

Excerpts from Reviews of:

Poverty and Undernutrition: Theory, Measurements, and Policy

”This book argues, however, that our information and knowledge basis for understanding and coping with this situation is woefully inadequate with regard to what Svedberg characterizes as the five *w*’s: (1) *what* is undernutrition, (2) *who* are the undernourished, (3) *where* are the undernourished, (4) *when* are people undernourished, and (5) *why* are people undernourished. ... Svedberg very convincingly presents his arguments on the basis of his primary empirical analysis, systematic modeling and simulation analysis, and the relevant literature. While many of his points have been made elsewhere and in a number of cases by others, this is an important and provocative book that effectively brings together these arguments and that should be of interest to those concerned with problems of undernourishment and in poverty more broadly defined in the developing world.”

Jere R. Behrman, University of Pennsylvania
Economic Development and Cultural Change 50 (July 2002)

“Svedberg’s case is well argued. ... This is an impressive book, fully justifying the ringing endorsement it receives in Professor Amartya Sen’s Foreword. Apart from providing the most comprehensive exposition to date on the ‘FAO-WHO debate’, it presents complex technical material on the economics of nutrition accessibly for the non-specialist, and addresses other topical policy debates in this area, notably the relationship between poverty and nutrition status. As Svedberg concludes, whatever methodology is used to measure the prevalence of undernutrition, sustainable progress towards its eradication will only be achieved by attacking its root cause – poverty.”

Stephen Devereux, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex
The Journal of Development Studies 38 (December 2001)

“This is one of the few books that address all major issues in the areas of undernutrition with an admirable comprehensiveness, clarity and competence. ... Since this is a rich and definitive study of the links between undernutrition and poverty, it is difficult to identify any major weaknesses. ... In conclusion, this is a book of considerable originality and scholarship, and sets standards of analytical rigour that will be hard to surpass in further work on the links between undernutrition and poverty.”

Raghav Gaiha, University of Delhi
Development and Change 33 (June 2002)