



Homeless: Policies, Strategies, and Lives on the Street

By Gerald Daly

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The causes of homelessness are disputed by both Right and Left. But, few would argue that life on the streets is anything other than dangerous and debilitating. Unemployment, deinstitutionalisation, abuse in the home are among the stories the homeless tell. Voluntary organisations point to the failure of emergency shelters and food banks, the cut-backs in social programmes and the severe shortage of affordable housing. On the international scale, the changing global system has placed new demands on the economies of Europe and north America which have impacted on resources, employment and even political will. This book is the first comprehensive international study of homelessness. The author argues that the category of the homeless must itself be broadened, to encompass those chronically without shelter to those in immediate risk of dispossession, if homelessness is to be tackled effectively (before and after it happens) by public policy, voluntary organisations and the individuals themselves.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Poverty, unemployment, deinstitutionalization, and economic dislocation are among the leading causes of homelessness. Voluntary organizations point to the failure of emergency shelters and food banks, the reductions in social programs, and the severe shortage of affordable housing. On the international scale, the changing global system has placed new demands on the economies of Europe and North America which have had a negative effect on resource allocation, employment, and even political will. This book is the first comprehensive international study of homelessness. It points the way to new, constructive approaches to this critical social issue. The author demonstrates that the definition of "homeless" must itself be broadened, to encompass those at immediate risk of dispossession as well as those chronically without shelter, if homelessness is to be effectively confronted (before and after it happens) by public policy, voluntary organizations, and individuals themselves.

About the Author

Gerald Daly is Professor in the Faculty of environmental Studies at York University, Canada. He has worked with housing agencies and non-profit groups and has published widely on housing, homelessness and comparative planning.

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Billie Gould:

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