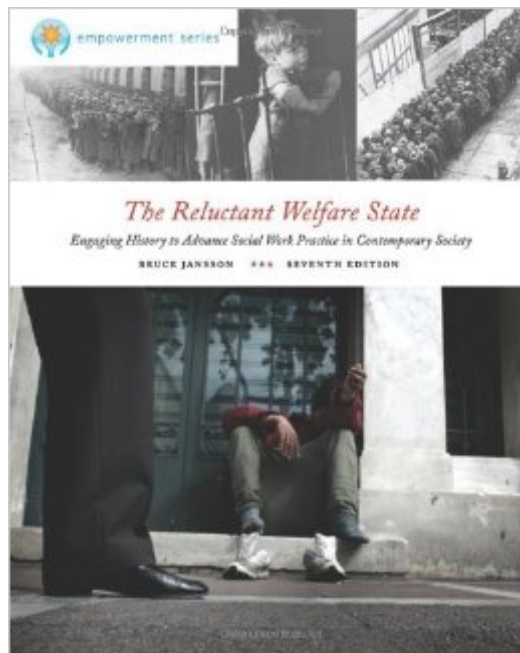


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# The Reluctant Welfare State: Engaging History To Advance Social Work Practice In Contemporary Society



## Synopsis

Written in clear, lively prose this highly respected book analyzes the evolution of the American welfare state from colonial times to present. Social welfare policy connects to an empowerment perspective, showing how African Americans, Latinos, women, gays and lesbians, Asian Americans, Native Americans, the elderly, poor people, and other vulnerable populations, as well as social reformers, have achieved progressive reforms through policy advocacy illustrating how a deep understanding of the past can impact present and future actions.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 558 pages

Publisher: Brooks Cole; 7th edition (February 16, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0840034407

ISBN-13: 978-0840034403

Product Dimensions: 10 x 8.2 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #298,256 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #329 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Social Policy](#) #687 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Public Policy](#) #790 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Social Services & Welfare](#)

## Customer Reviews

Bruce Jansson is a major scholar in this field, his book, *The Sixteen Trillion Dollar Mistake*, is an extraordinarily valuable analysis of federal finances. This book is a very comprehensive history of our welfare system, meant as a textbook but useful to anyone interested in this subject. Jansson has a definite point of view but is not biased, he has done great research and writes with objectivity. It would be very difficult to find anyone better. The index is extremely useful for finding particular issues and subjects, it illustrates how extensive the research was. Other books on related subjects: Atkinson, Anthony B., *Inequality: What Can Be Done?*, Harvard University Press, 2015 Bourguignon, François, Thomas Scott-Railton, *The Globalization of Inequality*, Princeton University Press, 2015) Deaton, Angus, *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*, Princeton University Press, 2013 Greenhouse, Steven, *The Big Squeeze: Tough Times for the American Worker*, Anchor; Reprint edition, 2009 Hays, Sharon, *Flat Broke with Children:*

Women in the Age of Welfare Reform, Oxford University Press, 2004  
Lareau, Annette, Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life, 2nd Edition with an Update a Decade Later, University of California Press; Second Edition, With an Update a Decade Later edition, 2011  
Pickett, Kate and Richard Wilkinson, The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger, by Bloomsbury Press, Reprint edition, 2011  
Putnam, Robert D., Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis, Simon & Schuster, 2015  
Roth, Alvin E., Who Gets What "and Why: The New Economics of Matchmaking and Market Design, Eamon Dolan/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015  
Stiglitz, Joseph E., The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future, W. W. Norton & Company, 2013  
Midwest Independent Research <http://mwir-improvements.blogspot.com/>

This book is a thorough review of the nation's political and social history; however, the liberal bias is so strong that it distracts from the facts making it feel less academic and more like political propaganda.

Great book that fulfilled my class requirements and resourceful for my academic and career pursuits

I found this book extremely boring, tedious, and overwhelming. Though, I realize and appreciate its usefulness in laying the foundation for anyone going into social work, and for an international student who may not necessarily have had the opportunity of learning the history and politics, policy of the U.S. I would recommend it; but be prepared to do a lot of studying.

have to be honest didn't read much if at all of this book. it's a little dense and difficult for a student to quickly skim but does have some nice information in it. i do like the discussion questions and summaries at the end of the chapters.

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