

DeBord, Karen. "Understanding a Work-Family Fit for Single Parents Moving from Welfare to Work." Social Work 45.4 (July 2000): 313-324.

"Understanding a Work-Family Fit for Single Parents Moving from Welfare to Work" examines the experiences of families moving from welfare to work, and the factors needed to be successful in the workplace, while balancing work with family. Research was conducted through open-ended telephone interviews. The interviews were conducted on thirty recently hired welfare participants, who described the need to satisfy "social and emotional needs, resource needs and job security, child care, and transportation factors" in order to make the transition from welfare to work (316-319). Successful and continuous employment appears to be dependent upon the ability of single parents to meet their own needs and the needs of their family, along with the support from the workplace and community sources.

"Understanding a Work-Family Fit for Single Parents Moving from Welfare to Work" differs from "Cognitive and Behavioral Distancing of the Poor" because the poor are making attempts to move from the lower to middle class, instead of experiencing further distancing from the middle class. The article provides support for the argument that the poor remain poor because of the increasing inequity in economic resources, by identifying the needs that must be satisfied for welfare participants to succeed in balancing family needs with work demands.