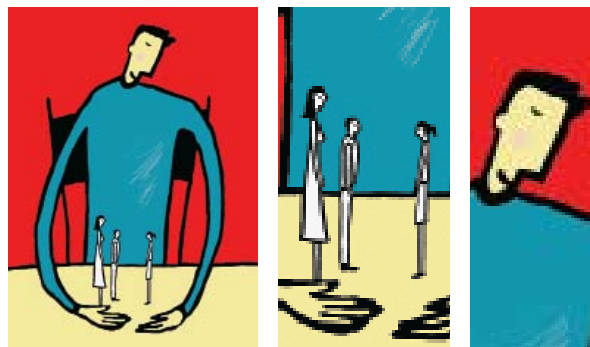


Culture and Welfare State

Values and Social Policy in Comparative Perspective



Edited by **Wim van Oorschot**, Professor of Sociology, Tilburg University, The Netherlands, **Michael Opielka**, Professor of Social Policy, University of Applied Sciences Jena, Germany and **Birgit Pfau-Effinger**, Professor of Sociology, University of Hamburg, Germany

Culture and Welfare State provides comparative studies on the interplay between cultural factors and welfare policies. Starting with an analysis of the historical and cultural foundations of Western European welfare states, reflected in the competing ideologies of liberalism, conservatism and socialism, the book goes on to compare the Western European welfare model to those in North America, Asia and Central and Eastern Europe. Comprehensive and engaging, this volume examines not only the relationships between cultural change and welfare restructuring, taking empirical evidence from policy reforms in contemporary Europe, but also the popular legitimacy of welfare, focusing particularly on the underlying values, beliefs and attitudes of people in European countries.



This book will be of great interest to sociologists and political scientists, as well as social policy experts interested in a cultural perspective on the welfare state.

Contents:

Part I: Cultural Foundations of the Welfare State: Ideas of the Good Society Part II: Worlds of Welfare Culture Part III: Cultural Change and Welfare Reform Part IV: Popular Welfare Values and Beliefs

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