

Alabama Poverty Project

Teaching about Poverty

Exercise 3: Test Your Poverty Quotient

Please mark whether each statement below is true or false.

1. Very few people in the U.S. are ever poor because there is open opportunity to succeed.
True **False**

2. People become poor by making bad choices and/or having an immoral lifestyle.
True **False**

3. Most people are poor because they don't work and don't want to work.
True **False**

4. Most of the poor get welfare, and so they aren't poor anymore.
True **False**

5. Most people on welfare are black.
True **False**

6. Welfare encourages women to have illegitimate kids while we honest folks can't afford more kids because of high taxes.
True **False**

7. Our government does more for the poor than it does for the rest of us.
True **False**

8. Folks on food stamps eat better than we do; if they managed their money better, they wouldn't be poor.
True **False**

9. The welfare state didn't work in the U.S.; instead of curing poverty, it made the poor dependent on handouts.
True **False**

10. Private organizations can do a better job providing help to the truly needy than the government could.
True **False**