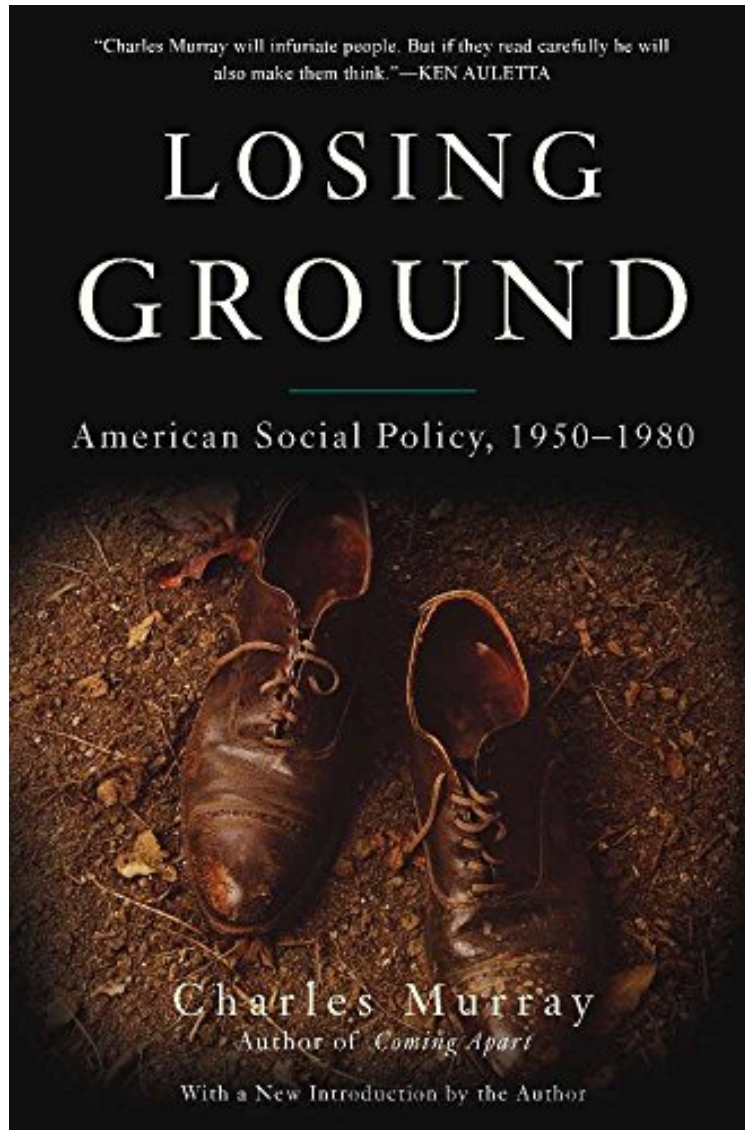


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Losing Ground: American Social Policy, 1950-1980, 10th Anniversary Edition

Charles Murray

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Charles Murray : Losing Ground: American Social Policy, 1950-1980, 10th Anniversary Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Losing Ground: American Social Policy, 1950-1980, 10th Anniversary Edition:

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. very interestingBy Long term customerIn my quest to understand the history of welfare, I read most of this today and found the author's arguments fairly compelling. The author makes a good case for his conclusions regarding the negative social effects of various governmental policies, especially

during the 1960's when welfare skyrocketed. In this book we learn why that may have been the case. Some of the extensive graphs and statistics are a bit difficult to plow through, but the overall effect is convincing. This author has been accused of being a racist in some of his other books and a race figures heavily in this book as well, however the author makes his case here for human behavior regardless of race. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Every adult needs to read this book. By ImeldamarcosIII read this because it is an historically important book. It's pretty dry and depressing and unfortunately nobody has been able to dispute the depressing social slide rather than improvement for the underclass since Federal government anti-poverty programs began in the early sixties. The main point made by the author is that so much of the anti poverty programs have very real negative incentives to milk them rather than work and this effect is destroying communities and is being ignored by liberal interest groups that are more interested in what is supposed to happen versus what is really happening. His prescriptive social policy seems harsh but his analysis of what has actually resulted from all the government help is brilliantly argued and backed with a deluge of statistics. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Michael S. Should be a required read for politicians.

This classic book serves as a starting point for any serious discussion of welfare reform. *Losing Ground* argues that the ambitious social programs of the 1960s and 1970s actually made matters worse for its supposed beneficiaries, the poor and minorities. Charles Murray startled readers by recommending that we abolish welfare reform, but his position launched a debate culminating in President Clinton's proposal "to end welfare as we know it."

From Publishers Weekly Murray, coauthor of *The Bell Curve*, argued that the social programs of the '60s and the '70s worsened the plight of the poor and minorities. This 10th anniversary issue includes a new introduction by the author. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A great book." --Wall Street Journal "Without bile and without rhetoric it lays out a stark truth that must be faced." --Business Week "A remarkable book. Future discussions of social policy cannot proceed without taking the arguments and evidence of this book into account." --James S. Coleman, University of Chicago "Charles Murray will infuriate people. But if they read carefully he will also make them think." --Ken Auletta, New York Times bestselling author "A remarkable book. Future discussions of social policy cannot proceed without taking the arguments and evidence of this book into account." --James S. Coleman, University of Chicago "Charles Murray will infuriate people. But if they read carefully he will also make them think." --Ken Auletta, New York Times bestselling author About the Author CHARLES MURRAY is the W. H. Brady Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. He first came to national attention in 1984 with *Losing Ground*. His subsequent books include *In Pursuit*, *The Bell Curve* (with Richard J. Herrnstein), *What It Means to Be a Libertarian*, *Human Accomplishment*, *In Our Hands*, and *Real Education and Coming Apart*. He received a bachelor's degree in history from Harvard and a doctorate in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He lives with his wife in Burkittsville, Maryland.