

Public Praise for *Poor Policy*

“With pointed writing that punctures liberal bubbles, Professor Schansberg shows that governmental anti-poverty programs have done the opposite of what their proponents promised. Every policymaker should become familiar with the evidence that *Poor Policy* powerfully presents.”

– Marvin Olasky, Professor of Journalism, University of Texas; Editor of *World*; author of *The Tragedy of American Compassion*

“A consistent, clearheaded Christian analysis comes from economist D. Eric Schansberg. His *Poor Policy: How Government Harms the Poor* is a wonderful, wide-ranging book...The author writes intelligently while applying economic analysis and Christian theology to make the case— well supported by fact and anecdote— that one government program after another hurts the poor.”

–Doug Bandow, *The Washington Times*

“[He] makes a strong case that many of the poor are poor (or at least poorer than they would otherwise be) due to the effects of laws and policies designed to benefit various groups of non-poor people. In short, Schansberg is arguing the classic laissez-faire position against interventionism by demonstrating that it creates and exacerbates poverty....Schansberg has here hit upon what I believe must be the foremost goal of defenders of liberty, namely, to get people to pay attention to the morality of *means* and not just the desirability of the ends. *Poor Policy* is a useful, nontechnical book that neatly organizes a lot of data and arguments against the idea that government can, does, and should assist the poor. Bravo.”

–George Leef, *The Freeman* (now *Ideas on Liberty*)

“He claims you will find substantive and intuitive explanations of contemporary policies and how they affect people, especially the poor. Quite a tall order for one book, especially when the author claims he has taken care to make the book completely within the reach of laypeople. As long as those laypeople have a better than average understanding of national and world economics and a consuming interest in public policy as it affects the poor, they will indeed find interest in Schansberg’s book....All in all, Schansberg has some points to make and has made them clearly with sufficient background and perspective. Some who read this book will burst into applause, others will scream in fury. Both sides, one hopes, will have been made to think.”

–Donald Towles, (*Louisville*) *Courier-Journal*

“Describes clearly and insightfully the inherent limitations on government attempts to help the poor. Only by facing up to these limitations can we hope to convert government compassion into responsible and effective compassion. If this book receives the attention it deserves, the poor will benefit the most.”

– Dwight Lee, Professor of Economics, University of Georgia

“Though few of the theoretical arguments presented here will be new to the readers of *Public Choice*, most will find Eric Schansberg’s book worthwhile for its many excellent examples and its presentation of much of the relevant statistical documentation in one place. And as the intended audience for the book– classroom students and general readers– will be unfamiliar with the theory as well as the evidence suggesting that attempts by the government to aid the poor are for the most part misguided and ineffective, it makes a good overall contribution to the literature...I think that *Poor Policy* is a very fine book, excellent as a supplement for a principles class or for any class that deals with poverty issues.”

– Adam Gifford, Professor of Economics, California State University (Northridge), in *Public Choice*

“This book is not only useful to policy makers, but also intrigues the average person to become more involved in policy efforts. Many of the policies discussed in this book apply to the general public, and the public would benefit if educated on some of the principles....The public readily accepts government policies on the surface, assuming they are for the good of the people....Furthermore, this book would also be a strong tool for teaching college students studying economics, family economics, disadvantaged families, public policy education, and human resource policy issues. The author is extremely thorough in content yet emphasizes his suggestions are merely a place to begin. Without question, this book presents a dynamic approach to viewing policy issues surrounding the poor, while challenging the reader to take action with the knowledge gained.”

– Nayda Torres, Chair of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, University of Florida, in *Journal of Consumer Affairs*

“Good policy books by Christians are distressingly rare...Breaking this mold is economist D. Eric Schansberg’s *Poor Policy*. Mr. Schansberg is unafraid to acknowledge his Christian faith; at the same time, he brings intellectually rigorous analysis to bear on public policy issues. The result is one of the best practical discussions available of the twin problems of poverty and the war on poverty.”

–Doug Bandow, *World*