

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819255303321
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Titolo	Why America lost the war on poverty-- and how to win it // Frank Stricker
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chapel Hill [N.C.], : University of North Carolina Press, c2007
ISBN	1-4696-0357-8 0-8078-8229-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (360 p.)
Disciplina	362.5/560973 362.5560973
Soggetti	Poverty - United States - History - 20th century Poor - United States - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface -- Introduction -- ; pt. 1. The golden age of laissez-faire? : the 50s -- ; 1. The 1950s : limited government, limited affluence -- ; pt. 2. Wars on poverty : the 60s -- ; 2. Planning the war on poverty : fixing the poor or fixing the economy? -- ; 3. Evaluating the war on poverty : the conservatism of liberalism -- ; 4. Moynihan, the dissenters, and the racialization of poverty : a liberal turning point that did not turn -- ; 5. Statistics and theory of unemployment and poverty : lessons from the 60s and the postwar era -- ; pt. 3. Toward a war on the poor : the 70s and 80s -- ; 6. The politics of poverty and welfare in the 70s : from Nixon to Carter -- ; 7. Too much work ethic : one reason poverty rates stopped falling in the 70s, and the stories that were told about it -- ; 8. Cutting poverty or cutting welfare : conservatives attack liberalism -- ; 9. Reagan, Reaganomics, and the American poor, 1980-1992 -- ; pt. 4. The poor you will always have with you - if you don't do the right thing : 1993-present -- ; 10. Staying poor in the Clinton boom : welfare reform, the nearby labor force, and the limits of the work ethic -- ; 11. Bush and beyond : on solving and not solving poverty -- Appendix 1 : Unemployment, poverty, earnings, and household structure -- Appendix 2 : Groups often left out of antipoverty discussions in the 60s and today -- Notes -- Bibliographical essay -- Index.

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## Sommario/riassunto

In a provocative assessment of American poverty and policy from 1950 to the present, Frank Stricker examines an era that has seen serious discussion about the causes of poverty and unemployment. Analyzing the War on Poverty, theories of the culture of poverty and the underclass, the effects of Reaganomics, and the 1996 welfare reform, Stricker demonstrates that most antipoverty approaches are futile without the presence (or creation) of good jobs. Stricker notes that since the 1970's, U.S. poverty levels have remained at or above 11%, despite training programs and periods of economic growth.

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