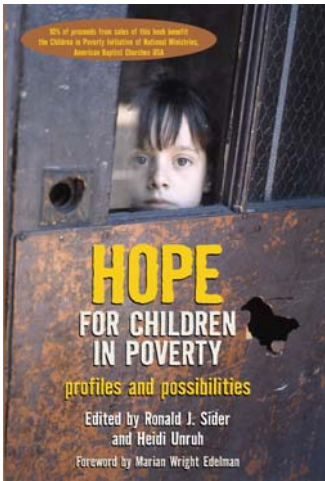


13.5 Million Children Live in Poverty: What can we do to help?



In *Hope for Children in Poverty: Profiles and Possibilities*, editors Ron Sider and Heidi Unruh have drawn together the expertise of academics, activists, pastors, and social service professionals to consider the lives and special concerns of children living in poverty – biblically, educationally, physically, sociologically, politically.

The statistics are staggering. Of the 73 million children in this country, 40% (29.2 million) live in low-income families, and 18% (13.5 million) live in poor families. Given that this is happening in the land of wealth and opportunity, the numbers are even more disturbing. "Children are the poorest age group in America, and millions of children suffer hunger, homelessness and illiteracy in the richest nation on earth," decries Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund. In the book's foreword, Edelman goes on to say, "the well-being of our children is a basic obligation which adults must embrace and public policies must promote. Failing to do so has both human and social consequences."

This comprehensive reader does more than just analyze the problems. It takes a giant step forward in exploring real solutions through public policy and faith-based organizations. In its review, *Publishers Weekly* praised the book as "...a concrete starting point for those in government, social services and churches looking for solutions to these desperate problems."

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