

# Poverty

**It is the practice of what has unjustly obtained the name of civilisation ... to make some provision for persons becoming poor and wretched only at the time they become so. Would it not, even as a matter of economy, be far better to adopt means to prevent their becoming poor? This can best be done by making every person when arrived at the age of twenty-one years an inheritor of something to begin with.**

**Thomas Paine, Agrarian Justice**