

HOUSING POLICY

The totally revised and updated version of David Donnison's
famous *The Government of Housing*

David Donnison and Clare Ungerson



Will the housing problem ever be solved?

Some problems do get solved: decaying slums unfit for human habitation are now very rare. But new problems take their place. Problems about the repair of housing, the character of the neighbourhood, and the access it gives people to everything else an urban society should offer. Problems about the rights and benefits which go with a house, and the unequal treatment of owners and tenants. And the problems of homeless people and minority groups still without decent homes.

These new problems will not be solved by the old policies: indeed they were created by them. The authors trace the evolution of housing policies in different countries and show that governments all over Europe are beginning to focus on the same issues.

Now a British government is again trying to shed much of its responsibilities for housing. The authors predict that this will not be easy. They recognize, however, that fresh thinking is needed, and propose new policies for the future.

Professor Donnison was recently Chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Commission and now occupies the chair of Town and Regional Planning in the University of Glasgow.

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Cover photograph by Richard Davies

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