



A DECADE OF THE LIFE COURSE
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Poverty transitions and lifecourse events.

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Lifecourse explanations of the incidence of poverty have been common since at least Seebohm Rowntree's celebrated study (*Poverty: A Study of Town Life*, 1901). This talk revisits this topic, to examine the association between lifecourse events and transitions into and out income poverty using a "trigger event" approach that I developed in earlier work with John Rigg (*The Dynamics of Poverty in Britain*, 2001, <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rrep157.asp>). I compare the period 1991-1997 with the period 1998-2004, using data from the British Household Panel Survey, waves 1-14. Against this background, I also provide a review and critique of the various extant approaches to studying the "immediate causes" of poverty.