What does it mean to live in poverty?

1998: 81% of people polled agreed with the view that there is plenty of opportunity in the U.S. 2013: 52% held this view

1952: 8% said there wasn’t much opportunity. 2013: 43% held this view.
WELFARE SYSTEM

Social Welfare Programs: organized efforts by government, private organizations, or individuals to assist needy people considered worthy of assistance

Characteristics:
× Benefit people or activities deemed as worthy
× Benefit most of the U.S. population
× Reduce economic inequality, but only a little
FEMINIST ANALYSIS

Feminization of Poverty: refers to trend of women making up an increasing share of the poor

- The risk of being poor is high for single women
- 41% of single moms vs. 23% of single dads
- 50% of poor families are headed by a single woman
- What explains this trend?

- More women are raising kids by themselves
- For feminists, society still provides more income, wealth, power and prestige to men even though more women are entering the workforce