend Prize for 2013

What effects do flexible and insecure forms of work have on material and psychological well-being? This book is the first of its kind to examine the relationship between social exclusion, poverty and the labour market. It challenges long-standing and dominant myths about ‘the workless’ and ‘the poor’, by exploring close-up the lived realities of life in low-pay, no-pay Britain. Based on unique qualitative, life-history research with a ‘hard-to-reach group’ of younger and older people, men and women, the book shows how poverty and insecurity have now become the defining features of working life for many.

POST
£26.99 US$45.95 ISBN 978 1 8474 2910 0
EPDF £70.00 US$110.00 ISBN 978 1 8474 2911 7
234 x 156mm 264 pages December 2012

Money for everyone
Why we need a citizen’s income
Malcolm Torry, Citizen’s Income Trust

In this timely book, written by an experienced researcher and author, a Citizen’s Income (sometimes called a Basic Income) is defined as an unconditional, non-withdrawable income for every individual as a right of citizenship. It is the first for over a decade to analyse the social, economic and labour market advantages of a Citizen’s Income in the UK and with international comparisons. It demonstrates that it would be simple and cheap to administer, would reduce inequality, enhance individual freedom and would be good for the economy, social cohesion, families, and the employment market.

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The future of development
A radical manifesto
Gustavo Esteva, Universidad de la Tierra en Oaxaca, Mexico, Salvatore J. Babones, The University of Sydney and Philipp Babcicky, University of Vienna

On the day that US President Harry S. Truman officially opened the era of development, over half of the people of the world were defined as “underdeveloped”. This book explains the origins of development and underdevelopment and offers a new vision, demystifying the statistics that international organizations use to measure it and introducing the alternative concept of buen vivir: the state of living well. The authors argue that it is possible for everyone on the planet to live well, but only if we learn to live as communities rather than as individuals and to nurture our respective commons.

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Journal of Poverty and Social Justice

Editors:

Tania Burchardt, London School of Economics & Political Science, UK
Eldin Fahmy, University of Bristol, UK

“Required reading for those interested in social security, the welfare state and justice and poverty – now far more widely defined.” Danny Dorling, University of Sheffield

The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice provides a unique blend of high-quality research, policy and practice from leading authors in the field related to all aspects of poverty and social exclusion. Content spans a broad spectrum of poverty-related topics including social security, employment and unemployment, regeneration, housing, health, education and criminal justice, as well as issues of ethnicity, gender, disability and other inequalities as they relate to social justice.

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Alison Shaw, Director and Senior Commissioning Editor, inequality, poverty and social exclusion

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