

<<Is the Welfare State>>

图书基本信息

书名：<<Is the Welfare State Justified?福利国家是合理的吗？>>

13位ISBN编号：9780521860659

10位ISBN编号：0521860652

出版时间：2007-6

出版时间：Cambridge Univ Pr

作者：Shapiro, Daniel

页数：323

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内容概要

In this book, Daniel Shapiro argues that the dominant positions in contemporary political philosophy - egalitarianism, positive rights theory, communitarianism, and many forms of liberalism - should converge in a rejection of central welfare state institutions. He examines how major welfare institutions, such as government-financed and -administered retirement pensions, national health insurance, and programs for the needy, actually work. Comparing them to compulsory private insurance and private charities, Shapiro argues that the dominant perspectives in political philosophy mistakenly think that their principles support the welfare state. Instead, egalitarians, positive rights theorists, communitarians, and liberals have misunderstood the implications of their own principles, which in fact support more market-based or libertarian institutional conclusions than they may realize. Shapiro's book is unusual in its combination of political philosophy with social science. Its focus is not limited to any particular country; rather it examines welfare states in affluent democracies and their market alternatives.

- Argues that supporters of the welfare state should, following their own premises, actually oppose it
- Does comparative institutional analysis: compares real welfare state institutions with real market-based alternatives
- Combines focus on basic principles in political philosophy with social science analysis of institutions

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