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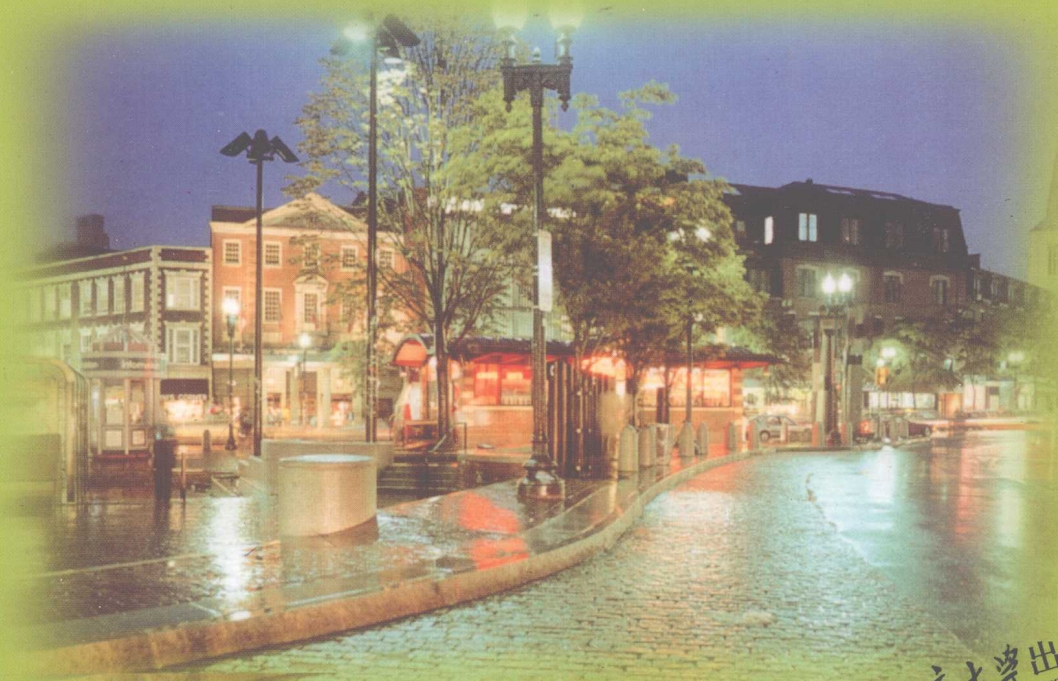
美英报刊阅读教程

(中级精选本)

教学参考手册

*Reading Course
In American & British
News Publications
(Intermediate Level)*

主编 端木义万



 北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

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(第二版)

主 编 端木义万

副主编 郑志恒 杨 超 袁 飞

窦 君 蔡 辉



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电子邮箱: fd@pup.pku.edu.cn

前 言

本人主编,北京大学出版社出版发行的《美英报刊阅读教程(中级精选本)》承蒙广大读者厚爱,自2005年出版以来,已连续印刷8次。最近,我们又根据语言新发展和世界新形势对原教材部分课文替换更新,编辑出版了《美英报刊阅读教程(中级精选本)(第二版)》。该书题材覆盖面广,文章内容典型,语言质量上乘,知识含量丰富,使用时效较长,是高校广大师生外报外刊阅读的首选教材。

由于文章取材于原版美英报刊,语言表达及词汇用法均原汁原味,在使用过程中将会有些难度。如果读者缺乏对相关文化背景的了解,就会更难以理解文章的内涵。针对这种情况,并应广大高校师生的要求,我们编写了《美英报刊阅读教程(中级精选本)教学参考手册(第二版)》一书。

本书每课共分四个部分:

Part A Additional Background Information

这部分是相关的语言文化背景知识,内容丰富,选材考究,可读性强,便于加深对教材原文的理解,具有较高的参考价值。

Part B Additional Notes to the Text

本部分针对课文中结构复杂、容易产生歧义的句子进行分析和注释,以帮助读者更透彻地把握原文的含义。

Part C Outline of the Article

本部分对文章的篇章结构进行综合分析,给出段落大意,使读者高屋建瓴,全文概要一目了然,更好地把握文章的中心主题。

Part D Answers to the Questions

本部分针对原教材课后练习给出简洁、明确的答案,帮助读者更好地学习教材文章。

为方便高校教师授课,本书附有配套的光盘课件,课件设计注重与使用者的互动效果,以直观的方式展示课文内容。需要课件授课的教师可发电子邮件至 i19800202@hotmail.com 免费索取。

我们深信,随着这本书的出版发行,读者能够更好、更准确地学习掌握《美英报刊阅读教程(中级精选本)(第二版)》的文章,也会更加喜爱这本书。同时,我们深知自己的水平有限,在编写过程中,我们对原文的理解还有一定的差距,难免出现一些错误,恳请广大读者批评指正。

主 编

2010年3月

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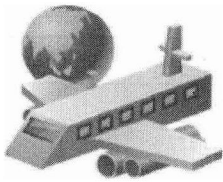
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Lesson 1

Good News about Racial Progress

Part A Additional Background Information

Racial Discrepancies in Incomes

Today in the U. S. , personal incomes vary significantly with racial discrepancies. Over all Asian Americans enjoy higher median personal incomes than any other racial demographic. The only exception is among the holders of graduate degrees who constitute 8.9% of the population. Among those with a Professional or Doctorate degree, Whites have the highest median individual income. While Asian Americans have a median income roughly ten percent higher than that of Whites, this racial income gap is relatively small. The largest racial gap is between Whites and African Americans with the former earning roughly 22% more than the latter.

Thus one can observe a significant discrepancy between the median income of Asians and Whites and that of African Americans and Hispanics. Those identified as Hispanics or Latinos have the lowest overall median personal income, earning 28.51% less than Whites and 35% less than Asian Americans. Overall the race gap between African Americans and Whites has remained roughly the largest over the past decade. In 1996 the median income for Whites was \$5,957 (31%) higher than Blacks. In 2006 the gap in median incomes was nearly identical with the median income for Whites being \$5,929 (22%) higher than that for African Americans.

Race		Overall Median	High School	Some College	College Graduate	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree	Doctorate Degree
Total population	All, age 25+	32,140	26,505	31,054	49,303	43,143	52,390	70,853
	Full-time workers, age 25-64	39,509	31,610	37,150	56,027	50,959	61,324	79,292
White alone	All, age 25+	33,030	27,311	31,564	49,972	43,833	52,318	85,658
	Full-time workers, age 25-64	40,422	32,427	38,481	56,903	51,543	61,441	77,906

Asian alone	All, age 25+	36,152	25,285	29,285	51,481	42,466	61,452	69,653
	Full-time workers, age 25-64	42,109	27,041	33,120	51,532	51,040	71,316	91,430
African American	All, age 25+	27,101	22,379	27,648	44,534	41,572	48,266	61,894
	Full-time workers, age 25-64	32,021	26,230	32,392	47,758	52,505	52,858	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	All, age 25+	23,613	22,941	28,698	41,819	37,819	50,901	67,274
	Full-time workers, age 25-64	27,266	26,461	33,120	46,594	41,831	53,880	N/A

SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2006

Part B Additional Notes to the Text

1. But it wasn't so long ago that most blacks *were* servants—or their equivalent. (**Line 1, Para. 9**)—但就在不久前大多数美国黑人都是仆人,或者说他们是处在同仆人一样的地位。(equivalent—sb or sth that has the same state, value, purpose, job etc. as sb or sth else)
2. The typical white family still earns a lot more than the black family because it is more likely to collect two paychecks. (**Line 1, Para. 12**)—一般白人家庭仍旧比黑人家庭收入高得多,原因在于白人家庭获得双份薪水的可能性大得多。(paycheck—*AmE*, pay cheque *BrE*. Paycheck is a piece of paper issued to an employee as payment of salary or wages, and it can then be cashed at a bank. Now people often use paycheck as a way of referring to employees' wages or salary.)
3. ... black central cities and whites outside the core. (**Line 3, Para. 13**)—黑人聚居于市中心而白人居住在郊区。(在美国黑人一般聚居在位于市中心的 inner cities 或 ghettos, 而中产阶级白人一般购买郊区中高档住宅区,称为 communities。)
4. interracial marriage (**Line 2, Para. 21**)—The 1990 census reports that 17.6% of black American marriages occur with white Americans. The United States still shows disparities between black male and black female endogamy statistics; black men were 2.5 times more likely to be married to white women than black women to white men. According to the 2006 census, 286,000 black male to white female and 117,000 white male to black female marriages were recorded. Research conducted on behalf of the Education Resources Information Center found that white female/black male couples however are more prone to end in divorce than white/white and white male/black female couples. In 2007, 4.6% of all married blacks were married to a white partner, and 0.4% of all whites were married to a black partner.

Part C Outline of the Article

I. Specific example of Perrywood community (1 – 4)

1. Appealing environment and amenities
2. Outside black teenagers' use of the basketball court
3. Many blacks' residence in the community
4. Community residents' aversion to outsiders' intrusion

II. Bad news about the racial situation (5 – 8)

1. Untrue story about blacks' residence
2. Misinformation about the economic gap and racial relations
3. Exaggeration of the bad news

III. Good news about racial progress (9 – 23)

1. Progress in blacks' employment
2. Progress in the black family income
3. Shrinking of wage gap between whites and blacks
4. Increasing residential integration
5. Decline of racial bigotry
 - a. Bigotry before WWII
 - b. Improved relationship between whites and blacks
 - c. Increasing approval of intermarriage
 - d. Blacks' greater chances of promotion

IV. Author's view (24)

Dramatic progress over the last half century

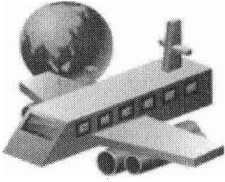
Part D Answers to the Questions

V.

1. C 2. B 3. D 4. D 5. B

VI.

1. They were considered to be the "eyesore" because they were not residents of the area and therefore were not entitled to enjoy the community's amenities. The community's residents regard those black teenagers playing at the basketball court as outsiders making intrusion.
2. The surprising twist of the story is that many of the homeowners in the Perrywood community were black too and started having problems with the black teenagers, who came to their neighborhoods.
3. The typical white family is more likely to collect two paychecks. Besides, the blacks pay less attention to college education, which helps to boost wages. The percentage of blacks with college degrees is lower. What's more, blacks are more concentrated in the South, where wages tend to be lower.
4. Because black people live in central cities and whites live outside the core and the commission believed that segregation might well blow the country apart.
5. Because no whites would sign on to such a notion except for a lunatic fringe. Bigotry against blacks has declined since the end of WWII.



Lesson 2

Who Are America's Hispanics?

Part A Additional Background Information

American Hispanics

The American Hispanics trace their origin or descent to Spain or to Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and many other Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America. People think of Hispanics as the latest, most recent group to enter the so called "melting pot." This erroneous perception is mostly due to the media attention given to Hispanic groups in the 1980's, after the Bureau of the Census published their 1980 results. Their report revealed that Hispanics were the fastest growing group in the U. S. , soon to become the largest minority group. People associated the growth with immigration, ignoring the long history of Hispanics in the United States. Hispanic heritage in the U. S. goes back a long time. Their ancestors were among the early explorers and settlers of the New World. In 1609, 11 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, their Mestizo (Indian and Spanish) ancestors settled in what is now Santa Fe, New Mexico. Spanish settlements developed in the southwest of today's U. S. and also in the Gulf coast and the Florida peninsula. Some Latinos can trace their ancestors back to those days.

Other Hispanic groups, like the Puerto Ricans, did not migrate into the U. S. but instead were absorbed into it during the American expansions of the late 19th century. Puerto Ricans were granted American citizenship in 1917. Economic depressions and two world wars forced many Puerto Ricans to migrate from the island in search for better opportunities. Their current political situation still confuses many who think of Puerto Rico as a foreign country.

The term Hispanic was coined by the U. S. federal government in the 1970's to refer to the people who were born in any of the Spanish-speaking countries of the Americas or those who could trace their ancestry to Spain or former Spanish territories. Obviously, this represents a wide variety of countries and ethnic groups with different social, political and emotional experiences. Most Hispanics see themselves in terms of their individual ethnic identity, as Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Cuban, etc. instead of members of the larger, more ambiguous term Hispanic or Latino.

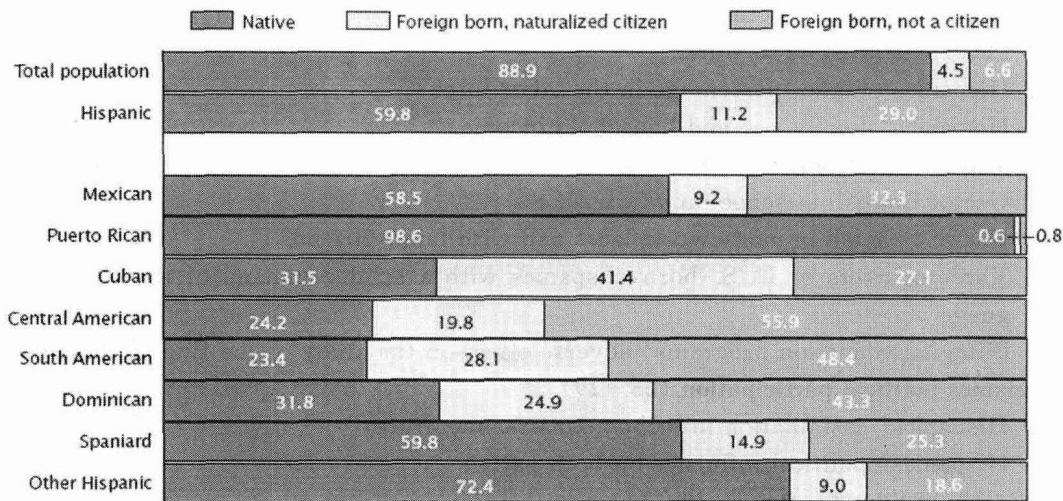
American Hispanics are a large, fast growing segment of the nation's population. Their population could rise from 31 million in 2000 to 59 million by 2030, and 81 million by 2050. It grows over 7 times as fast as the rest of the nation. Most Hispanics are concentrated in a small number of states, mostly in the South and West. The four states with the largest proportion of Hispanics are California, Texas, New York and Florida. Hispanic population has

a higher proportion of young adults and children and fewer elderly than the non-Hispanic population. Although many of them are foreign born, about 64 percent are born in the United States. The Spanish language is a tie that binds them together. Of the Hispanics who speak Spanish at home, about one-half speak English very well and about half do not speak English very well. Although the Hispanics have a higher labor force participation than the national average, fewer of them hold jobs as managers or professionals than non-Hispanics. Most of Hispanics live in family households. About 70 percent of Hispanic families are maintained by married couples, but the median family income is lower than that for all Americans.

Hispanic Population by Origin

Type of origin	Number	Percent of U. S. population
Total	35,238,481	12.5
Mexican	20,900,102	7.4
Puerto Rican	3,403,510	1.2
Cuban	1,249,820	0.4
Central American	1,811,676	0.6
South American	1,419,979	0.5
Dominican	799,768	0.3
Spaniard	112,999	—
Other Hispanic	5,540,627	2.0

Nativity and Citizenship Status



Part B Additional Notes to the Text

1. Indeed, Hispanic men have a higher labor-force participation rate than the national average. (Line 2, Para. 5) — 确实, 男性西班牙裔美国人的劳动就业率高于全国平均水平。
2. And because many Hispanic students are thus ill-prepared when they get to college, bilingual programs have even found a foothold there. (Line 1, Para. 23) — 因为许多西班牙裔学生因此在大学入学时(英语)掌握不够好, 双语教育甚至在大学校园里面也找到了立足之处。(ill-prepared—not ready for sth)
3. Whatever they may be in the future, Hispanic preferences and priorities are likely to strongly influence the direction of our politics and government. (Line 1, Para. 29) — 无论他们未来将发展成什么样一个种族群体, 西班牙裔美国人的政治倾向和关注重点很可能会极大影响我国政治、政府的政策取向。

Part C Outline of the Article

I. Specific example of Francisco Pinedo (1 – 2)

A Hispanic's success story

II. Facts about Hispanics (3 – 7)

1. Population size
2. High labor force participation rate
3. Overwhelming majority's use of English as the primary language

III. Hispanics' work ethic and family ties (8 – 16)

1. Example of Danny Villanueva
2. Example of Cesar Viramontes
 - a. Strong work ethic
 - b. Firm family structure
3. Legaspi's attitude to work
4. Hispanics' higher percentage in the labor force
5. Hispanics' family size and household income

IV. Hispanics' use of language (18 – 24)

1. Use of English at school and in business
2. Use of Spanish in many workplaces and with family friends
3. Three quarters of U. S.-born Hispanics with a solid command of the English language
4. Bilingual education programs' adverse effect on the study of the English language

V. Hispanics political participation (25 – 29)

1. Hispanics' assimilation into the mainstream culture
2. Hispanics' political influence on both parties

VI. Example of Silvestre Reyes (30 – 34)

Complete assimilation into America's mainstream culture

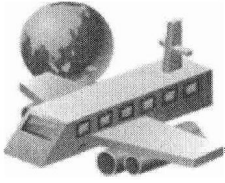
Part D Answers to the Questions

V.

1. A 2. C 3. B 4. B 5. D

VI.

1. Because Francisco Pinedo doesn't look like a boss to him. He is short and slight, wearing jeans and speaking rapid-fire Spanish to his workers, and seems younger than his 35 years.
2. In recent years the publicized problems with Hispanics have been drug crime, urban poverty and illegal immigration.
3. He had strong work ethic and his whole family's continuous hard work resulted in the expansion of his company and success of his business.
4. No. Some Hispanics speak only Spanish—but the overwhelming majority growing up in the United States see English as their primary language. Indeed, more than three-quarters of U. S. -born Hispanics have a solid command of English. And in a 1996 poll conducted for the Center for Equal Opportunity, 51 percent of Hispanic parents said that learning to read, write and speak English was the most important goal of their children's education; only 11 percent said the same of Spanish.
5. In the past two years Hispanics have become U. S. citizens at a record pace. Already the largest ethnic minority, they will in time be the largest voting bloc—maybe even the majority—in several of the largest metropolitan areas. For example, Texas and California, the nation's two largest states, with the two largest Hispanic populations, have already developed very different Hispanic politics. In any event, if the GOP is perceived as engaging in immigrant-bashing, it could pay a high price. Whatever they may be in the future, Hispanic preferences and priorities are likely to strongly influence the direction of the U. S. politics and government.



Lesson 3

Women Leap Off Corporate Ladder

Part A Additional Background Information

Women and the Corporate Ladder

After discrimination by sex in employment was outlawed by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, it was understood that women would not be seen in top jobs in substantial numbers until many had achieved the necessary experience at intermediate levels. However, the paucity of women in the highest positions decades later suggested that they faced persisting barriers—hence the perception of a “glass ceiling.” Glass ceiling refers to a discriminatory barrier to the advancement of women into the upper echelons of business, the professions, and government. Even in the absence of an impenetrable barrier at some particular level, fewer promotional opportunities for women than for men at each of many levels produced a scarcity of women at and near the top of the corporate ladder.

The corporate ladder refers to the hierarchical order of position, title, or rank, as in a large corporation. A “ladder” is a device with steps used to “climb” (or move) up and down, so the “corporate ladder” is the series of steps people go through as they gain more power in a corporation and “rise to the top.” Women in a variety of industries are moving more slowly up America’s corporate ladder, lagging behind their male counterparts in joining corporate boards, obtaining venture capital funding, and being promoted, according to a report from the Committee of 200.

The Committee of 200 is an invitation-only membership organization of the world’s most successful women entrepreneurs and corporate leaders. C200’s more than 450 members represent over 100 industries in the U. S. , Europe, Asia, Canada and Latin America. The “2005 C200 Business Leadership Index” noted there has been no increase in the pace of women’s overall clout in the business world, “which indicates that women’s influence has been creeping forward slowly for at least the last four years and probably will not equal men’s during this decade or the next.” This study marks a shift in America’s executive landscape, where women have been gaining ground as corporate leaders over the past few decades. While certain fields in the study showed a continuing improvement for women—including the size of women-owned businesses and the number of women working toward a master’s degree in business administration— others showed a severe slowdown or reversal of progress.

The benchmark measuring the increase in women serving on corporate boards slowed to a 3 % growth rate between 2004 and 2005, down from 6 % growth between 2003 and 2004. The biggest drop in the report was in venture capital, which measured women’s access to in-

vestment funds from outside sources for their own businesses or companies they worked for. That measure dropped 24 % between 2004 and 2005, down from a 30 % increase the previous year. “If companies want to stay competitive, they need to find ways to position more women in executive roles, and yet the index shows that progress in this area has slowed,” said Jo Marie Dancik, treasurer of C200.

Part B Additional Notes to the Text

1. The number of female-owned businesses is growing at nearly twice the national average, a pace that alarms some private employers. (Line 1, Para. 5) — 妇女拥有的公司数量增速几乎是全国平均速度的两倍, 这种速度使一些私企业主感到担忧。
2. NFWBO (Line 2, Para. 7) — 全国妇女企业家基金会 (National Foundation for Women Business Owners)
3. Even though entrepreneurs toil long hours, many can choose when they work. (Line 1, Para. 10) — 虽然企业家们要长时间辛苦工作, 但他们中很多人可以自由选择工作时间。
4. “I want freedom, I want to take the day off to spend with my child.” (Line 3, Para. 11) — “我想要自由, 我想要给自己放天假陪陪孩子。” (day off—a day when you don’t go to work, even though it’s usually a working day)
5. Deloitte & Touche, for example, started programs such as flexible work arrangements to help stanch turnover. (Line 2, Para. 17) — 例如德勤会计事务所开始实行诸如弹性工作制类方案, 以便制止人员更替。 [① turnover—the rate at which employees leave a company and are replaced by other people; ② Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu—德勤公司 (One of the largest professional services firms in the world and one of the Big Four auditors, along with PricewaterhouseCoopers 普华永道公司, Ernst & Young 安永公司, and KPMG 毕马威公司)]
6. And today’s female entrepreneurs are more apt to be former managers and executives, reflecting women’s advancement over the years. (Line 1, Para. 28) — 当今妇女企业家更可能是先前担任过经理和主管职务的人, 这反映了这些年来妇女在公司中职务的晋升。 (be apt to do sth/be apt to be sth—to be likely to do sth or to often do sth)

Part C Outline of the Article

I. News Lead—summary (1–2)

Many women are eager to start their own businesses because of advancement barriers, scant help balancing work and family and a desire to pursue an entrepreneurial goal.

II. Problems: fast increase of professional women leaving corporate jobs (3–7)

1. Specific example of JoAnn Corn
2. General situation: fast growth of female-owned businesses
3. Worrisome loss of women’s talents in corporations
4. NFWBO’s statistics

III. Reasons for women's decision to leave (8 – 16)

Barriers to women's advancement

- a. Major reason for nearly 30% of women's leaving
- b. Example of Diahann Lassus

Desire to have more flexibility

- a. Example of Tammie Chestnut
- b. Major reason for more than half of women's decision to leave
- c. Example of Aura Ahuvis

Desire to pursue an entrepreneurial goal

- a. Restraints of corporate jobs
- b. Total size of female-owned businesses

IV. Efforts made by female entrepreneurs (17 – 29)

1. Corporations' efforts to keep women from leaving
2. Efforts made by women to overcome obstacles
3. Features of women's businesses
4. Great risks for business women
 - a. Dramatic shifts in work
 - b. Example of Gail Johnson

V. Prospects (30 – 32)

1. Business experts' suggestions on how to keep professional women
2. Many women's resolve not to go back

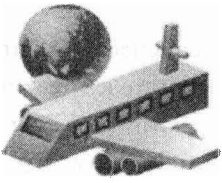
Part D Answers to the Questions

V.

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. D

VI.

1. According to the article, advancement barriers, scant help in balancing work and family, and a desire to pursue an entrepreneurial goal are the three factors in professional women's decision to leave their corporate jobs.
2. Nearly 30% of female entrepreneurs with prior corporate experience cited "barriers to advancement" as the major reason why they left. They call those barriers "glass ceilings."
3. "More flexibility" refers to women's freedom in choosing when they work. They can work part-time and choose their own hours. They can take the day off to spend with their children.
4. No. Going solo is no guarantee of success. Women report they struggle to be taken seriously. Hours can be grueling. Failure rates are high. Moreover, studies show women take greater risks when running their own businesses. The shifts from previous careers to new businesses are dramatic: 56% of the women own businesses either totally unrelated to previous careers or that had been a personal interest.



Lesson 4

Boomers Won't Go Quietly

Part A Additional Background Information

Baby Boomers

The year of 1946 marks the beginning of a nineteen-year period of high birth rates. By 1964, some 17 million more people were born than would have been born had the fertility patterns of the early 1940s prevailed. 77 million new Americans! Today, counting immigration to the United States, baby boomers number 83 million persons.

No one explanation of the cause of the “baby boom” phenomenon is sufficient. In one sense, the explanation is simple—more women married, had children earlier, and had slightly larger families. Certainly, in the United States, as was true for most industrialized nations, the initial increase in fertility can be explained by the end of World War II. But this does not explain why the boom continued into the 1960s. Cultural changes, including a return to normalcy, a growing economy, and a new “procreation ethic,” help explain the trend.

The much-used “pig going through the python” metaphor provides a visual image of the effect of this change in the nation’s age structure. As baby boomers moved from the nurseries to the schools, and then into the employment and housing markets, the very size of this cohort created strains. But, for the most part, these systems adjusted. For example, the primary, secondary, and then higher educational systems expanded and even prospered, providing baby boomers with more educational opportunities than previous cohorts.

Stereotypes abound about baby boomers and have structured much of the political discussion surrounding this phenomenon. Baby boomers have variously been described as a “lucky” and as an “unlucky” generation; as counter cultural political activists and as materialistically driven “yuppies.” But this huge grouping of people defies easy classification. Some among the oldest among them, including Bill Clinton, have set their sights on “retirement.” The youngest, those turning thirty-six in 2000, are on the cusp of middle age, more likely to be thinking about first mortgages and their young children than their retirement years. Indeed, the baby boom cohorts are diverse, with, as political scientist Paul Light notes, splits cutting across their numbers by income position, race, age, amount of education, gender, marital status, employment status, involvement with the Vietnam War, and geographic region. Add differences by ethnicity, immigration status, health, pension coverage, religion, and sexual orientation, and they are clearly far from homogeneous. Belonging to a nineteen-year cohort does not provide a central explanation of their behavior and decision-making. For example, class, race, gender, and geography have far more to do with their political partici-