

# Social Welfare Reforms in the Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin

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## ABSTRACT

This report examines welfare reforms in five Midwest states, following the Responsibility Act of 1996. The states, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, are selected because of their geographic proximity and because of their unique policies and programs. These programs are reviewed, compared, and assessed in this report. An important finding is the disparity between claims of success in reducing welfare dependency against the apparent persistence of poverty, hunger, and other related social problems for millions of children and working poor.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Fayyaz Hussain received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Michigan State University in 1991. He is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Center for Integrative Studies in Social Sciences at MSU. His areas of interests include Poverty, Hunger, Rural Sociology, and Social Demography. In the past, he has taught a wide variety of courses in Sociology in Pakistan, Nigeria, and Canada.