

SOCIETY

the basics



JOHN J. MACIONIS

tenth edition

SOCIETY

the basics

JOHN J. MACIONIS

Kenyon College



Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

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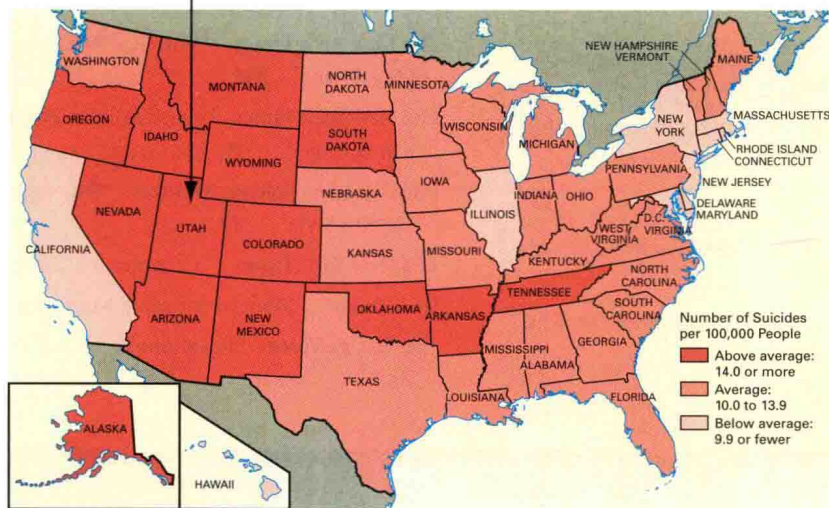
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Maps

In the Plains and Mountain regions of the country, where population density is very low, people are more isolated and have a higher rate of suicide.

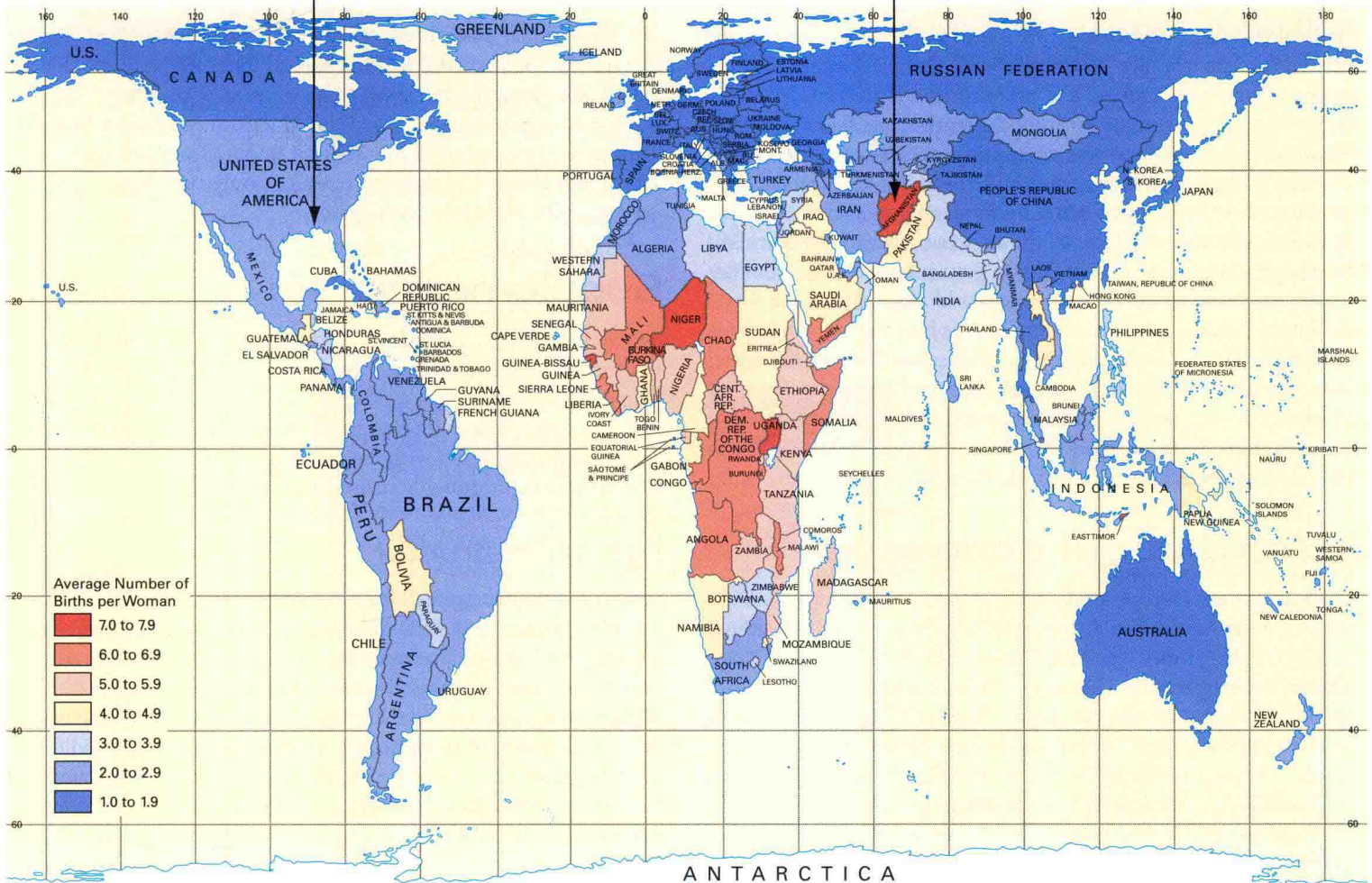


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Cindy Rucker, 29 years old, recently took time off from her job in the New Orleans public school system to have her first child.

Although she is only 28 years old, Baktizar Kahn has five children, a common pattern in Afghanistan.



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Preface

The world needs more sociology. We live in an age when—to read the polls—most people are anxious about their economic future, unhappy with government, and worried about the future of the planet. Perhaps it is not too far from the truth to say that many of us feel overwhelmed, as if we were up against forces we can barely grasp.

That’s where sociology comes in. For the last 150 years, sociologists have been working to better understand how society operates. We sociologists may not have all the answers, but we have learned a lot. A beginning course in sociology is your introduction to the fascinating and very useful study of the world around you, the world we all have a stake in understanding and, as best we can, improving. *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*, provides you with all the basics about how this world works. You will find the book to be informative and even entertaining. Sociology is fun. It is also a field of study that can change the way you see the world and open the door to many new opportunities. What could be more exciting than that?

A Word about Language

This text’s commitment to describing the social diversity of the United States and the world carries with it the responsibility to use language thoughtfully. In most cases, this text uses the terms “African American” and “person of color” rather than the word “black.” Similarly, we use the terms “Latino,” “Latina,” and “Hispanic” to refer to people of Spanish descent. Most tables and figures refer to “Hispanics” because this is the term the Census Bureau uses when collecting statistical data about our population.

Students should realize, however, that many individuals do not describe themselves using these terms. Although the word “Hispanic” is commonly used in the eastern part of the United States and “Latino” and the feminine form “Latina” are widely heard in the West, across the United States people of Spanish descent identify with a particular ancestral nation, whether it be Argentina, Mexico, some other Latin American country, or Spain or Portugal in Europe.

The same holds for Asian Americans. Although this term is a useful shorthand in sociological analysis, most people of Asian descent think of themselves in terms of a specific country of origin, say, Japan, the Philippines, Taiwan, or Vietnam.

In this text, the term “Native American” refers to all the inhabitants of the Americas (including Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands) whose ancestors lived here prior to the arrival of Europeans. Here again, however, most people in this broad category identify with their historical society, such as Cherokee, Hopi, Seneca, or Zuni. The term “American Indian” refers to only those Native Americans who live in the continental United States, not including Native peoples living in Alaska or Hawaii.

On a global level, this text avoids the word “American”—which literally designates two continents—to refer to just the United States. For example, referring to this country, the term “the U.S. economy” is more precise than “the American economy.” This convention may seem a small point, but it implies the significant recognition that we in this country represent only one society (albeit a very important one) in the Americas.

Supplements

Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition, is the heart of an unprecedented multimedia learning package that includes a wide range of proven instructional aids as well as several new ones. As the author of the text, I maintain a keen interest in all the supplements to ensure their quality and integration with the text. The supplements for this revision have been thoroughly revised and updated.

For the Instructor

Annotated Instructor’s Edition. (0-13-501861-7) The AIE is a complete student text with author annotations on every page. These annotations, which have been thoroughly revised for this edition, have won consistent praise from instructors for enriching class presentations. The annotations are especially useful to new instructors, but they are written to be helpful to even the most seasoned teachers. Margin notes include summaries of research findings, statistics from the United States and other nations, insightful quotations, information highlighting patterns of social diversity in the United States, and high-quality survey data from the General Social Survey conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) and from World Values Survey data from the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR).

Instructor’s Manual. (0-13-501885-4) This text offers an instructor’s manual that will be of interest even to those who have never chosen to use one before. The manual—now revised by the author—provides the expected detailed chapter outlines and discussion questions and much more, including statistical profiles of the United States and other nations, summaries of important developments, recent articles from *Teaching Sociology* that are relevant to classroom discussions, suggestions for classroom activities, and supplemental lecture material for every chapter of the text.

Test Item File. (0-13-501886-2) This key author-created supplement reflects the material in the textbook—both in content and in language—far better than the testing file available with any other introductory sociology textbook. The file contains over 2,000 items—

more than 100 per chapter—in multiple-choice, true-false, and essay formats. All of the questions are identified by level of difficulty.

MyTest. (0-13-501887-0) This online, computerized software allows instructors to create their own personalized exams, to edit any or all of the existing test questions, and to add new questions. Other special features of this program include random generation of test questions, creation of alternative versions of the same test, scrambling question sequence, and test preview before printing.

Prentice Hall Film and Video Guide: *Introductory Sociology, Seventh Edition.* (0-13-191807-9) Newly updated by Peter Remender of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, this guide links important concepts in the text directly to compelling, student-focused feature films and documentaries. A summary of each film is provided, and critical thinking questions allow the instructor to highlight the relevance of each film or video to concepts in sociology.

ABCNEWS ABC News/Pearson Video Library: *Sociology on DVD.* (0-13-501862-5) Few educators will dispute that video is the most dynamic supplement one can use to enhance a class. Prentice Hall and ABC News are working together to bring to you the best and most comprehensive video material available in the college market. Through its wide variety of award-winning programs—*Nightline, This Week, World News Tonight, and 20/20*—ABC News offers a resource for feature and documentary-style videos. An excellent instructor's guide carefully and completely integrates the videos into lectures. The guide has a synopsis of each video, discussion questions to help stimulate classroom discussion, and testing questions for instructors to use.

Prentice Hall Introductory Sociology PowerPoint® Slides. These PowerPoint slides combine graphics and text in a colorful format to help you convey sociological principles in a new and exciting way. Each chapter of the textbook has approximately fifteen to twenty-five slides that communicate the key concepts in that chapter. For easy access, they are available in the instructor portion of MySocLab for *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*.

Media Supplements



MySocLab™ is an engaging student and faculty learning system for introductory sociology courses. It allows students to test their mastery of the concepts in the book by providing chapter-by-chapter diagnostic tests. Results from the diagnostic tests build a customized study plan, and students are provided rich supplementary content to help them learn any concepts they have not yet mastered.

MySocLab allows instructors to track the progress of both individual students and the class as a whole. Based on the diagnostic

results of the class, instructors receive a suggested customized lesson plan. The customized lesson plan enables the instructor to modify classroom activities to reflect student performance.



Companion Website™. In tandem with the text, students and professors can now take full advantage of the Internet to enrich their study of sociology. Features of the site include chapter objectives, study questions, and links to interesting material and information from other sites on the Web that will reinforce and enhance the content of each chapter. The Companion Website is available to both students and instructors: Go to <http://www.prenhall.com/macionis>, and click on the cover of *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*.



Research Navigator™ can help students complete research assignments efficiently and confidently by providing three exclusive databases of high-quality scholarly and popular articles accessed by easy-to-use search engines.

- **EBSCO's ContentSelect™ Academic Journal Database**, organized by subject, contains fifty to one hundred of the leading academic journals for sociology. Instructors and students can search the online journals by keyword, topic, or multiple topics. Articles include abstract and citation information and can be cut, pasted, e-mailed, or saved for later use.
- **The New York Times Search-by-Subject™ Archive** provides articles specific to sociology and is searchable by keyword or multiple keywords. Instructors and students can view full-text articles from the world's leading journalists writing for *The New York Times*.
- **Link Library** offers editorially selected "best of the Web" sites for sociology. The Link Library is continually scanned and kept up-to-date, providing the most relevant and most accurate links for research assignments.

Students and instructors can gain access to Research Navigator™ by using the access code found in the front of the brief *Pearson Guide to Research Navigator™* (0-205-63340-4). The access code for Research Navigator is included with every guide and can be packaged for no extra charge with *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*. Please contact your Pearson representative for more information.

Telecourse. The Macionis texts *Sociology* and *Society: The Basics* have been selected for use in the new telecourse "The Way We Live," available on DVD from INTELECOM. To find out more about this truly outstanding course, go to <http://www.intelecom.org> and, under the Alphabetical Listing of Courses, click on "The Way We Live" or call (800) 576-2988.

For the Student

Study Guide. (0-13-501884-6) This complete guide helps students review and reflect on the material presented in *Society: The Basics*,

Tenth Edition. Each of the sixteen chapters in the Study Guide provides an overview of the corresponding chapter in the student text, summarizes its major topics and concepts, offers applied exercises, and features end-of-chapter tests with answers.

SocNotes. (0-13-501889-7) Designed to allow students to study more effectively for tests, this study resource helps students organize their course materials. Based on the PowerPoint® presentations available with *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*, SocNotes includes key concepts and art from each chapter presented in PowerPoint® slide format with space for taking notes.



VangoNotes. These chapter reviews from *Society: The Basics, Tenth Edition*, in downloadable mp3 format allow students to study on the go. Students can listen to the following selections for each chapter of the textbook:

- **Big Ideas:** The “need to know” for each chapter
- **Practice Test:** A gut check for the Big Ideas—tells students if they need to keep studying
- **Key Terms:** Audio “flashcards” to help students review key concepts and terms
- **Rapid Review:** A quick drill session to be used right before the test

Sociological Classics: A Prentice Hall Pocket Reader. (0-13-191806-0) Compiled by the sociologist David Kazlarich, this edited volume features fourteen selections from classical sociological theorists. Contact your local Prentice Hall sales representative for more information.

“10 Ways to Fight Hate”. (0-13-028146-8) Produced by the Southern Poverty Law Center, the leading hate crime and crime watch organization in the United States, this free supplemental brochure walks students through ten steps they can take on their own campus or in their own neighborhood to fight hate every day.

In Appreciation

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With best wishes to my colleagues and love to all,





The sociological perspective shows us that the society around us influences how we act and even what we think and how we feel. Learning to see the world sociologically is useful in many ways—and it is also fun!

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1



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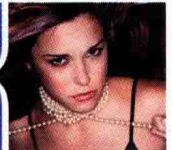
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