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052162102X - Gender and Poverty in Nineteenth-Century Europe

Rachel G. Fuchs

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## Gender and Poverty in Nineteenth-Century Europe

This is a major new history of the dramatic and enduring changes in the daily lives of poor European women and men in the nineteenth century. Rachel G. Fuchs conveys the extraordinary difficulties facing the destitute from England to Russia, paying particular attention to the texture of women's everyday lives. She shows their strength as they attempted to structure a life and set of relationships within a social order, culture, community, and the law. Within a climate of calamities, the poor relied on their own resourcefulness and community connections where the boundaries between the private and public were indistinguishable, and on a system of exchange and reciprocity to help them fashion their culture of expediencies. This accessible synthesis introduces readers to conflicting interpretations of major historic developments and evaluates those interpretations. It will be essential reading for students of women's and gender studies, urban history, and social and family history.

RACHEL G. FUCHS is Professor of History at Arizona State University. Her previous publications include *Poor and Pregnant in Paris: Strategies for Survival in the Nineteenth Century* (1992) and *Gender and the Politics of Social Reform in France, 1870–1914* (1995) as co-editor.

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# *Gender and Poverty in Nineteenth-Century Europe*

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RACHEL G. FUCHS

*Arizona State University*



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For

Benjamin Lokshin, Jacob Lokshin,  
Julian Fuchs, and Eliot Williams

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