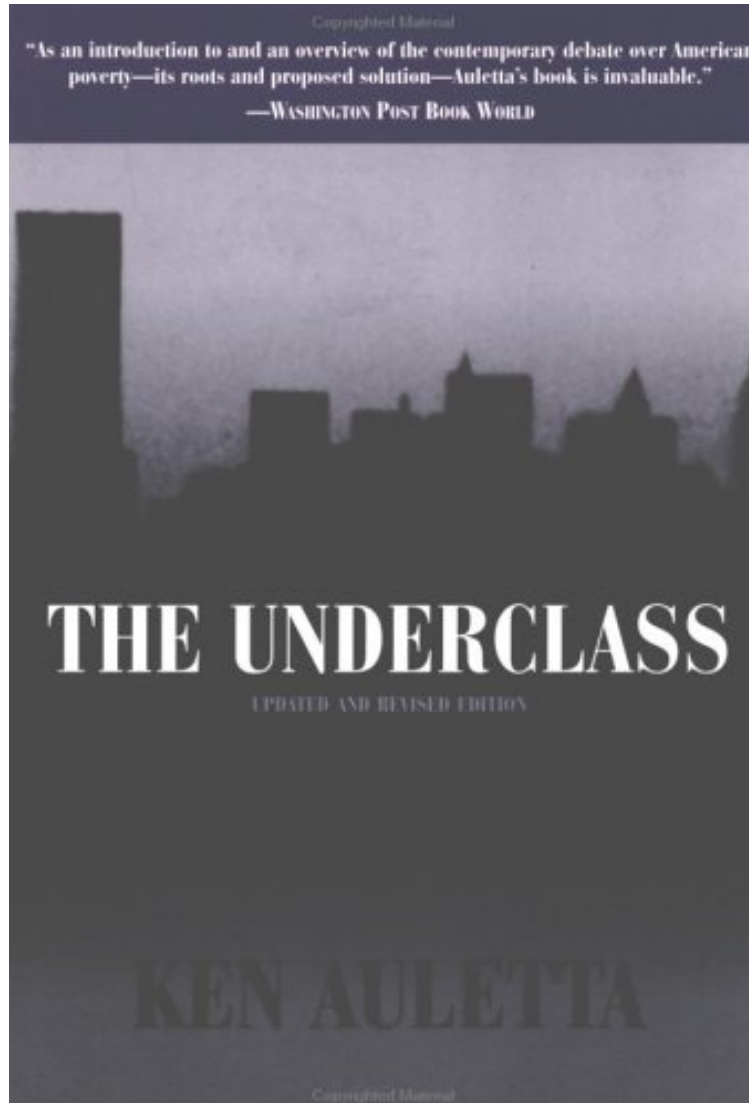


(Ebook free) The Underclass

## The Underclass

*Ken Auletta*

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**Ken Auletta : The Underclass** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Underclass:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. In better condition than I was expecting By Vivien M. Richardson Interesting book. In better condition than I was expecting. Thank you Best and Fastest Books. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Informative and Realistic By C. Kim Whenever there's president election, candidates don't talk about welfare policy much because simply it's not people's popular issue. Ken Auletta described the reality of underclass, more definted term for low class, and shows the reality through real examples. When there

aren't that many books on welfare system, this one's good one to really find out about the reality. Reading's not difficult and very informative. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. *The Underclass* By Marlene V Schreiber Auletta provides a thorough and sensitive study of the underclass in one of the most depressed neighborhoods of New York City. The book focuses on personal accounts of a job-training program participant, with nationally significant statistics to reinforce the message. The discussion of attitudes and politics driving the country's perception of the poor is enlightening and will provide material for heated discussion for those who agonize over the problems faces by inner city neighborhoods. This book is a solid piece of research and well worth the read for anyone interested in urban issues, racism, welfare, and the idea of a perpetual and permanent class that can not assimilate to mainstream society.

.com Ken Auletta's *The Underclass*, first published in 1982, proposes to uncover who constitutes the poorest of Americans, and how they might best be aided by government and industry. While updated and revised to consider changes in both poverty and policy over the past 20 years, the book remains centered on Auletta's research of the late 1970s. Auletta, a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, focuses primarily on the very poor students attending basic skills classes through the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC), a Manhattan-based antipoverty nonprofit that had been having good results helping members of the "underclass" become working members of society. For contrasting examples, he also briefly explores the extreme poverty of whites living in Appalachia and rural blacks in Mississippi. The problems he finds are complex, but not necessarily intractable. Positioning himself as neither a liberal or a conservative, Auletta calls himself "too optimistic to accept the laissez-faire theory, and too pessimistic to embrace wholesale government solutions." Instead, he encourages programs such as the MDRC, which use what he calls a "tough love" approach to helping the very poor. How many people constitute "the underclass"? What role does race play? Who is responsible for the problem of poverty in America? Readers who ask these questions will find answers, and much to debate, in this well-researched study. --Maria Dolan From *Library Journal* LJ's reviewer dubbed this 1982 volume, now out of print, "a moving narrative on the American 'underclass' that 30 percent of the nation's poor who cannot readily enter the mainstream." In this updated edition, the author adds an analysis of the situation since the original publication. (LJ 5/1/82) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.