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
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Letters: The poor's new ally -- the GOP

Comments 0  0

January 25, 2014

Re "The GOP discovers inequality," Opinion, Jan. 22

We have been fighting poverty through government programs since the mid-1960s. We have little progress to show for it, just huge numbers of government workers accomplishing little for the tax money it costs us.

Remember the definition of insanity? We clearly need a new approach.

Let's cut the government middlemen out and just give direct subsidies to the poor, with a cap. If some spend it all on a big-screen TV, cable and beer instead of healthy food and educational supplies, too bad; they can go to their friends and neighbors and churches for help — the people who are paying for their subsidies in the first place.

It might actually change some behavior, in both givers and receivers. Good intentions certainly have not, at least not in a good way.

Jeffrey C. Briggs

Hollywood