

## Contents

1. INTRODUCTION: USES AND ABUSES OF THE IDEA OF CULTURE	
Anthropology and the Meaning of Culture	1
Some Insights of Cultural Theory	5
Methods of Studying Cultures	8
Some Philosophical Tenets and Values	10
Poverty and Inequality	12
Contradictions of the Poverty Culture Concept	14
Critiques and Alternative Concepts	16
2. THE SELF-PERPETUATING LOWER CLASS: A CULTURAL IMAGE AND ITS NATIONAL POLICY REFLECTIONS	
Some Recent Intellectual History	18
The Pejorative Tradition Established by E. Franklin Frazier	20
The Non-melting Pot of Nathan Glazer and Daniel P. Moynihan	25
Building the Frazier Tradition into National Policy: Moynihan Again	29
The Focal Concerns of a Middle-Class Scholar: Walter Miller	43
Reputability and Work in the World of David Matza	45
3. THE INTERNATIONAL "CULTURE OF POVERTY," WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE AND SOCIAL POLICY	
The Anthropological Aims and Approaches of Oscar Lewis	48
Inconsistencies between Abstractions and Data	50
Incongruity between Informational Focus and Theoretical Vista	63
Pathology, Politics, Policies, and Programs	67

4. BEGINNINGS OF A CHALLENGE TO ACCEPTED IMAGES OF THE POOR	
Breaking with Tradition and Returning to the Dark Ghetto: Kenneth Clark	78
Black Culture from the Blues to Head Start: Charles Keil	84
Second Thoughts on the Primitive and the Violent: Thomas Gladwin	87
Life of the Poor As Seen from a Street Corner: Elliot Liebow	94
5. ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDIES OF COMPLEX SOCIETIES: METHOD, PERSPECTIVE, AND PROSPECTS FOR NEW UNDERSTANDING	
Ethnographic Methods and Models	98
Subsocieties and Subcultures: Neglected Distinctions and the Fad of "Cultures"	104
Definitions and Clarifications of the Concept of Subculture	107
When Is a "Culture" Not a Culture?	113
Ethnic Groups, Social Class, and Poverty	121
Conceptions of Poverty Subcultures As Constructs To Be Tested	127
6. CONCLUSION: ALTERNATIVE VIEWS OF POVERTY AND THE POOR, PRESENT AND FUTURE	
Conceptions for the Present	141
Scenarios for the Future	147
POSTSCRIPT: A PROPOSAL FOR EMPOWERING THE POOR TO REDUCE INEQUALITY	
Background	154
The Need	157
The Program	158
New Departures	164
Past Precedents	166
Economic Implications	167
Municipal Possibilities	168
Need for Public Support	170

<i>Contents</i>	xiii
APPENDIX: TOWARD AN ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH DESIGN	
Choosing and Defining Units of Study	173
An Outline of Subcultural Materials	177
Suggestions for Field Techniques	180
Wider Implications of Field Work	188
NOTES	191
BIBLIOGRAPHY	197
INDEX	209