

## Poverty

1963: US Sets Official Poverty Line:

3 times cost of food for year.

Weekly intake: Women, aged 20-34:

4 eggs, 1.25 lbs meat/fish, 3lbs

potatoes, 12 ounces yellow or green

vegetables, 3lbs other vegetables, 8

ounces fat or oil.

Cost in 1995 dollars = \$97.06 per  
week for family of 4.

Multiplied by 52 weeks = \$5047.

Poverty line= 3 times basic = \$15141

1960: 40 million in poverty.

1978: 24.5 million in poverty.

1995: 38.1 million in poverty.

What went wrong?