

What's in a name (change)?

This journal was formerly known as *Benefits*. Under that title, it provided a forum for debates about developments in British social policy related to the social security system in particular. But over the years, it has increasingly dealt with wider issues related to poverty and inequality, and its coverage of policy in other countries has also expanded.

From this issue onwards, therefore, the journal will be known as *The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice*. Its clear aim is to combine scholarly, peer-reviewed articles with cutting-edge discussion of topical issues; and its international coverage continues to grow.

This issue, for example, includes an examination by Daniel Clegg of labour market policy in the economic crisis, comparing the UK with other European Union member states and countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; he concludes that, despite having originally had one of the least developed policy packages to support unemployed workers, the UK has also done least to bolster provision. Steve McKay reviews and updates existing research on inequality and intergenerational social mobility in the UK. Placing public attitudes in international context, he shows that across Europe higher inequality is associated with a belief that the government should act to reduce income differences, and argues that egalitarians may have good reason to rue the fact that opportunities to reduce inequality were not pursued more vigorously in the late 1990s, when public attitudes in the UK were more supportive.

Martin Evans and Susan Harkness focus on the impact of the tax and benefits system on second earners, demonstrating how forensic investigation is required in order to discern the real effects of transfer payments on labour market participation. Katharine Nice and Annie Irvine explore a particular aspect of living on a low income – using banks to pay bills (or not) – and Chris Grover dissects the reversal of policy involved in the abolition of the reduced rate tax band. The regular sections of the journal, reviewing policy, practice and key recent publications, follow.

This issue is just one example of the blend of high-quality research, policy and practice from leading authors in the field related to all aspects of poverty and social exclusion that the journal aims to provide under its new title. *The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice* welcomes papers from those working in the areas covered by its newly expanded remit – 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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