

The Welfare Workforce

The Welfare Workforce is a thought-provoking exploration of mental health care in the United States and beyond. Although all the affluent democracies pursued deinstitutionalization, some failed to provide adequate services, while others overcame challenges of stigma and limited resources and successfully expanded care. Isabel M. Perera examines the role of the “welfare workforce” in providing social services to those who cannot demand them. Drawing on extensive research in four countries – the United States, France, Norway, and Sweden – Perera sheds light on postindustrial politics and the critical part played by those who work for the welfare state. A must-read for anyone interested in mental health care, social services, and the politics of welfare, *The Welfare Workforce* challenges conventional wisdom and offers new insights into the complex factors that contribute to the success or failure of mental health care systems. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Isabel M. Perera is an assistant professor in the Department of Government at Cornell University. Perera has held visiting positions at the European University Institute, the University of Gothenburg, the University of Oxford, and Sciences Po Paris. This book is based on her award-winning dissertation in political science written at the University of Pennsylvania. Her academic training also includes a post-doctoral fellowship in health policy and medical ethics.

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*Why Mental Health Care Varies
Across Affluent Democracies*

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS



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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
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103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009499897

DOI: [10.1017/9781009499866](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009499866)

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When citing this work, please include a reference
to the DOI [10.1017/9781009499866](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009499866)

First published 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

*A Cataloging-in-Publication data record for this book is available
from the Library of Congress*

ISBN 978-1-009-49989-7 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-009-49984-2 Paperback

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