



## Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion)

By Martin Gilens



Download



Read Online

**Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion)** By Martin Gilens

Tackling one of the most volatile issues in contemporary politics, Martin Gilens's work punctures myths and misconceptions about welfare policy, public opinion, and the role of the media in both. *Why Americans Hate Welfare* shows that the public's views on welfare are a complex mixture of cynicism and compassion; misinformed and racially charged, they nevertheless reflect both a distrust of welfare recipients and a desire to do more to help the "deserving" poor.

"With one out of five children currently living in poverty and more than 100,000 families with children now homeless, Gilens's book is must reading if you want to understand how the mainstream media have helped justify, and even produce, this state of affairs." —Susan Douglas, *The Progressive*

"Gilens's well-written and logically developed argument deserves to be taken seriously." —*Choice*

"A provocative analysis of American attitudes towards 'welfare.' . . [Gilens] shows how racial stereotypes, not white self-interest or anti-statism, lie at the root of opposition to welfare programs." —*Library Journal*



[Download Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the P ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the ...pdf](#)

# Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion)

By Martin Gilens

## Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens

Tackling one of the most volatile issues in contemporary politics, Martin Gilens's work punctures myths and misconceptions about welfare policy, public opinion, and the role of the media in both. *Why Americans Hate Welfare* shows that the public's views on welfare are a complex mixture of cynicism and compassion; misinformed and racially charged, they nevertheless reflect both a distrust of welfare recipients and a desire to do more to help the "deserving" poor.

"With one out of five children currently living in poverty and more than 100,000 families with children now homeless, Gilens's book is must reading if you want to understand how the mainstream media have helped justify, and even produce, this state of affairs." —Susan Douglas, *The Progressive*

"Gilens's well-written and logically developed argument deserves to be taken seriously." —*Choice*

"A provocative analysis of American attitudes towards 'welfare.' . . [Gilens] shows how racial stereotypes, not white self-interest or anti-statism, lie at the root of opposition to welfare programs." —*Library Journal*

## Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #109984 in Books
- Published on: 2000-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .90" w x 6.00" l, .93 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 303 pages

 [Download Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the P ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens

---

### Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Gilens (political science, Yale Univ.) has written a provocative analysis of American attitudes toward welfare. Actually, he might have better titled his study *Why Americans Hate Certain Kinds of Welfare*, because he convincingly shows that most Americans actually support state assistance to the deserving poor, i.e., those who are not lazy and who actively seek employment. On the other hand, Americans overwhelmingly oppose welfare to those perceived as shiftless. This category has come to be associated with African Americans, partly through the media's long-term tendency to connect welfare with blacks. To prove this point, the book analyzes more than four decades of news reports on poverty. In the end, the author shows how racial stereotypes, not white self-interest or anti-statism, lie at the root of opposition to welfare programs. A well-written and thoughtful study on a timely subject. Anthony O. Edmonds, Ball State Univ., Muncie, IN

Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Why do Americans who want to "help the poor" have such negative attitudes toward "welfare"? Yale University political science professor Gilens suggests the media are a primary culprit. Individualism and economic self-interest don't adequately explain white Americans' opposition to welfare. Using detailed analysis of surveys and other sources, Gilens traces this antipathy to portrayals in the media that "racialize" welfare and activate the ancient racial stereotype of African Americans as "lazy." The old notion of "the undeserving poor" is central here; many of those who want "an end to welfare as we know it" think government should be spending more, not less, to help poor people trying to support themselves. Gilens' study of how TV and newsmagazines "visualize" poverty may be controversial; he describes how racial stereotypes lead even liberal photo editors and producers to misrepresent the composition of America's poor people. Recognizing the complexity of these public attitudes, Gilens argues that well-conceived means-tested programs can achieve and maintain strong public support. *Mary Carroll*

From the Inside Flap

Tackling one of the most volatile issues in contemporary politics, Martin Gilens's work punctures myths and misconceptions about welfare policy, public opinion, and the role of the media in both. *Why Americans Hate Welfare* shows that the public's views on welfare are a complex mixture of cynicism and compassion; misinformed and racially charged, they nevertheless reflect both a distrust of welfare recipients and a desire to do more to help the "deserving" poor.

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Morgan Woods:**

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or maybe read a book entitled *Why*

Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion)? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have other opinion?

**Luba Jacobs:**

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era and that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to a person is you don't know which one you should start with. This Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

**Shalon Fisk:**

Often the book Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was compiled by the very famous author. The author makes some research prior to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after reading this article book.

**Charles Melendez:**

In this particular era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of several books in the top record in your reading list is actually Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion). This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens  
#CYTO57D2W6Z**

## **Read Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens for online ebook**

Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens Free PDF download, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens books to read online.

### **Online Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens ebook PDF download**

**Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens Doc**

**Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens Mobipocket**

**Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy (Studies in Communication, Media, and Public Opinion) By Martin Gilens EPub**