



# The Welfare State

Pejorative or Necessity? A Prospective Research Agenda

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Interest Group

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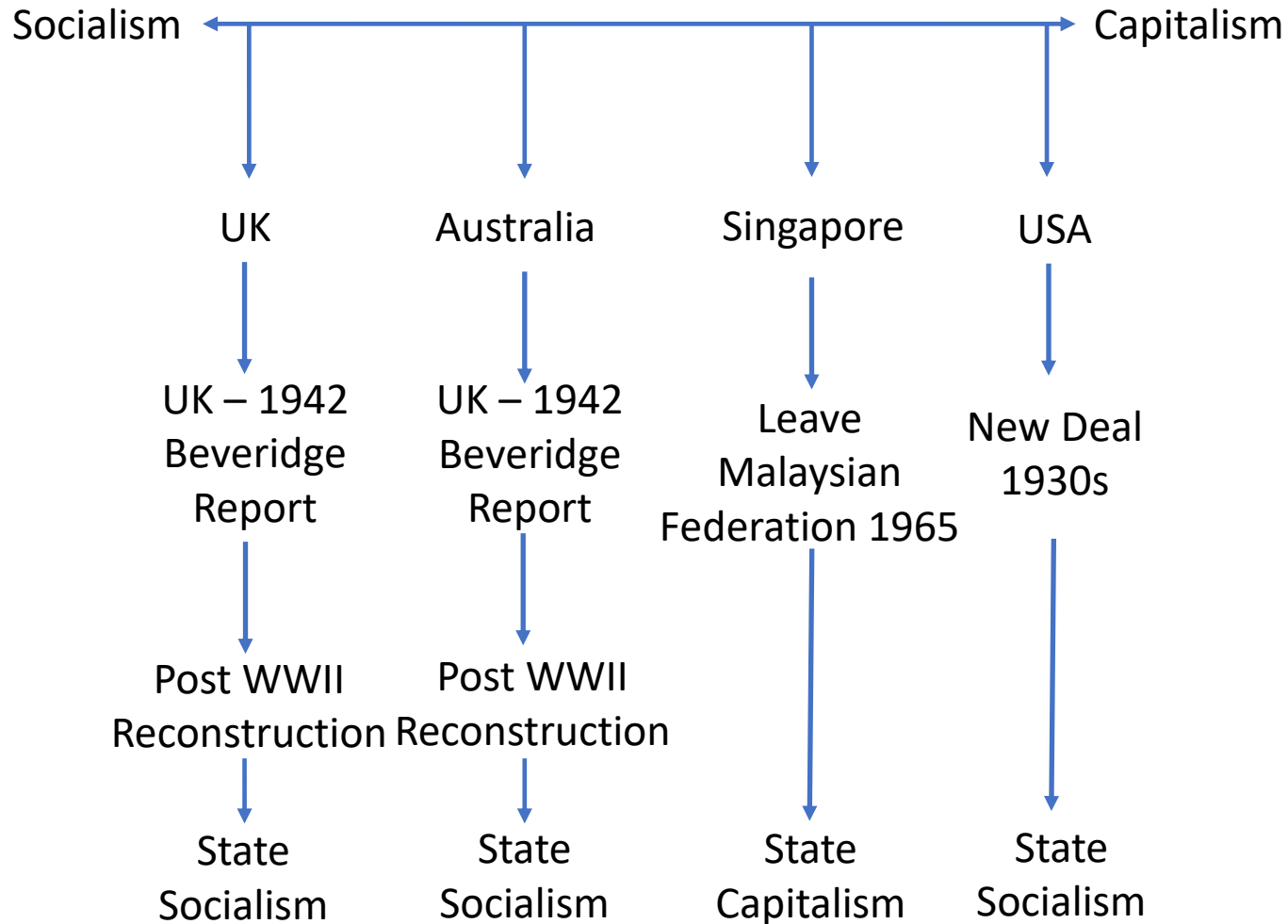


# Overview

- 1) Challenging the welfare state?
- 2) The cult of markets
- 3) Impacts on accounting research...

Not a nonprofit question

# Toward the Welfare State...1942 onwards...



# Challenging the Welfare State

- Australian Royal Commissions:
  - Disability Services
  - Aged Care Services
- Systemic failure: the problem of emulating markets

# The Cult of Markets

- Market economics come naturally to people in the developed world
- New Public Management in Government
- Quasi-Markets in Nonprofits

Places market economics in primary position

Demotes equity

Demotes public transparency

# Public Sector - New Public Management

- 50 years...
- Public Sector frameworks thought wanting: efficiency and effectiveness issues
- Small government environment
- Apply commercial paradigm to public sector
- Impact on governance frameworks is significant
  - Parliamentary Sovereignty & Executive Primacy
  - Parliamentary Watchdogs Capacity Reduced

# Example Impact: Watchdogs & Parliament

- Auditor General
- Ombudsman
- Information Commissioner
- Inspector of Prisons
- Commissioner for Young People

- Source of money
- Ministerial oversight
- Parliamentary oversight
- Legislative restrictions

# Quasi-Markets

- Their nature
- Impacts on public policy

NDIS:

Disconnect between funder and provider

Participants are the shock absorbers



# Accounting Research Impacts?

- Sustainability
- Going Concern
- Outcomes Measurement

The gap is Government AND Nonprofits

# Contact details

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<http://www.research.uwa.edu.au/not-for-profits-uwa>