DESCRIPTION

Over the last two decades “poverty” has moved centrestage as an issue within the social sciences. This volume, edited by one of Europe's foremost sociologists, aims to assess the debates surrounding poverty and the responses to it, exploring the ways in which the various socio-political systems and welfarist regimes are being radically transformed. The essays examine how such change is effected by failing welfare programmes and enervating social structures such as family and community which once would have provided mechanisms of social stability.

The first part of the book provides reflections on urban poverty; the second part discusses the widely debated idea of an "underclass" and its meanings in Europe and in the USA, and the final part draws on concrete empirical analyses to examine the patterns of poverty throughout Western Europe.

This volume will be of first-rate importance to all serious students of politics, sociology, geography, public policy, youth and community studies, social policy and American studies.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Enzo Mingione is Professor of Sociology at the University of Padova. His main fields of interest and research are poverty, unemployment and informal work. He is a member of the editorial board of the International Journal of Urban and Regional
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FEATURES

• Unique in examining poverty from a broad, comparative perspective.

• The approaches are grounded in European and American case studies.

• Provides up-to-date coverage.

• Contributors are leading international commentators and respected authorities in this field.

• Contributions are grounded by an empirical analysis of the patterns of poverty.

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