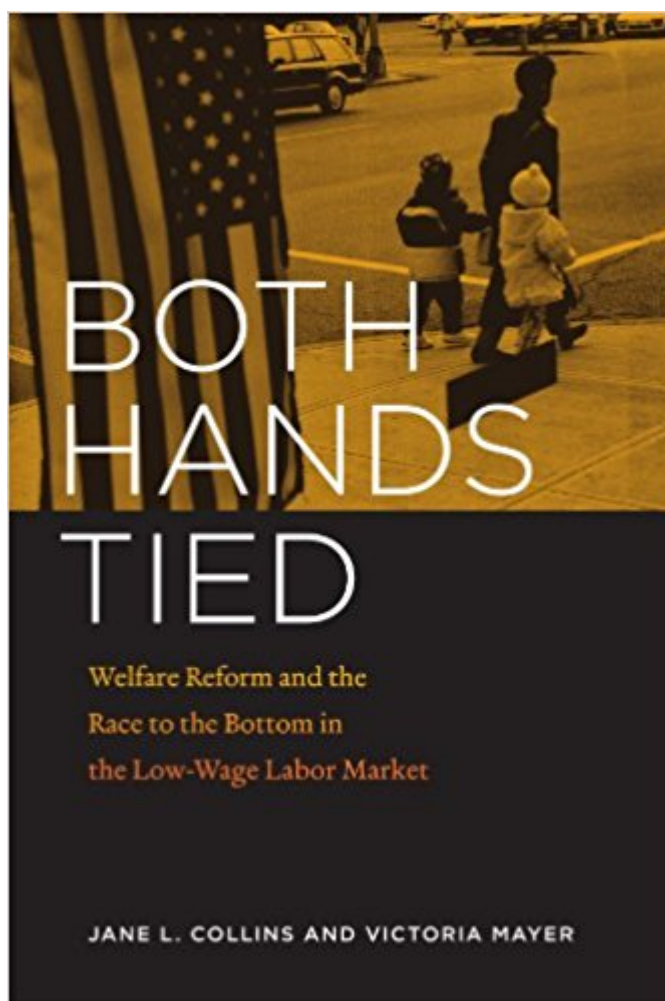


The book was found

Both Hands Tied: Welfare Reform And The Race To The Bottom In The Low-Wage Labor Market



Synopsis

Both Hands Tied studies the working poor in the United States, focusing in particular on the relation between welfare and low-wage earnings among working mothers. Grounded in the experience of thirty-three women living in Milwaukee and Racine, Wisconsin, it tells the story of their struggle to balance child care and wage-earning in poorly paying and often state-funded jobs with inflexible schedules—and the moments when these jobs failed them and they turned to the state for additional aid. Jane L. Collins and Victoria Mayer here examine the situations of these women in light of the 1996 national Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act and other like-minded reforms—laws that ended the entitlement to welfare for those in need and provided an incentive for them to return to work. Arguing that this reform came at a time of gendered change in the labor force and profound shifts in the responsibilities of family, firms, and the state, Both Hands Tied provides a stark but poignant portrait of how welfare reform afflicted poor, single-parent families, ultimately eroding the participants' economic rights and affecting their ability to care for themselves and their children.

Book Information

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 4.1.2010 edition (May 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226114066

ISBN-13: 978-0226114064

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #195,980 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Unemployment #173 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Labor & Industrial Relations #175 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Labor & Industrial Relations

Customer Reviews

"The originality of Both Hands Tied lies not just in its rich case study interview materials - in poor women's voices and the trajectories of their work and home lives - but in its careful tying of those materials to shifting national, state, and local economic policies." - Micaela di Leonardo, Northwestern University"

Jane L. Collins is the Evjue Bascom Professor of Community and Environmental Sociology and Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the author of *Threads: Gender, Labor and Power in the Global Apparel Industry*, among other titles. Victoria Mayer is assistant professor of sociology at Colby College.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, is the backbone of the welfare system available to low income families in the United States. TANF replaced pre-existing welfare programs and introduced employment and training requirements that make it so most moms must leave home to attend the mandatory training programs in order to receive the benefits. To make this possible, TANF-eligible mothers are provided with subsidized childcare. *Both Hands Tied* is a metaphor the authors use to illustrate how TANF detracts from the single mother's ability to manage their responsibilities as a worker and as a caretaker. How does it do this? The authors explain that, on the one hand, recipients do not have the option to raise their children at home. On the other hand, the mandatory training programs do not lead to gainful employment with benefits or family wages (143). It doesn't allow room for the single mother to excel in either role. The book also brings a constitutional perspective on the idea of exchanging rights for a federal benefit program. TANF requires that its recipients agree participate in certain employment, training, or educational programs and accept community service placements. The authors use a constitutional basis to support that a person's ability to choose where to work is a fundamental right of citizenship, and that forcing recipients to accept employment positions at places they don't want to work, for less than minimum wage, is arguably unconstitutional (82, 139 - 141). Recipients do have a choice, but it's only one of two: take the assignment or lose your benefits. In theory, the idea behind the concept is quite basic and reasonable: that adults in the real world have limited options when we need income and employment opportunities. When you are offered a job and you have bills, you take the first thing that comes. This book suggests, though, that incorporating this philosophy into the receipt of public assistance raises both ethical and constitutional questions. It is a very thoughtful read.

The description is a bit confusing in that it makes it sound as if the book deals with the entire country. The study was done in Wisconsin, which the book itself makes quite clear. It is a compelling study that I would like to see expanded to other parts of the country as well. I recommend this book highly - and I'm not from Wisconsin.

Commentators have noted what a sham welfare 'reform' has been. BOTH HANDS TIED helps us see why that is, and appreciate the high cost of the retreat for all concerned....except the 'new' employers who have been given our support for offering less and less to their employees. It's a disgrace. When will our policies renounce hatred of the poor?

Perfect item delivered quickly for a great price.

help me a lot. great, Received as described. for a host , Love! Sharp, cuts well, and feels balanced.

I have been fortunate enough to take a course with Prof. Collins at Wisconsin and this book only deepened my respect for her and her work. This is precisely the type of research that makes sociology such an important and dynamic field--understanding the effect social policy has on the way actual people live their lives.

It waste my money to buy it. The book itself did not do anything wrong, I hate it because I was insane to sign up the course which needs this book and I get nothing from it. Sociology sucks!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Both Hands Tied: Welfare Reform and the Race to the Bottom in the Low-Wage Labor Market Low Carb: 365 Days of Low Carb Recipes (Low Carb, Low Carb Cookbook, Low Carb Diet, Low Carb Recipes, Low Carb Slow Cooker, Low Carb Slow Cooker Recipes, Low Carb Living, Low Carb Diet For Beginners) Low Carb Diet: Introduction To Low Carb Diet And Recipes Of Low Carb Soups And Casseroles: (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, low carb recipes) Low Carb Cookbook: Delicious Snack Recipes for Weight Loss. (low carbohydrate foods, low carb cooking, low carb diet, low carb recipes, low carb, low carb ... dinner recipes, low carb diets Book 1) Low Carb Candy Bars: 25 Low Carb Recipes To Satisfy Your Sweet Tooth: (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, low carb recipes) Low Carb Cookbook: 500 BEST LOW CARB RECIPES (low carb diet for beginners, lose weight, Atkins diet, low carb foods, low carb diet weight loss, low carb food list) Keto Bread Cookbook: Real Low Carb Recipes: (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, low carb recipes) The Ketogenic Diet Cookbook: Lose 15 Lbs In Two-Weeks With 66 Perfect Low Carb Keto Recipes: (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, low carb recipes) Low Carb: The Ultimate Beginner's Low Carb Guide to Lose Weight Quick without Starving With over 20 Easy Recipes To Follow. (Low Carb, Low Carb

Cookbook, ... Diet, Low Carb Recipies, Low Carb Cookbook) Making Ends Meet: How Single Mothers Survive Welfare and Low-Wage Work Low Carb: Low Calorie Cookbook: 200 High Protein Recipes for Weight Loss, Muscle Building, Healthy Eating and Increased Energy Levels (Low Carb High Protein ... Low Carb Cookbook, Low Carb Diet Book 1) LOW CARB DIET: KETOGENIC DIET: 1000 BEST LOW CARB AND KETOGENIC DIET RECIPES (BOX SET): low carb cookbook, ketogenic diet for beginners, low carb diet for beginners, low carbohydrate diet, ketogenic Low Carb: Low Calorie Cookbook: 50 High Protein Recipes Under 500 Calories for Weight Loss, Muscle Building, Healthy Eating & To Increase Energy (Low Carb ... Low Carb Cookbook, Low Carb Diet Book 1) Keto Bread Cookbook : (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, low carb recipes) Low Sodium Cookbook: Enjoy The Low Sodium Diet With 35 Tasty Low Sodium Recipes (Low Salt Diet) (Low Salt Cooking Book 1) Low Carb: Don't starve! How to fit into your old jeans in 7 days without starving with a Low Carb & High Protein Diet (low carb cookbook, low carb recipes, low carb cooking) Low Carb: Low Carb, High Fat Diet. The Winning Formula To Lose Weight (Healthy Cooking, Low Carb Diet, Low Carb Recipes, Low Carb Cookbook, Eat Fat, Ketogenic Diet) Scraping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore (Studies in Early American Economy and Society from the Library Company of Philadelphia) From Poor Law to Welfare State, 6th Edition: A History of Social Welfare in America Low Carb: Low Carb High Fat Diet - How to Lose 7 Pounds in 7 Days with Low Carb and High Protein Diet Without Starving! (low carbohydrate, high protein, ... carb cookbook, ketogenic diet, paleo diet)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)