

Towards a New Social Contract: Beyond Basic Welfare | BWB Texts 80

The world is changing rapidly. Automation is transforming the workplace, the nature of work is changing, and inequality is growing. These changes are putting a strain on our current social contract, which is based on the idea that people who work hard will be able to earn a decent living and support their families.



Transforming the Welfare State: Towards a New Social Contract (BWB Texts Book 80) by Jonathan Boston

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The old social contract is no longer working for many people. Wages have stagnated, benefits have been cut, and job security is a thing of the past. As a result, more and more people are falling into poverty. This is not just a problem for the poor. It is a problem for all of us. Poverty is a drag on the economy, it leads to social unrest, and it undermines our democracy.

We need a new social contract that is based on the idea that everyone deserves a fair chance to succeed. This new social contract must be based on the following principles:

- **Everyone deserves a basic level of security.** This means that everyone should have access to healthcare, education, housing, and other essential services.
- **Everyone should have the opportunity to earn a decent living.** This means that we need to create more good jobs and make sure that everyone has the skills they need to succeed.
- **Everyone should have the power to shape their own lives.** This means that we need to give people more control over their work, their communities, and their government.

Creating a new social contract will not be easy. It will require us to make some tough choices. But it is essential if we want to build a more just and equitable society for all.

Here are some concrete recommendations for creating a new social contract:

- **Increase the minimum wage.** The minimum wage is too low to support a family. We need to raise it to a level that allows people to earn a decent living.
- **Expand access to affordable housing.** Housing is a basic need. We need to build more affordable housing and make it easier for people to afford the homes they live in.

- **Invest in education and training.** Education is the key to success. We need to invest in education and training so that everyone has the skills they need to get a good job.
- **Create more good jobs.** We need to create more good jobs by investing in infrastructure, clean energy, and other areas that will grow our economy.
- **Give workers more power.** We need to give workers more power in the workplace. This means passing laws that protect workers' rights and make it easier for workers to form unions.

These are just a few of the things we can do to create a new social contract. It will take time and effort, but it is essential if we want to build a more just and equitable society for all.

The old social contract is no longer working. We need a new social contract that is based on the idea that everyone deserves a fair chance to succeed. This new social contract must be based on the principles of security, opportunity, and power. Creating a new social contract will not be easy, but it is essential if we want to build a more just and equitable society for all.



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