

# Opportunity (walsh et al., 2000). the idea

[Economics](#)



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

opportunity to choose and produce what is acceptable for all people to leave healthy. Getting to the late 19th century, the liberal government extended part of the state in the delivery of social welfare by allowing access to the rising number of campaigners and politicians that the public would have to amend in dealing with the increasing community problems and shortages of the "poor Law system".

This improved reform was then built on present progress in awareness of social welfare issues. The "Workhousing" which was mostly visited by "middle class" women became better positioned and more understanding. The public health movement expanded influencing the local government system to mature. Gradually, the different areas of social welfare provision were being accepted by the state which included public health, housing and education and later divided the health and social services between the municipality. The rich paid for medical care whiles "The poor law amendment act" in 1834 provided for the treatment of the poor (Walsh et al., 2000).

**THE IDEA OF LIBERAL REFORM** It was understood that government should only have a limited role in raising taxes and defending its area of control. The British government under the Liberal party in the 19th century proceeded with the principles of 'laissez-faire' where a person's where responsible their own lives and welfare.

The government was not concerned about the poverty and hardship that was within its citizens. Their thought was as that poverty comes about by idleness, drunkenness and other moral weaknesses on the side of the working class. The wealthy classified the poor as being unlucky but was an unavoidable part of the society. At the start of 20th century, there was

nothing like old age pensions, unemployment benefit and family allowances. This means if the one working to support the family get sick or die it means the whole family in here get no help from the state.

The main concern of the government was to maintain 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 the main cause of poverty in the British cities. These social surveys came as not a surprise but changed the attitude towards poverty which helped paved way for a whole variety of government-led welfare reforms. Their findings agreed that 30% of people in the cities were living below the poverty level and that situations were such that it was