Child poverty in six CEE/CIS countries

Meg Huby and Jonathan Bradshaw

University of York

UK

Comparisons of child poverty in rich countries normally involves the use of income thresholds and/or deprivation indices (EU/OECD). Comparisons of child poverty in poor countries tends to use a multi-dimensional indicator approach because income/consumption is not a good indicator of command over resources (Nandy/Bristol). We have been trying to compare child poverty in six middle income (CEE/CIS) countries using consumption thresholds and deprivation indicators. The paper explores some of the problems the most important of which is to establish comparable thresholds. It demonstrates an application of the method for establishing comparable poverty thresholds using the Gordon method developed for Mexico. With better deprivation indicators we think it has potential for comparing child poverty using micro surveys.