The International Handbook of Gender and Poverty

Concepts, Research, Policy
Edited by Sylvia Chant, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

‘While each of the articles in this impressive collection makes an original contribution to the conceptual, empirical and policy analysis of gender and poverty, together they provide a comprehensive overview of the field and an essential resource for all sections of the development community. Professor Sylvia Chant is to be congratulated for bringing together some of the leading thinkers in the field from across the world. This is not only an unprecedented feat of international co-operation but feminist collaboration at its best.’

– Professor Naila Kabeer, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

‘These diverse, thoughtful essays go far beyond a mere summary of international scholarship. They outline a fascinating and provocative agenda for future policy-relevant research. This book will help redefine and revitalise the field of gender and development.’

– Professor Nancy Folbre, University of Massachusetts, USA

In the interests of contextualising (and nuancing) the multiple interrelations between gender and poverty, Sylvia Chant has gathered writings on diverse aspects of the subject from a range of disciplinary and professional perspectives, achieving extensive thematic as well as geographical coverage. This benchmark volume presents women’s and men’s experiences of gendered poverty with respect to a vast spectrum of intersecting issues including local to global economic transformations, family, age, ‘race’, migration, assets, paid and unpaid work, health, sexuality, human rights, and conflict and violence.

The Handbook also provides up-to-the-minute reflections on how to theorise, measure and represent the connections between gender and poverty, and to contemplate how gendered poverty is affected – and potentially redressed – by policy and grassroots interventions. An unprecedented and ambitious blend of conceptual, methodological, empirical and practical offerings from a host of established as well as upcoming scholars and professionals from across the globe lends the volume a distinctive and critical edge. Notwithstanding the broad scope of The International Handbook of Gender and Poverty, one theme in common to most of its 100 plus chapters is the need for the ‘en-gendering’ of analysis and initiatives to combat poverty and inequality at local, national and international levels. As such, the volume will inspire its readers not only to reflect deeply on poverty and gender injustice, but also to consider what to do about it.

This book will be essential reading for all with scholarly, professional or personal interests in gender, poverty, inequality, development, and social, political and economic change in the contemporary world.


2010 736 pp Hardback 978 1 84844 334 1 £175.00
ELGAR ORIGINAL REFERENCE