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Approaches to the Welfare State. Pranab Chatterjee.

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should be consulted by anyone concerned with issues of aging and retirement today.

Pranab Chatterjee, *Approaches to the Welfare State*. Washington DC: NASW Press, 1996. \$34.95 papercover.

The literature on the welfare state is now extensive. Numerous historical studies, commentaries and expositions concerning the reasons for the proliferation of state involvement in social welfare have been published. However, despite this plethora of information, much of the available literature is narrowly focused on Europe and North America. Studies of social policy in the welfare state have not paid adequate attention to other countries.

In this useful book, Pranab Chatterjee seeks to fill the gap by discussing social policy issues with reference to other countries. In the first part of the book, the author explores the dimensions of the welfare state internationally, specifically referencing the experiences of the First World, Second World and Third World. Here he defines key concepts, outlines opposing viewpoints of scholars on the development of state welfare, and discusses the infrastructure of the welfare state in the world system. In the second part of the book, he discusses opposing theses about the welfare state in some detail, linking interdisciplinary theory and research to the practical application of social policy. In the final part of the book, Chatterjee discusses debates regarding the welfare state in terms of moral, legal, political and scientific foundations. In conclusion he offers his own resolution of these issues.

This book offers a broad view of the complexities involved in determining the development of welfare states. It presents a variety of opposing theoretical frameworks that shape the field. It provides an insightful analysis of these frameworks in terms of moral, legal, political and scientific criteria. This book offers a synopsis of the field that will not only serve as a useful text but broaden scholarly horizons as social policy seeks greater international relevance.

Rafat Fazeli, *The Economic Impact of the Welfare State and Social Wage: The British Experience*. Brookfield, VT: Avebury, 1996. \$55.95 hardcover.

Economic considerations are now widely debated in social policy. Although social policy has traditionally neglected the