The Availability of Legal Services to Poor People and People of Limited Means in Foreign Systems

Introduction

The availability of legal services to large sectors of the public—indigent people, low-income people, and people of moderate means—is currently a matter of serious concern in the United States. Traditional legal aid facilities have been augmented, Office of Economic Opportunity legal service programs have been initiated, and new programs for the 60 percent of the nation's families with earnings between $5,000 and $15,000 are at the threshold stage. In 1970, the American Bar Foundation published Lawyers for People of Moderate Means, a comprehensive study of present and proposed responses to the legal needs of the nation's most populous economic group—those above the poverty level, but below the level at which legal aid and advice can be financed adequately from personal resources.