# Article information:

What We Talk about When We Talk about Poverty: Culture and Welfare State Development in Britain, Denmark and France | British Journal of Political Science | Cambridge Core  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/british-journal-of-political-science/article/what-we-talk-about-when-we-talk-about-poverty-culture-and-welfare-state-development-in-britain-denmark-and-france/165A3CE5CD3B7B0B6985470798CF7C3B>

# Article summary:

1. Modern welfare state regimes have deep historical roots, and early social interventions anticipated later policies of post-war welfare states.

2. Countries historically combatted poverty in diverse fashion due to fundamentally different cultural views of poverty and the working classes.

3. This article explores these diverse views of poverty and develops a theoretical model of cultural work to explain the differences in anti-poverty interventions across Britain, Denmark and France.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article is generally reliable and trustworthy, as it provides evidence for its claims through both quantitative text analysis and process tracing in case studies. The authors also provide a comprehensive overview of the literature on welfare state development in Britain, Denmark and France, which helps to contextualize their argument. Furthermore, they acknowledge potential biases in their data by noting that influences on the cultural symbols and narratives comprising the cultural constraint derive from authors’ ‘real’ life experiences as well as their creative renderings of reality.

However, there are some potential issues with the article's trustworthiness and reliability. For example, while the authors note that France relied largely on the Catholic Church for poor supports until the late nineteenth century, they do not explore other religious or non-religious sources of support that may have been available at this time. Additionally, while they acknowledge that authors inherit symbols and narratives from the past when constructing national corpora of fiction, they do not discuss how this might affect their findings or how it could be accounted for in their analysis. Finally, while they provide evidence for their claims through quantitative text analysis and process tracing in case studies, they do not discuss any potential limitations or drawbacks associated with these methods that could affect their results or conclusions.

# Topics for further research:

* Religious sources of support in nineteenth century France
* Impact of inherited symbols and narratives on national corpora of fiction
* Limitations of quantitative text analysis
* Drawbacks of process tracing in case studies
* Cultural constraints on welfare state development
* Real life experiences influencing cultural symbols and narratives

# Report location:

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