

(Download pdf ebook) The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual

## The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual

*Nancy Folbre*

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#3911786 in Books 1996-05-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.04 x .40 x 8.011, .60 #File Name: 1565842626142 pages | File size: 52.Mb

**Nancy Folbre : The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual:

0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Subject, Poor AnalysisBy WendyThe War on the Poor is an interesting subject and somewhat provides evidence against certain myths about the poor, welfare, health care, children, teen mothers, balancing the budget, the minimum wage, etc. It is set up in a Myth/Reality format where two pages are dedicated to each myth and then the reality of the issue is argued with statistics. Unfortunately, frequently the statistics have nothing to do with the myth or faulty conclusions are reached from the information given. In someplaces, the book seems to even contradict itself. It has tons of picture but little text, so if you are looking for something REALLY short to read, this is it. It is very readable, easy to skim, and probably can be completely read in about an hour or so.Even with its many faults, it is still a thought provoking book, and a good starting point into the more liberal economic issues. However the book is now somewhat out of date, so it would not make a great reference book.Be warned: The authors seem to be incredibly biased in their feelings toward the poor, where in their attempts to get across the idea that we should not blame the poor and be sympathetic to the poor, they go really far in the other direction, making it seem like it is entirely societies' fault and being poor cannot be helped at all (and they really scrape for statistics to back up this extreme view).8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A fun, informative book, with facts everybody should knowBy A CustomerI did not see one picture of "mean Republicans stepping on poor, defenseless, and deserving poor people" in this book. In fact, one of the points of this book seems to be that

people do not deserve to be poor, given the wealth of the United States. "War on the Poor" makes its argument with facts, numbers that seem to come from reliable sources, like the numbers the U.S. government provides. If you have any questions about the numbers you can look up the sources because the text is thoroughly footnoted (along with the cool graphics). The book demonstrates some of the failings of our society, including the welfare program, and challenges the reader for a response. I don't think even the most strident Republican would be foolish enough to deny there are too many poor people in this country, and that poverty is a problem! Yes, the book does have a liberal bent, but is it liberal or conservative to shine a spot light on a problem? It isn't until chapter 8, "Alternatives," that people might have disagreements with the authors, but then again, they only seem to be trying to start a dialogue. Anyhow, I recommend the book, and I hope it does make your blood boil. 11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. The Silenced Finally Get a Chance...By A Customer I read this book for my Race, Class, and Gender course in college in which we deconstructed the institutions of our "fabulous" society to see what was really happening behind the scenes of democracy. "The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual" was a fantastic resource in doing so. The working class and welfare recipients in our society are silenced and horribly labeled, treated as the "under class". "Rightists" and "fundamentalists" and "Rush Limbaugh Junkies" (for lack of more insulting terms) have created a society where we are made to believe that individuals are solely responsible for their "plights". It's time these people take a course in sociology to understand that there are multiple factors in the existence of the "poor". And it's too bad that the "evil republicans" have to be displayed in this book as just that, but it's time they realize that bully, right wingers are outnumbered and will lose. Maybe that's childish, but it's also childish to claim a group of people are lazy and able to succeed in our society by "pulling themselves up by their bootstraps", which many right wing, republicans tend to do. This book is full of fabulous statistics, which are clearly not created for the sole purpose of sales...take a course in class sociology...the statistics will amaze you. And all that bulls\*\*t you've been fed will make you laugh.

The War on the Poor counters attacks on the poor in the same lively, accessible style that made The New Field Guide to the U.S. Economy a cult classic. Using charts, graphs, and political cartoons, The War on the Poor presents topics including middle-class welfare, family values, child support, teen poverty, the minimum wage, the underclass, orphanages, health, hunger, corporate welfare, block grants, private charity, work requirements, and incentives. It includes a comprehensive resource list of addresses and phone numbers of activist groups, lobbying organizations, information sources, and media contacts.

From Publishers Weekly Primer for the 1990s and Beyond, Randy Shaw takes a broader approach, showing how activists for anything from the environment to AIDS policy to school reform can influence politicians and the media, form alliances and take direct action (June, Univ. of California, \$17.95 ISBN 0-520-20317-8; cloth \$50 -20315-1). A tighter focus is provided by Richard Mintzer, author of Volunteering in New York City: Your Guide to Working Small Miracles in the Big Apple. Divided into sections on art and culture, children, animals, the homeless, libraries, seniors and more, it gives introductory information on what to expect and a listing of organizations (June, Walker, \$10.95 ISBN 0-8027-7481-4). Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. Students seeking data. . . will find this a valuable resource. -- Voice of Youth Advocates The War on the Poor. . . is actually quite a rarity: a book on economic policy that the average person can not only understand, but even enjoy. -- Boston Phoenix The War on the Poor. . . presents the truth about social assistance programs. . . It unravels the myths that riddle welfare discussions, provides useful history lessons, and--most importantly--offers solutions that don't rely on quick fixes. -- Mother Jones About the Author Nancy Folbre, a MacArthur Fellow, is professor emerita of economics at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She is the author of The Invisible Heart: Economics and Family Values and Saving State U: Why We Must Fix Public Higher Education; a co-author, with Jonathan Teller-Elsberg, James Heintz, and the Center for Popular Economics, of Field Guide to the U.S. Economy; and a co-author, with Randy Albelda, of The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual, all published by The New Press. Her academic books include For Love and Money: Care Provision in the U.S. and Greed, Lust, and Gender: A History of Economic Ideas. She is a regular contributor to the New York Times Economix blog. Randy Albelda is an associate professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. She is the coauthor of Mink Coats Don't Trickle Down and Bottomless Pits and Glass Ceilings.