



Democrats help the poor, right?

HARDLY.

The Democrats advocate high welfare spending that might help individuals, but does little to lower the overall poverty rate.

Let's compare Indiana, which has had a Republican governor and a Republican controlled Senate since 2005, to Illinois, which has been solidly Democratic since 2004. During that period, Illinois increased its welfare spending by 34%, but the number of people below the poverty line has actually increased by 2%. At the same time, Indiana increased its welfare expenditures by 42%, and saw its low income

population increase by 20%.

Two states, two parties, nearly the same result. The takeaway is that welfare spending might help individuals, but it fails to decrease poverty in the long run. Instead, it creates a welfare class dependant on state aid who will vote for whatever party promises to increase aid.

This isn't the way to run a civil society. If you are interested in really eliminating poverty, rather than feeding it with state dollars, consider voting Libertarian in November.

Illinois

Year	Population Below the Poverty Level	Population Below Poverty Level as a Percent of Total Population	Welfare Spending as a Percentage of Total State Spending
2004	1,474,460	11.69%	23.14%
2005	1,483,873	11.72%	26.23%
2006	1,539,033	12.11%	26.44%
2007	1,496,248	11.73%	26.25%
2008	1,532,238	11.95%	27.09%

Indiana

Year	Population Below the Poverty Level	Population Below Poverty Level as a Percent of Total Population	Welfare Spending as a Percentage of Total State Spending
2004	651,668	10.49%	22.27%
2005	740,371	11.85%	22.29%
2006	777,712	12.36%	23.04%
2007	757,813	11.96%	23.68%
2008	807,506	12.66%	26.10%

Difference Indiana - Illinois

Year	Population Below the Poverty Level	Population Below Poverty Level as a Percent of Total Population	Welfare Spending as a Percentage of Total State Spending
2004	-822,792	-1.20%	-0.87%
2005	-743,502	0.13%	-3.94%
2006	-761,321	0.24%	-3.40%
2007	-738,435	0.24%	-2.56%
2008	-724,732	0.72%	-0.99%