Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: What Have We Learned About the Problems of and Prospects for Disadvantaged Youth? 1
Jonathan Gruber

I. EDUCATION

1. The Behavioral Consequences of Pre-Kindergarten Participation for Disadvantaged Youth 15
   David Figlio and Jeffrey Roth

2. Is Gaining Access to Selective Elementary Schools Gaining Ground? Evidence from Randomized Lotteries 43
   Julie Berry Cullen and Brian A. Jacob

   Philip Oreopoulos

II. HEALTH AND HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

4. Mental Health in Childhood and Human Capital 115
   Janet Currie and Mark Stabile
Patricia M. Anderson, Kristin F. Butcher, and Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach

6. Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Early Childbearing 181
Melissa S. Kearney and Phillip B. Levine

III. CONTEXTUAL INFLUENCES

7. Parental Income Shocks and Outcomes of Disadvantaged Youth in the United States 213
Marianne Page, Ann Huff Stevens, and Jason Lindo

8. The Role of Religious and Social Organizations in the Lives of Disadvantaged Youth 237
Rajeev Dehejia, Thomas DeLeire, Erzo F. P. Luttmer, and Josh Mitchell

9. Neighborhood Violence and Urban Youth 275
Anna Aizer

Contributors 309
Author Index 311
Subject Index 315