Contents

Preface Introduction: Questions and Themes	ix 1
1. EQUALITY OF WHAT?	12
1.1 Why Equality? What Equality?	12
1.2 Impartiality and Equality	16
1.3 Human Diversity and Basal Equality	19
1.4 Equality versus Liberty?	21
1.5 Plurality and Alleged Emptiness	23
1.6 Means and Freedoms	26
1.7 Income Distribution, Well-Being and Freedom	28
2. FREEDOM, ACHIEVEMENT AND RESOURCES	31
2.1 Freedom and Choice	31
2.2 Real Income, Opportunities and Selection	34
2.3 Freedom Distinguished from Resources	36
3. FUNCTIONINGS AND CAPABILITY	39
3.1 Capability Sets	39
3.2 Value Objects and Evaluative Spaces	42
3.3 Selection and Weighting	44
3.4 Incompleteness: Fundamental and Pragmatic	46
3.5 Capability or Functionings?	49
3.6 Utility vis-à-vis Capability	53
4. FREEDOM, AGENCY AND WELL-BEING	56
4.1 Well-Being vis-à-vis Agency	56
4.2 Agency, Instrumentality and Realization	57
4.3 Can Freedom Conflict with Well-Being?	59
4.4 Freedom and Disadvantageous Choices	62
4.5 Control and Effective Freedom	64
4.6 Freedom from Hunger, Malaria and Other Maladies	66
4.7 The Relevance of Well-Being	69
5. JUSTICE AND CAPABILITY	73
5.1 The Informational Bases of Justice	73

Contents

5.2 Rawlsian Justice and the Political Conception	75
5.3 Primary Goods and Capabilities	79
5.4 Diversities: Ends and Personal Characteristics	85
6. WELFARE ECONOMICS AND INEQUALITY	88
6.1 Space Choice and Evaluative Purpose	88
6.2 Shortfalls, Attainments and Potentials	89
6.3 Inequality, Welfare and Justice	93
6.4 Welfare-Based Inequality Evaluation	95
7. POVERTY AND AFFLUENCE	102
7.1 Inequality and Poverty	102
7.2 The Nature of Poverty	107
7.3 Lowness vis-à-vis Inadequacy of Incomes	109
7.4 Do Concepts Matter?	112
7.5 Poverty in Rich Countries	114
8. CLASS, GENDER AND OTHER GROUPS	117
8.1 Class and Classification	117
8.2 Gender and Inequality	122
8.3 Interregional Contrasts	125
9. THE DEMANDS OF EQUALITY	129
9.1 Questions of Equality	129
9.2 Equality, Space and Diversity	130
9.3 Plurality, Incompleteness and Evaluation	131
9.4 Data, Observations and Effective Freedoms	135
9.5 Aggregation, Egalitarianism and Efficiency	136
9.6 Alternative Defences of Inequality	138
9.7 Incentives, Diversity and Egalitarianism	141
9.8 On Equality as a Social Concern	143
9.9 Responsibility and Fairness	148
9.10 Capability, Freedom and Motivations	150
References	153
Index of Names	199
Index of Subjects	205

viii