

Class 19
10-29-02

SINGLE PARENTS AND WELFARE: CONSEQUENCES OF THE WAGE GAP

I. FEMINIZATION OF POVERTY

II. WELFARE AND WORKFARE DISCUSSION OF READINGS WEISS, BERNSTEIN

III. PANEL ON SINGLE PARENTS

VI SOME LEGAL SOLUTIONS

A. EQUAL PAY ACT (1963)

B. TITLE VII OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT (1964)

C. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (EXEC ORDER
11246)

D. REPEAL OF PROTECTIVE LABOR LAWS

E. COMPARABLE WORTH (See NCPE fact
sheets and Barko readings)

Study Questions

Single parents and welfare:

1. Summarize the key points of the class panel on single parents.
2. What category of people are most likely to be poor? Why?
3. What is the relationship between the wage gap and poverty rates?
4. What position do R&C take on the recent welfare reforms? Why?
5. What challenges does “hegemonic masculinity” pose for the homeless men in San Francisco’s Tenderloin district, according to Nonn (K&M:242)? How do these men meet such challenges?
6. Why are some white heterosexual men in the Tenderloin area so easily threatened by the identities of homosexual men and black and Latino men?
7. How does the availability, cost, and quality of child care in the U.S. compare to child care in France? How much do child care workers in the U.S. earn?
8. According to R&C, what proportion of day care centers in the U.S. are good enough to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children?
9. How much money do then women who make Nike shoes in Asia earn?
10. According to Weis et al (K&M:268) how do white working class men use their whiteness and family to shore up their masculine identities?
11. Summarize the arguments for and against pay equity.