



# Social Systems Evidence

**Publisher:**  
McMaster University

**Link:**  
[www.socialsystemsevidence.org](http://www.socialsystemsevidence.org)

- Description:**
- quality-assessed **systematic reviews** of the effects and costs (economic evaluations) of social services
  - Free

## Question

What are the effects of **microfinance** on **poverty**?

## Search element / PICO

**Problem (P):** poverty

**Intervention (I):** microfinance

## Search

- Use **Advanced search**
- Place each search element in parentheses.
- Put phrases in quotation marks ("micro credit")
- Combine synonyms with OR (within parentheses) and combine the different search elements with AND (between parentheses)
- Sort the hits so that you get the newest ones first (SORT BY MOST RECENT)
- You must be logged in to see more than 20 search results.

**Search (I) AND (P):** (microfinance OR "micro finance" OR microcredit OR "micro credit") AND (poverty OR poor)

## A possible answer

Stewart R, van Rooyen C, Dickson K, Majoro M, de Wet T. (2010) *What is the impact of microfinance on poor people? A systematic review of evidence from sub-Saharan Africa (Technical report)*. London: EPPI-Centre, Social Science Research Unit, University of London.