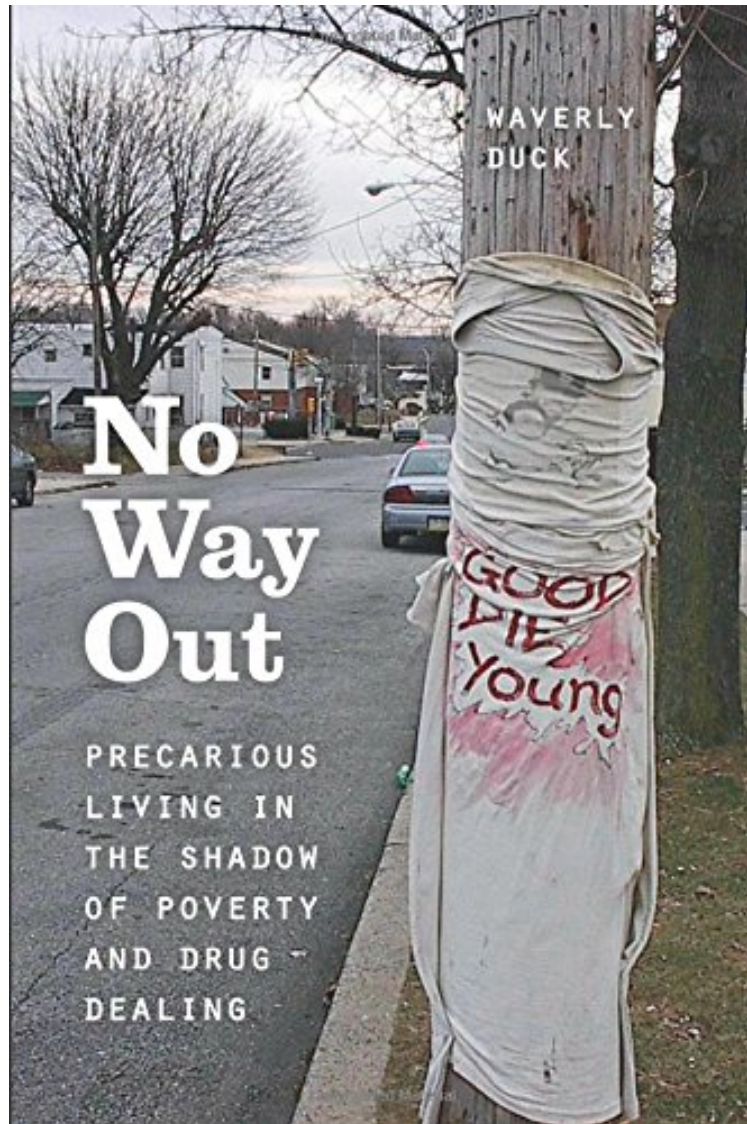


(Free read ebook) No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing

No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing

Waverly Duck

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#679856 in Books Duck Waverly 2015-09-19 2015-09-19Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .70 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 022629806X192 pagesNo Way Out Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing | File size: 74.Mb

Waverly Duck : No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised No Way Out: Precarious Living in the Shadow of Poverty and Drug Dealing:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thought provoking stories anyone can relate to- Moving and totally

absorbingBy Edward S. ParkThis was surprisingly riveting reading- I expected something like a sociological study but it was anything but-- not only is it a genuinely thoughtful and relevant contribution to our modern day discourse about poverty, it's really a moving story that highlights what is universal in how people experience society and life, even as it unfolds in a place that's far away for most of this book's readers. Like most non social academics, my personal opinions have largely been shaped by my immediate peers- coworkers, friends, and family, whose own life narratives and political philosophies are shaped by influences far removed from Bristol Hill and the urban landscape described by Dr. Duck. Yet reading this account, one realizes that these stories are not all that unfamiliar- they could be about how people anywhere come to understand and frame their life choices, which makes the sometimes alarming circumstances of these individuals all the more poignant. In addition, Dr. Duck writes in a thoroughly accessible manner; I couldn't help but think that having books like this in wider circulation could help bridge the empathy gap between disparate communities anywhere. Borrow it if you have to!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. No Way Out Gives Us a Broader Vision of African Americans' ResilienceBy Tommy DavisDr. Duck has presented a brilliant analysis that reflects academic discipline and rigor, but it remains accessible and readable information. It is the passion of his work that breaks through like a guiding light. Dr. Duck sees order where others have seen only chaos, challenging the reader to rethink her or his conceptualization of life in these type urban settings. I, a psychologist has long been drawn to acknowledging and using the strengths and talents within the African American Community, found this book not only refreshing but stimulating. It motivates in me a greater desire to reach for the power that exists within the African American Community. Dr. Duck's book should be a required reading across many disciplines. I recommend it to clinicians and others in the psychological sciences who need a broad perspective on resilience among African Americans and their communities. Tommy Davis, Ph.D. Davis Institute for Positive Social Change, Inc. Davis Socio-Psychological Services, LLC

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A thoughtful, insightful documentary about life in many urban communities!By Ultimate CriticThis is a must-read for all Americans. Problems need to be fully understood before they can be effectively addressed. Waverly Duck does an excellent job defining complex problems faced by many of our citizens living in urban communities. All too often, we get news headlines about bad events without a portrait of the individuals involved. Duck gives us those portraits so that we can better understand the people and the problems. After reading this book, I felt motivated to do something to help my fellow citizens--and I believe that many readers would feel the same.

In 2005 Waverly Duck was called to a town he calls Bristol Hill to serve as an expert witness in the sentencing of drug dealer Jonathan Wilson. Convicted as an accessory to the murder of a federal witness and that of a fellow drug dealer, Jonathan faced the death penalty, and Duck was there to provide evidence that the environment in which Jonathan had grown up mitigated the seriousness of his alleged crimes. Duck's exploration led him to Jonathan's church, his elementary, middle, and high schools, the juvenile facility where he had previously been incarcerated, his family and friends, other drug dealers, and residents who knew him or knew of him. After extensive ethnographic observations, Duck found himself seriously troubled and uncertain: Are Jonathan and others like him a danger to society? Or is it the converse: is society a danger to them? Duck's short stay in Bristol Hill quickly transformed into a long-term study that forms the core of *No Way Out*. This landmark book challenges the common misconception of urban ghettos as chaotic places where drug dealing, street crime, and random violence make daily life dangerous for their residents. Through close observations of daily life in these neighborhoods, Duck shows how the prevailing social order ensures that residents can go about their lives in relative safety, despite the risks that are embedded in living amid the drug trade. In a neighborhood plagued by failing schools, chronic unemployment, punitive law enforcement, and high rates of incarceration, residents are knit together by long-term ties of kinship and friendship, and they base their actions on a profound sense of community fairness and accountability. Duck presents powerful case studies of individuals whose difficulties flow not from their values, or a lack thereof, but rather from the multiple obstacles they encounter on a daily basis. *No Way Out* explores how ordinary people make sense of their lives within severe constraints and how they choose among unrewarding prospects, rather than freely acting upon their own values. What emerges is an important and revelatory new perspective on the culture of the urban poor.

Remarkably original. *No Way Out* is deeply infused with knowledge of the ethnographic literature that has identified today's still acute policy issues in poor, urban, mostly black and often crime-ridden communities. To read this book is to be assaulted by the realities of Bristol Hill and other places like it and to become aware of the fine lines binding the heroic to the tragic in the lives of its people. *No Way Out* does what few other books of its kind do. It makes multiple contributions to the scholarship, while telling the stories of Bristol Hill in a way that is plain for anyone to understand.