

**“We support the Single Parents Law - The Poor Things”:  
A Review of the Single Parents Law - 1992**

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This article examines the Single Parents Law-1992 and its amendments, with a special emphasis on the manner in which claims implicit in the public discourse served to justify the welfare policy adopted towards single mothers. The study reveals that the law did not evolve via the straight course of enmeshing the said rights as yet another string in the overall fabric of privileges accorded to parents generally and to single parents in particular, while raising their children, but rather served mainly as a tool for aiding poor single mothers. Israel, a welfare state, did not lay a foundation for the institutionalization of the social rights of single-parent families in a universalistic manner, but rather laid down a temporary infrastructure that sought to prevent poverty among these families. A decade later this infrastructure proved to hold no water when the Economy Arrangements Law-2003 was enacted, cutting deeply into the income support benefits enjoyed (among others) by single mothers.

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