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Offset Mirrors: Institutional Paths in Canadian and Australian Social Housing


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engagement than Canada. These two cases illustrate the importance of institutional differences, including “institutional design”, in creating different forces of change at key junctures, leading to divergences in policy paths. These findings suggest value in reinterpreting the existing secondary literature from the perspectives of welfare regime theory and historical institutionalism.

Key Words: Social housing welfare state housing policy federalism Canada Australia

Notes


1. Dollar values in this article are either Australian or Canadian dollars, depending on the context. Australia's dollar averaged 89 per cent of Canada's in 1998–2008 exchange value, but is virtually equal in terms of Purchasing Power Parity; by 2011 these currencies were at par with each other and with the US dollar.
2. Leone and Carroll (2010) provide an unreliable account of AHI, e.g. indicating that its projects are underrepresented in big cities and that it amounts to a federal re-engagement rather than a less-targeted reprise of meagre 1950s production levels. Their account of policy history also misses the transformative public housing ‘heyday’ described by Pomeroy (1977) and consistent with the value of the average Canadian household housing stock of \$671, insofar as the census of social housing (stock) to assist
3. Housing Pomeroy (1977) and consistent with the value of the average Canadian household housing stock of \$671, insofar as the census of social housing (stock) to assist



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