Ethnicity, Social Mobility, and Public Policy

This major comparative study of the social mobility of ethnic minorities in the USA and UK argues that social mobility must be understood as a complex and multidimensional phenomenon, incorporating the wealth and income of groups, but also their political power and social recognition. Written by leading sociologists, economists, political scientists, geographers, and philosophers in both countries, the volume addresses issues as diverse as education, work and employment, residential concentration, political mobilization, public policy, and social networks, while drawing larger lessons about the meaning of race and inequality in the two countries. While finding that there are important similarities in the experience of ethnic, and especially immigrant, groups in the two countries, the volume also concludes that the differences between the USA and UK, especially in the case of American blacks, are equally important.

GLENN C. LOURY is Professor of Economics and Director of the Institute on Race and Social Division at Boston University.

TARIQ MODOOD is Professor of Sociology, Politics, and Public Policy and founding Director of the Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship, University of Bristol. He has published extensively and was awarded the MBE for services to social science and ethnic relations 2001.

STEVEN M. TELES is Assistant Professor of Politics at Brandeis University. He has published books and articles on a wide range of topics including welfare, affirmative action, devolution in the UK and EU.
Ethnicity, Social Mobility, and Public Policy

Comparing the USA and UK

Edited by
Glenn C. Loury, Tariq Modood,

and
Steven M. Teles
Contents

List of figures   page  viii
List of tables   x
List of contributors  xiv
Acknowledgements  xvi

Introduction  1

GLEN C. LOURY, TARIQ MODOOD, AND STEVEN M. TELES

Part I  Historical overviews  19

1  Ruling an empire, governing a multinational state: the impact of Britain’s historical legacy on the ethno-racial regime  21
MARY J. HICKMAN

2  American diversity and the 2000 census  50
NATHAN GLAZER

3  Four modes of ethno-somatic stratification: the experience of Blacks in Europe and the Americas  67
ORLANDO PATTERSON

Part II  Informal social networks  123

4  Ethnicity as social capital: community-based institutions and embedded networks of social relations  131
MIN ZHOU

5  Intergenerational mobility and racial inequality in education and earnings  160
LINDA DATCHER LOURY
Contents

6 Social integration and social mobility: spatial segregation and intermarriage of the Caribbean population in Britain 178
   CERI PEACH

7 Ghettos and the transmission of ethnic capital 204
   DAVID M. CUTLER, EDWARD L. GLAESER, AND JACOB L. VIGDOR

8 Family formulation in multicultural Britain: diversity and change 222
   RICHARD BERTHOUD

Part III Formal structures

9 Educational progress for African-Americans and Latinos in the United States from the 1950s to the 1990s: the interaction of ancestry and class 262
   MICHAEL HOUT

10 The educational attainments of ethnic minorities in Britain 288
    TARIQ MODOOD

11 Why America’s black–white school achievement gap persists 309
    RONALD F. FERGUSON

12 Networks and niches: the continuing significance of ethnic connections 342
    ROGER WALDINGER

13 Nonwhite origins, Anglo destinations: immigrants in the USA and Britain 363
    SUZANNE MODEL

14 Social mobility of ethnic minorities 393
    ANTHONY HEATH AND DORREN MCMAHON

15 Ethnic minorities, employment, self-employment, and social mobility in postwar Britain 414
    VAUGHAN ROBINSON AND RINA VALENY

Part IV Political institutions and processes

16 Ethnicity and political mobilization in Britain 457
    TARIQ MODOOD
### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Political institutions and minority mobility in the USA</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Skerry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Race, state, and policy: the development of employment discrimination policy in the USA and Britain</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Lieberman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Regime effects: ethnicity, social mobility, and public policy in the USA and Britain</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steven M. Teles, Robert Mickey, and Fawzia S. Ahmed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Part V Normative analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Race, inequality and justice in the USA: some social-philosophic reflections</td>
<td>573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Glenn C. Loury</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Achieving racial equality</td>
<td>602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bhikhu Parekh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Author index 618

Subject index 627
Figures

3.1 African diaspora by region  page 68
3.2 The North American binary mode  77
3.3 The Caribbean plural mode  80
3.4 The Latin mode: hegemonic *blanqueamiento*  83
3.5 Class by ethno-somatic groups in Latin America  84
3.6 North Atlantic mode: proletarian incorporation  96
3.7 UK unemployment by ethnicity and gender  101
3.8 Households on low income by ethnicity  101
6.1 Ethnicity by socioeconomic class, men 16+, Great Britain, 1991  184
6.2 Ethnicity by socioeconomic class women 16+, Great Britain, 1991  184
6.3 Family type by ethnicity, Great Britain, 1991  186
6.4 Changes in Caribbean housing tenure 1961–1991  188
7.1 Isolation of blacks and new immigrant groups  205
7.2 Occupation scores relative to native whites  205
7.3 Causality in the relationship between segregation and outcomes (j = group; t = generation)  209
8.1 Family positions of British women age 16 to 34 in 1973  225
8.2 Family positions of British women age 16 to 34 in 2000  226
8.3 Family positions of women age 25 to 29: European Union and USA  227
8.4 Women’s fertility rates by age group  244
8.5 Where are paternal grandmothers?  246
9.1 Educational attainment by mother’s education, ancestry, and birth cohort: persons 30–69 years old, USA  274
9.2 Educational attainment by father’s education, ancestry, and birth cohort: persons 30–69 years old, USA  275
10.1 Percent within groups with A level or higher qualifications by generation  291
List of figures

10.2 Percent within groups with no GCSE or equivalent qualifications by generation 292

11.1 NAEP reading scores for 9-year-olds plus gains from ages 9–13 and ages 13–17, for blacks and whites by birth-year cohorts 330

11.2 NAEP math scores for 9-year-olds plus gains from ages 9–13 and ages 13–17, for blacks and whites, by birth-year cohorts 331

11.3 Changes from 1984 in black 17-year-olds’ mean NAEP reading scores, by region, and in the national percent who read daily or almost daily for pleasure 333

11.4 Proportions of African-American 12th-graders who report that they never cut class, by major US census region 334
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Legal immigration from the Caribbean 1950–2002 and totals for 1820–2002</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Some basic socioeconomic indicators for selected Afro-Caribbean countries</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Percentage of students aged 16 who achieved 5 or more GCSEs, 1999</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Interethnic unions of all married and cohabiting UK residents, 1991</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Comparison of the 1990 race population of the USA with the British 1991 ethnic composition</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Relative concentration of ethnic groups in large metropolitan areas of Great Britain, 1991</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Tenure mobility 1981–1991 for the Black Caribbean population in Great Britain</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>Indices of Dissimilarity for 17 cities containing 1,000 or more Black Caribbeans, 1991, ward level</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Trends in black–white segregation in thirty metropolitan areas with the largest black populations, 1970–1990</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>Comparison of Caribbean-born IDs in Greater London 1961–1991</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>Interethnic unions. All married and cohabiting men and women. Resident population, Great Britain, 1991 (Unions expressed as percentage of male’s ethnic group)</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>Interethnic unions. All married and cohabiting men and women. Resident population, Great Britain, 1991 (Unions expressed as percentages of female’s ethnic group)</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.11</td>
<td>United States race and origin of spouses, 1993</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>Ethnic capital measures</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Ethnic capital, segregation, and educational attainment, 1940</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Marital status: Caribbeans compared with whites</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Estimated proportion of mothers who remained single, by age and date, holding other characteristics constant</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Estimated proportion of mothers who remained single, by qualifications, holding other characteristics constant</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Frequency of contact between nonresident fathers and their children (as reported by lone mothers)</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>Estimated proportion of men who remained unattached, by age and cohort, holding other characteristics constant</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>Estimated number of years following education before half of men had a partner, by educational qualifications</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>Composition of families with children, where at least one parent was Caribbean</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>Proportion of families with children who depend on Income Support</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>Marital status: South Asians compared with whites</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>South Asians’ parents’ decision about the choice of marriage partner, by age at which child came to Britain</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.11</td>
<td>Two indicators of gender roles within South Asian marriages</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.12</td>
<td>Average number of children among Bangladeshi and Pakistani women, by age of woman and date of her 20th birthday</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.13</td>
<td>South Asian household incomes</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>Successful educational transitions by ancestry and birth cohort: persons 30–69 years old, USA, 1974–1998</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>Successful educational transitions by ancestry and birth cohort: persons 23–29 years old, USA, 1977–1998</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Qualifications of 17–64 age group by ethnicity, 2001 census</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>Proportion of qualified 16 to 24-year-olds in full-time education</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of tables

10.3 Domiciled first-year full-time and part-time students, 1997–1998 298
10.4 Probability of eliciting an initial offer by ethnicity (estimated on the basis of an average application, results of multivariate analysis) 299
10.5 UCAS 1998 entrants by ethnicity, gender, and parental social class 301
11.1 Black–white skill and knowledge gaps measured in the first semester of kindergarten, by gender and mother’s years of schooling, fall semester 1998 (in standard deviation units) 313
11.2 Selected family and child learning practices, by mother’s years of schooling, fall 1998 (row percentages) 314
11.3 Numbers of children’s books (panel A) and records, audio tapes, or CDs (panel B) (standard deviation and sample size in parenthesis) 315
11.4 National Assessment of Educational Progress Trend-assessment reading and math scores for blacks and whites, 1971–1999 328
13.1 Means or percentages on major variables: men and women 25–64 in the labor force 376
13.2 Unemployment by race/ethnicity/gender and nation 380
13.3 Occupational prestige by race/ethnicity/gender and nation 384
13.4 Logged weekly earnings by race/ethnicity/gender and nation 386
14.1a Class origins by ethnic group: British-born whites and first-generation ethnic minorities (men and women) 398
14.1b Class origins by ethnic group: British-born whites and second-generation ethnic minorities (men and women) 399
14.2a Current class by ethnic group: British-born whites and first-generation ethnic minorities (men) 400
14.2b Intergenerational class mobility: British-born whites and first-generation ethnic minorities (men) 400
14.3a Current class by ethnic group: British-born whites and second-generation ethnic minorities (men) 402
14.3b Intergenerational class mobility: British-born whites and second-generation ethnic minorities (men) 402
14.4a Fit (chi square) of models of access to the salariat: British-born white and first- and second-generation ethnic minority men 404
List of tables

14.4b Parameter estimates of logistic regression model of access to the salariat: British-born white and first- and second-generation ethnic minority men 405
14.5a Current class by ethnic group: British-born whites and first-generation ethnic minorities (women) 406
14.5b Intergenerational class mobility: British-born whites and first-generation ethnic minorities (women) 407
14.6a Current class by ethnic group: British-born whites and second-generation ethnic minorities (women) 408
14.6b Intergenerational class mobility: British-born whites and second-generation ethnic minorities (women) 409
14.7a Fit of models of access to the salariat: British-born white and first- and second-generation ethnic minority women 409
14.7b Logit model of access to the salariat: British-born white and first- and second-generation ethnic minority women 410
15.1 Industrial concentration of ethnic minority workers, 1982 (%) 422
15.2 Social class profile of the white and ethnic minority populations, 1971, females and males (%) 422
15.3 Summary data on employment status, white and ethnic minority populations, 1971, females and males (%) 423
15.4 Social class profile of the white and ethnic minority populations, 1991, females and males (%) 427
15.5 Change in social class profile of the white and ethnic minority populations, 1971–1991, females and males (percentage points) 428
15.6 Indices of Dissimilarity between social class profiles of different ethnic groups, 1971 and 1991 428
15.9 Social mobility 1981–1991, Black Caribbeans: outflow (Row), England and Wales 431
19.1 Characteristics of benefit units by ethnic group 534
19.2 Housing equity relative to whites at the same percentile by age group 535
19.3 Housing equity relative to whites at the same percentile by income group 536
19.4 (Table 4 from Porter et al. 1998) Persons and children lifted out of poverty by EITC, by race, 1996 541
Contributors

FAWZIA S. AHMED, French and Women Studies, University of Colorado

RICHARD BERTHOUD, Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex

DAVID M. CUTLER, Department of Economics, Harvard University

RONALD F. FERGUSON, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

EDWARD L. GLAESER, Department of Economics, Harvard University

NATHAN GLAZER, Professor Emeritus, School of Education, Harvard University

ANTHONY HEATH, Department of Sociology, Oxford University

MARY J. HICKMAN, Irish Studies Center, University of North London

MICHAEL HOUT, Department of Sociology, University of California at Berkeley

ROBERT LIEBERMAN, Department of Political Science, Columbia University

GLENN C. LOURY, Department of Economics, Boston University

LINDA DATCHER LOURY, Department of Economics, Tufts University

DORREN MCMAHON, Institute for the Study of Social Change, University College Dublin

ROBERT MICKEY, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan

SUZANNE MODEL, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
List of contributors

TARIQ MODOOD, Department of Sociology, University of Bristol
BHIKHU PAREKH, Professor of Political Theory, University of Hull
CERI PEACH, Social Geography and Environment, Oxford University
VAUGHAN ROBINSON, Department of Geography, University of Wales, Swansea
PETER SKERRY, Department of Political Science, Boston College
STEVEN M. TELES, Politics Department, Brandeis University
RINA VALENY, Context Research International, Harpenden, UK
JACOB L. VIGDOR, School of Public Policy and Department of Economics, Duke University
ROGER WALDINGER, Department of Sociology, UCLA
MIN ZHOU, Department of Sociology, UCLA
Acknowledgements

This book has taken much longer to materialize than we would have wished. We thank all the authors for their patience and willingness to go through multiple revisions in pursuit of an edited work that would genuinely operate as a coherent whole. The first drafts of chapters were presented at a workshop in Bath, England in 1999 and revised drafts were subject to further discussion at the follow-up workshop in Boston, USA in 2000. The two workshops were an expression of the partnership between scholars of two countries and involved many more experts than are authors to this volume. Each workshop included many discussants who made valuable contributions to the general comparative discussion as well as commenting on specific papers. The discussants are too numerous to be named individually but we thank them all.

We also appreciate the hard and patient work of the editors at Cambridge University Press, and in particular the painstaking copy-editing work of Jacque French, and Sarah Caro’s continuing commitment to this project through a whole series of revised deadlines.

We are especially grateful to the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for underwriting this work through a very generous grant. This project began under the auspices of the Institute on Race and Social Division at Boston University, and we wish to thank IRSD Administrative Associate Bobbie Patrick for her tireless efforts which helped keep this project on track, as well as the support of Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship at Bristol University.

It is an astonishing fact that, but for the current effort, no book exists today which systematically compares the social, economic, and political dimensions of “race” and ethnicity in America and Britain. So, we hope that the appearance of this volume will have been worth the wait.

GLENN LOURY
TARIQ MODOOD
STEVE TELES