

PSE 2011 Second Townsend Conference
Measuring poverty: the state of the art

Danny Dorling, University of Sheffield

Poverty is shame. Poverty is knowing that you are not valued, that other people in your country are happy for you and your children and your parents to suffer. Poverty is a deep feeling of shame and being rejected by society.

Ricardo Velaquez, University of Bath

Poverty means the lack of capabilities to develop a long, happy, healthy life.

Chuang Ruhung, University of Bristol

Poverty to me - I think that refers to a state, a state that people do not have enough money or income to support their lives.

Geraldine Murphy, Local Government Officer

You can't just fix one bit of it and hope that the rest comes together. It's about income. It's about the ability to play a part in your own society.

Ricardo Velaquez, University of Bath

I'd like to take away ideas of how poverty is measured in different regions of the world.

Geraldine Murphy, Local Government Officer

I hope to take away some questions for myself. Particularly interested in how to ask people who experience poverty as to what their stories are.

Lorenza Antonucci, University of Bristol

I see that the situation is more likely to get worse and for the people in the lower part of the income distribution, if you want, and the poorest part of the population in general, the most socially excluded.

Ricardo Velaquez, University of Bath

Honestly I don't see a very bright picture, I think, around the world. We're going through difficult times, not only [in] Europe but in many parts of the world.

Geraldine Murphy, Local Government Officer

The decision that's been made this year is don't cut services to poor people. To actually enhance services to people who are poor.

Danny Dorling, University of Sheffield

I think poverty researchers need to realise that the critical conditions they're in have changed and need to recognise that they have to go back to basics and explain again what poverty is.