

Poverty & Social Exclusion

- Contents this week
 - Understanding diverse concepts of poverty (esp. capabilities)
 - Complexity in poverty measurement
 - Policies to tackle poverty
 - UK's approach on poverty

1. Understanding Concepts of Poverty

- Absolute vs relative poverty
- What are the dimensions that need to be considered when defining poverty?
- "Poverty is all about relationships." What does this mean?
- What is capability? Do you agree or disagree with defining poverty based on the concept of capability? What are potential problems?

2. Complexity in Poverty Measurement

- Why is income widely used for poverty measurement? What are limitations?
- Do you agree with poverty measurements based on income or wealth?
- Essay feedback: absolute/relative poverty vs capability

3. Policies to Tackle Poverty

- What are the causes of persistent poverty? Why has policies to tackle poverty not been so successful?
- Targeted cash transfer programmes (aka. social assistance) are, intended to tackle poverty through direct redistribution. Are these programmes effective in reducing poverty?

4. Britain's Approach to Poverty

- How would you define the UK approaches to tackling poverty? What are policy examples demonstrating these approaches?
- What can be done to reduce high child poverty in the UK?

Any More Questions?