

Contents

<i>List of tables</i>	viii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
Part I Poverty	
1 Introduction	3
<i>Poverty and ideology</i>	5
2 The nature of poverty	9
<i>Defining poverty</i>	9
<i>The elements of poverty</i>	11
<i>Aspects of deprivation</i>	13
<i>Needs and resources</i>	15
<i>The social definition of poverty</i>	18
3 Operationalisation of the concept	22
<i>Identifying poverty</i>	26
<i>Operational definitions</i>	28
<i>Conclusion</i>	40
4 Concepts of poverty	41
<i>Comparative and normative concepts</i>	42
<i>Establishing a minimum: the poverty line</i>	49
<i>Poverty and inequality</i>	53
<i>International comparisons</i>	55
5 Understanding poverty: describing the circumstances of poor people	58
<i>Groups in poverty</i>	60
<i>The social construction of poverty</i>	67
<i>Interpreting poverty</i>	72

vi Contents

6	Causes and responses	74
	<i>Pathological explanations</i>	74
	<i>Structural explanations</i>	79
	<i>Implications for policy</i>	85
Part II Social security as a response to poverty		
7	Strategies for the relief of poverty	89
	<i>Responses to need</i>	89
	<i>The lack of resources</i>	92
	<i>Universality and selectivity</i>	93
	<i>Social security as a response to poverty</i>	95
	<i>Social security as poor relief</i>	98
	<i>Income maintenance</i>	101
8	The aims of social security	103
	<i>Social security as part of the welfare state</i>	104
	<i>Social security in its own right</i>	109
	<i>Economic aspects of social security</i>	111
	<i>The imposition of extraneous values – work, family, nationality</i>	114
	<i>Poor relief and the functions of social security</i>	116
9	Patterns of social security provision	117
	<i>Social security in the United Kingdom</i>	118
	<i>Social security in France</i>	120
	<i>Social security in the United States</i>	121
	<i>Social security in Israel</i>	124
	<i>Social security in Germany</i>	126
	<i>Social security in Sweden</i>	129
	<i>Social security systems in outline</i>	131
10	Social security benefits	135
	<i>Social insurance</i>	136
	<i>Means-tested benefits</i>	139
	<i>Non-contributory benefits</i>	142
	<i>Universal benefits</i>	144
	<i>Discretionary benefits</i>	146
	<i>Benefits in combination</i>	147
11	The principal contingencies	149
	<i>Provision for groups in need</i>	150
	<i>Benefits as social protection</i>	159
	<i>Provision for contingencies as poor relief</i>	161

12 Social security systems and the relief of poverty	162
<i>Criteria of success</i>	162
<i>The determinants of effective poor relief</i>	166
<i>Comparing social security systems</i>	168
<i>Social security in practice</i>	170
<i>Effective poor relief</i>	172
<i>Notes</i>	175
<i>Name index</i>	192
<i>Subject index</i>	196