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One Percent for the Kids: New Policies, Brighter Futures for America's Children

By Isabel V. Sawhill

Brookings Institution. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, One Percent for the Kids: New Policies, Brighter Futures for America's Children, Isabel V. Sawhill, In the United States, long considered the land of opportunity, children born into different types of families begin life with very unequal prospects. A growing group of children is being raised in families in which a poorly educated mother begins childbearing at an early age, often outside marriage, and ends up dependent on public welfare. Another group is raised by parents who delay childbearing until they are well-educated, married, and have stable jobs; these children go on to lead more advantageous lives. While virtually everyone talks about the importance of investing in the next generation, in the late 1990s federal spending on children represented only 2 percent of the nation's gross domestic product. This volume argues forcefully that the life prospects of children at the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder can be improved substantially --and the growing gap between them and more privileged children reduced --by making appropriate investments now. Taking their cue on funding from the Blair government in the United Kingdom, which since 1997 has invested almost an extra 1 percent of GDP to reducing...



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