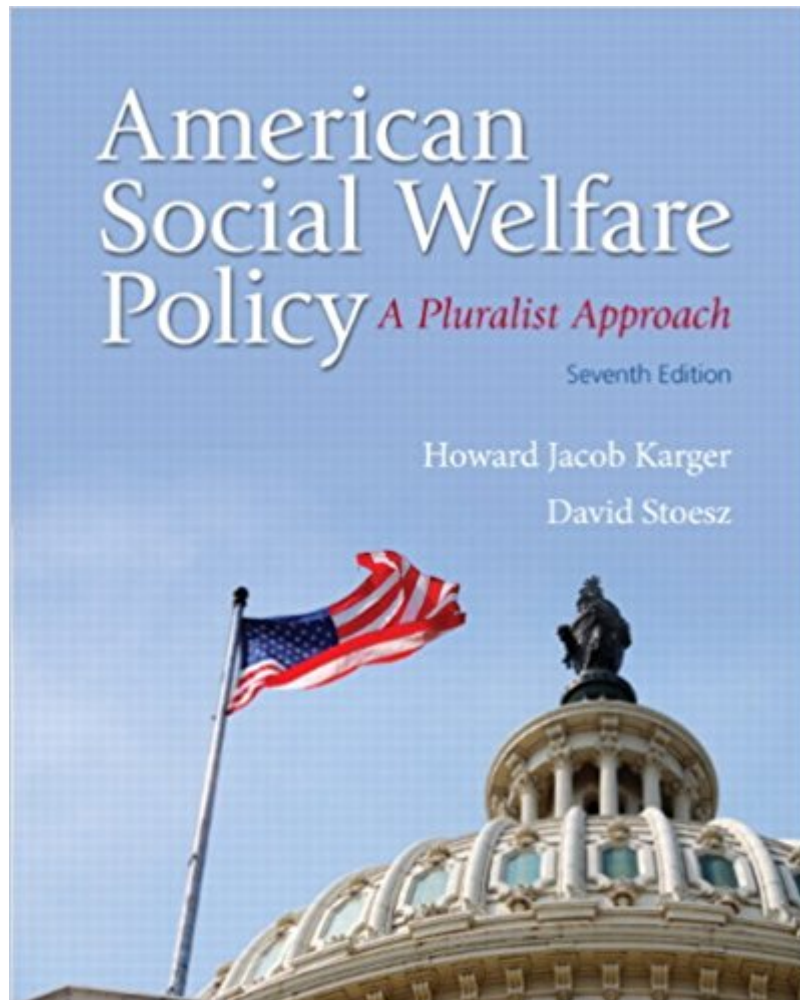




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American Social Welfare Policy: A Pluralist Approach (7th Edition)



Synopsis

Current social welfare policy in the United States. Taking a policy analysis framework, American Social Welfare Policy: A Pluralist Approach, 7/e is the most comprehensive and up-to-date textbook on the American welfare policy. The text provides a critical in-depth look at the major programs that make up the U.S. welfare state, including Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and TANF. Learning Goals Upon completing this book, readers will be able to: Understand the social, political, and economic forces that shape social welfare policy. Analyze the major programs that make up the U.S. welfare state. Discuss basic social welfare concepts.

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Customer Reviews

Howard Karger is Professor and Head of School, The University of Queensland. Howard was formerly Professor at the Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston, and for seven years headed their doctoral program. He has been on the faculties of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Louisiana State University, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Prof. Karger is an internationally recognized scholar in social welfare policy, and has authored or co-authored 10 books and more than 80 articles and book chapters. His articles have appeared in major social work and social policy journals in the U.S. and abroad. Howard sits on the editorial boards of six journals. Among his other books are Shortchanged: Life and Debt in the Fringe Economy (Berrett-Koehler, 2005), which won the 2006 Independent Publishers Award in Economics/Finance/ Investment. Prof. Karger is a two-time Senior Fulbright Scholar, having done postings at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1989) and the University of Zimbabwe (1994).

Â David Stoesz is Professor of Social Work at Mississippi Valley State University.

There is seriously misleading information in the text in Chapter 4: Discrimination in American Society. If there are glaring issues in this chapter, it disturbs me to think about what the other chapters may contain. "Facts" being presented on Asians in the United States and Asian Americans are perpetuating model minority politics that continue to exclude and oppress APIA (Asian Pacific Islander Americans) and Asians living in America. As a text meant to inform and educate, this is highly problematic as it continues to perpetuate the exclusion and oppression of these communities, thereby upholding all forms of racism, including anti-black logic. This text was used in my social policy course and to think that students are learning incorrect information that will inform how they advocate (or do not advocate) for others is terrifying. For example, Figure 4.1 indicates that Asians have the highest median household annual income. 'Household' does not indicate the number of individuals living under one roof -- many Asian families have large numbers living together. Thereby, while collectively the income may be high, it does not reflect the accuracy of how much each person is benefiting from it. In fact, many Asians live at or below poverty line and the disparity gap is one of the highest, if not the highest, within this community. Similarly, Table 4.1 does not list figures for men/women for Asians. What is the implicit message being depicted when Asians, and specifically women, are being excluded from the stats? There are already damaging stereotypes about Asians being asexual, the emasculation of male Asians, submission of women (i.e. second-class citizens), Asians being unheard/silenced in America. Google this resource to provide more accurate information regarding the misleading ideologies of Asians living in America and APIA: "The Culture Canard of the Model Minority Myth: how racial gaps in academics aren't due to cultural pathology." It is of absolute necessity to be more clear about these "facts," even if it means including additional text that invites readers to critically examine the content - it would be irresponsible not to, as many individuals are using the text to inform their views/actions as professionals working in fields that directly impact the community (i.e. policy work, clinical social work, etc).

This book was required for my social policy class. Having used two other policy textbooks in other courses, I think this book provided a better overview of a variety of policy issues. It is an easy read. The author used great tables, infographics, and images to supplement the content. I also liked that the authors provided source information immediately following the chapter. I caution you to not purchase this textbook at the prices listed more than its price. The text is not worth that. You can purchase an electronic copy for much less.

Well written book, but the one I received had extensive, obnoxious high-lighting in it that makes it difficult to look at.

Poorly written, multiple typographical errors and very convoluted in places.

A great social policy textbook for those in Social Work. I used this in a masters level course. It is an easy read, and puts things in very basic terms. It is heavy in history, was very diverse, and will give even the political beginner good insight into the history of social policy. Don't let the topic scare you. If only my professor was as clear as this book!

It's not the worst textbook I've had to read through. The layout is decent and the index is semi-useful. Co-author David Stoesz is a little too skeptical for my liking, and that skepticism (found more prominently in his other works) manages to bleed through into this textbook.

This book is exactly what I needed for my class! I was worried that it might not actually have the access code but it does have the code inside the book! It was cheaper than getting to from the bookstore

Great price, fast shipping. Warn as described, totally usable.

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