LOSING GROUND

American Social Policy, 1950–1980

CHARLES MURRAY

BasicBooks

A Member of The Perseus Books Group

CONTENTS

A NOTE ON PRESENTATION	ix
PREFACE	x
INTRODUCTION TO THE TENTH-ANNIVERSARY EDITION	xiii

Prologue

PART I

A Generous Revolution

1.	The Kennedy Transition	
2 .	"The System Is to Blame"	24
3.	Implementing the Elite Wisdom	41

PART II

Being Poor, Being Black: 1950-1980

4.	Poverty	56
5.	Employment	69
6.	Wages and Occupations	85
7.	Education	96

vii

3

Contents

8.	Crime	113
9.	The Family	124
10.	The View from 1966	135

PART III

Interpreting the Data

11.	The Social Scientists and the Great Experiment	147
12.	Incentives to Fail I: Maximizing Short-Term Gains	154
13.	Incentives to Fail II: Crime and Education	167
14.	The Destruction of Status Rewards	178

PART IV

Rethinking Social Policy

15.	What Do We Want to Accomplish?	196
16 .	The Constraints on Helping	205
17.	Choosing a Future	219

Appendix: The Data

.

237

NOTES	265
GLOSSARY OF SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS	299
BIBLIOGRAPHY	301
INDEX	317