

# [Opportunity (walsh et al., 2000). the idea](https://assignbuster.com/opportunity-walsh-et-al-2000-the-idea/)

[Economics](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/economics/)

opportunity to choose andproduce what is acceptable for all people to leave healthy.  Getting to the late 19th century, the liberalgovernment extended part of the state in the delivery of social welfare byallowing access to the rising number of campaigners and politicians that thepublic would have to amend in dealing with the increasing community problemsand shortages of the ” poor Law system”.

This improved reform was then built on present progress in awareness ofsocial welfare issues.  The “ Workhousing” which was mostly visited by ” middle class” women became betterposition and more understanding.  Thepublic health movement expanded influencing the local government system tomature. Gradually, the different areas of social welfare provision were beingaccepted by the state which included public health, housing and education andlater divided the health and social services between the municipality. The richpaid for medical care whiles “ The poor law amendment act” in 1834 provided forthe treatment of the poor (Walsh et al., 2000). THEIDEA OF LIBERAL REFORM It was understood thatgovernment should only have a limited role in raising taxes and defending itsarea of control.  The British governmentunder the Liberal party in the 19th century proceeded with the principles of’laissez-faire’ where a person’s where responsible their own lives andwelfare.

The government was notconcerned about the poverty and hardship that was within its citizens.  Their thought was as that poverty comes aboutby idleness, drunkenness and other moral weaknesses on the side of the workingclass. The wealthy classified the poor as being unlucky but was an unavoidablepart of the society. At the start of 20thcentury, there was nothing like old age pensions, unemployment benefit andfamily allowances. This means if the one working to support the family get sickor die it means the whole family in here get no help from the state.

The main concern of the government was tomaintain law and order, protect the country from invasion.  During this time, two wealthy businessmen namely, Charles Booth and Seebohm Rowntree paid for an investigator to find out themain cause of poverty in the British cities. These social surveys came as not a surprise but changed the attitudestowards poverty which helped paved way for a whole variety of government-ledwelfare reforms.  Their findings agreedthat 30% of people in the cities were living below the poverty level and thatsituations were such that it was