



**LIVING WITH
POVERTY AND
DEPENDENCE IN
ENGLAND**



Living with Poverty and Dependence in England

By Katherine Smith

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Addresses the effects of poverty on multiple interdependencies in kinship, neighbourly and friendship relations, exploring how interpersonal relationships are made, unmade, recuperated or ended by people who are living with poverty in one of England's most deprived neighbourhoods.

The book is based on nearly a decade (2011–2020) of sustained ethnographic research within and across households in Harpurhey, North Manchester, England. Harpurhey is a suburban area in Manchester, located just three and a half miles northeast of the city centre. This book interrogates the everyday lives of people in Harpurhey ethnographically, placing their lives and agency at the centre of analysis. It explores the everyday lives of people who live with poverty and are rely upon state welfare support to make ends meet. Analytically, the arguments in this book begin by making a distinction between the production of poverty as a political, economic and ideological effect of capitalist processes and state activity, and the everyday, mundane choices and behaviours of the people who manage those effects (cf. Goode and Maskovsky 2001). Each chapter shows what may be concealed and revealed in interpersonal relationships between people living with poverty and in multiple interdependencies.

Readership

The book is aimed at scholarly audiences across the social sciences and humanities, including undergraduate and postgraduate students studying the themes of poverty, dependence, class, social mobility, bureaucracy and the state.

Contents

Introduction: The Workings of Poverty and Dependence on Everyday Life; Chapter One: Talking Money in Harpurhey; Chapter Two: Concealment and Revealment in The Reckoning; Chapter Three: Arguments of Equivalence; Chapter Four: (In)Dependence on the State; Chapter Five: Temporalities of Dependence; Conclusion: The Politics of Concealment and Revealment, and the Limits of Fairness in Everyday Life

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Dr Katherine Smith is Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester. She is author of *Fairness, Class and Belonging in Contemporary England* (2012) and co-editor of *Extraordinary Encounters: Authenticity and the Interview* (2015).

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