

# All the Pretty Words, After Katrina

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To the Editor:

Conservatives say the plight of the poor that we witnessed in the wake of Katrina is evidence of the failure of tired, old liberal policies. Under the current Republican administration and Republican Congress, many of the "failed" liberal programs to alleviate poverty have been slashed or dismantled.

Concurrently, we have seen a sharp increase in poverty. According to the Census, the last time poverty fell in the United States was in 2000, when there were 31.1 million people officially classed as poor. Since then an additional 5.9 million people have fallen below the poverty line.

This surely suggests that those liberal policies were far more effective in curbing poverty than anything Republican conservatives have produced.

Eva Feder Kittay  
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