



SOCIAL PROBLEMS

SECOND EDITION

JOHN J. MACIONIS

Second Edition

SOCIAL PROBLEMS



JOHN J. MACIONIS

Kenyon College



Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

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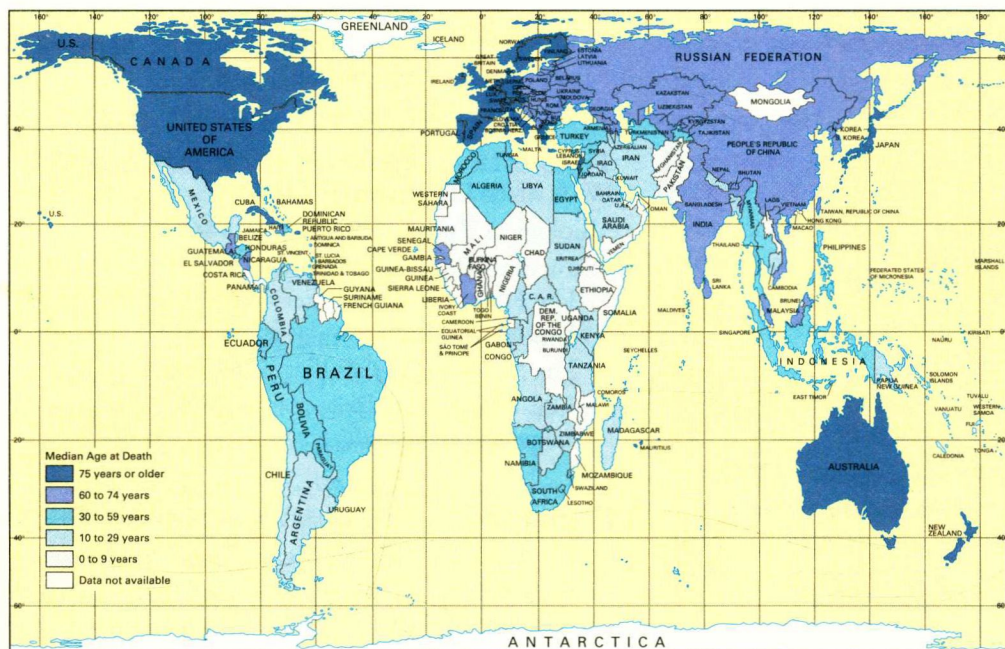
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SOCIAL PROBLEMS



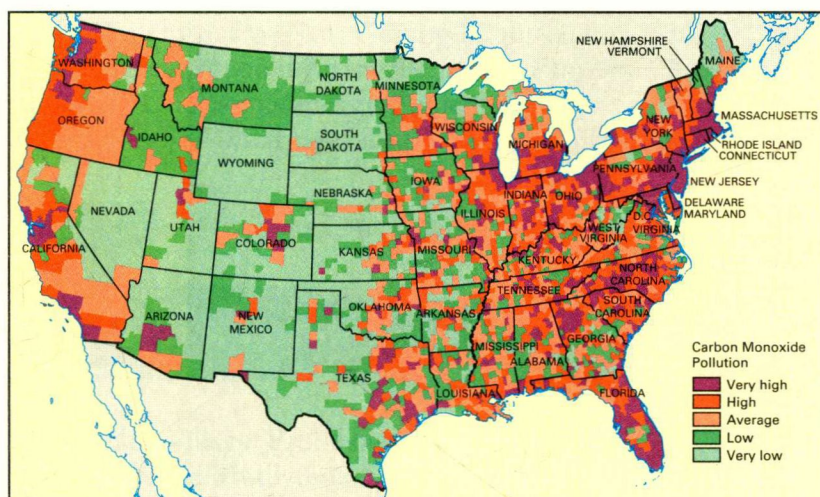
Most of the readers of this book are among the world's privileged people—those who have enough to eat, a comfortable place to sleep, and who have the special opportunity to study the human condition. I offer this book in the hope that it will stimulate thinking about the state of our world as well as action toward making it a better place.

John J. Macdonald



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PREFACE

As this second edition of *Social Problems* is being published, the United States is in the midst of a presidential election campaign. Every day we hear the presidential candidates making claims about what is wrong with the United States (the “problems”) and what we need to do to fix things (the “solutions”). Politics is an arena of competing claims about problems and solutions.

Almost everyone would agree that the outcome of such a contest makes a difference in shaping the kind of society—and world—in which we will live. Yet surveys tell us that most young people on campuses throughout the United States are not very interested in today’s issues and that they rarely discuss politics. In fact, only about one-third of young women and men who are eligible even bother to cast a vote.

The discipline of sociology offers one way to connect people to the world of political ideas and action. For decades, U.S. colleges and universities have offered a course, typically titled “Social Problems,” that applies the perspective, theory, and research findings of the discipline to current issues. *Social Problems* is a text that brings these issues to life in a most effective way.

CONNECTING TO POLITICS

The general purpose of this book is to connect readers with the political issues in the world around them. This is an important goal because *politics matters*. The candidates running for office in the United States represent a wide range of political positions—conservative, liberal, and left—each of which seeks a distinctive type of society. It is the responsibility of everyone as a citizen to learn enough about political issues to make a decision about which visions are worthy of support and then to become engaged in the political process, perhaps by speaking out, perhaps by volunteering in a campaign, perhaps by offering financial support, and certainly by voting.

Social Problems, Second Edition, does more than simply urge people to become politically active citizens. It *explains what politics is all about*. Beginning with Chapter 1 (“Studying Social Problems”), this text helps students understand the attitudes and

values that define the conservative, liberal, and radical-left positions on the political spectrum. In every chapter that follows, these political points of view are applied to dozens of issues—from wealth and poverty in the United States to terrorism and war around the world—so that students become able to engage and analyze new issues on their own.

Politics involves several points of view. This text presents multiple political positions for four reasons. First, all are part of the political debate that goes on throughout the United States. Second, no one can formulate personal political beliefs with any conviction without understanding the arguments of those who disagree. In other words, in order to be, say, a good liberal, someone needs to understand not just liberal principles but the conservative and radical positions as well. Third, although anyone is likely to favor one position over others, each position offers some measure of truth. Fourth, by representing various political positions, this text invites all students to share their ideas, encouraging more lively class discussion.

THE SOCIAL-CONSTRUCTIONIST APPROACH

The most important reason to “put the politics in” when teaching a social problems course is that politics is the process by which segments of society define social problems. By incorporating politics (along with theory) as a foundation, this text differs from all the others in a basic and exciting way: Rather than using one (explicit or implicit) point of view that presents a sequence of “problems” and a sequence of “solutions” (as if everyone agreed on what these are), *Social Problems, Second Edition*, employs a multiperspective, *social-constructionist approach*.

With this approach, *Social Problems* focuses attention on how and why certain issues come to be defined as problems in the first place. Issues such as gender inequality, domestic violence, and AIDS have become defined as social problems only recently and as the result of social movements that have gained wide public support. Sometimes, as in the case of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, specific events quickly thrust a new problem to the top of our national concerns.

Another benefit of the social-constructionist approach is alerting students to the fact that a society may not define something as a problem, *even when it causes great harm to many people*. As an example, Chapter 9 (“Alcohol and Other Drugs”) points out that, although cigarette smoking results in more than 400,000 premature deaths in the United States each year—more than 100 times the September 11, 2001, death toll—tobacco use has yet to be defined as a serious social problem.

The social-constructionist approach also provides historical insights. As Chapter 4 (“Gender Inequality”) explains, women a century ago had so few rights and opportunities that they lived as second-class citizens. But, back then, few people defined women and men as social equals; as a result, gender inequality was not widely defined as a social problem. Today’s society, by contrast, has far greater gender equality. Yet, because most people *expect* women and men to have the same rights and opportunities, the inequalities that remain (even though they are much smaller today) are widely defined as a problem in need of a solution.

In sum, a social-constructionist approach is an excellent strategy for demonstrating the role of politics in the process of defining social problems and creating solutions.

FACTS—AND THEORY, TOO

Politics is not all there is to social problems. The discipline of sociology offers both hard facts and theoretical analysis of today’s issues and controversies. In Chapter 2 (“Poverty and Wealth”), the analysis of poverty begins with important facts: How many poor people are there? What categories of the population are at greatest risk of poverty? Why, according to public opinion, are people poor? In addition, all chapters in *Social Problems, Second Edition*, contain *theoretical analysis*—guided by the structural-functional, symbolic-interaction, and social-conflict approaches. Theoretical analysis helps students understand the causes and consequences of poverty, gender inequality, crime, and other issues defined as problems today.

THIS TEXT AND WEB SITE

This text offers many ways to learn, because it is the heart of a complete learning package. Accompanying the textbook is a content-rich Companion Website™ that provides powerful support for learning and which is provided at no additional cost to the student. This

Companion Website™ offers an interactive study guide with many helpful tools, including chapter quizzes, interactive maps, roll-over graphics, links to hundreds of Web sites, and self-grading practice tests for all the chapters of the book. To reach the Web site, go to <http://www.prenhall.com/macionis> and click on the cover of this book.

The textbook and the Companion Website™ work together to make learning come alive. We invite you to examine them both!

THE ORGANIZATION OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Part I of this book, “Sociology and Social Problems,” introduces students to the discipline of sociology and to the study of social problems. Chapter 1 (“Studying Social Problems”) defines social problems and applies sociology’s distinctive perspective to their study. It also acquaints students with commonly used methods for gathering facts and information, and illustrates the use of sociology’s major theoretical approaches. In addition, this chapter explains the social construction of problems and solutions, highlighting the process of “claims making.” The chapter explains the role of politics in this process, describes the various points on the political spectrum, and identifies what type of people are likely to hold particular points of view.

Part II addresses “Problems of Social Inequality.” Chapter 2 (“Poverty and Wealth”) explores the distribution of poverty and wealth in the United States, tracks trends in economic inequality, profiles the rich and the poor, highlights the challenges faced by low-income people, and examines the welfare system past and present. As in every chapter, conservative, liberal, and radical perspectives on economic inequality are included. Chapter 3 (“Racial and Ethnic Inequality”) tackles two other dimensions of inequality—race and ethnicity. This chapter explains how societies construct racial and ethnic categories, explains the concept of “minority,” surveys the social standing of various racial and ethnic categories of the U.S. population, and investigates the causes and consequences of prejudice and discrimination. Chapter 4 (“Gender Inequality”) explains how societies construct gender and how gender distinctions are evident in the operation of the economy, the family, and the other social institutions; it notes the importance of gender as a dimension of social stratification, traces the feminist movement in the United States, and invites students to voice their opinions

about all the political controversies involving gender. Chapter 5 ("Aging and Inequality") spotlights aging and inequality, explains how societies construct old age, examines the increasing share of older people in the United States, and provides both theoretical and political analysis of numerous issues linked to growing old, including social isolation, ageism, crime, poverty, poor housing, inadequate medical care, and the necessity of facing up to the ultimate reality of death.

Part III ("Problems of Deviance, Conformity, and Well-Being") begins with Chapter 6 ("Crime and Criminal Justice"), which explains how and why societies construct criminal law and how certain acts come to be defined as criminal. It uses crime statistics to track the extent of both violent and property crime and to profile "street" criminals. The chapter analyzes various types of crime, including juvenile delinquency, hate crime, white-collar crime, corporate crime, organized crime, and victimless crime, and concludes by surveying the operation of the police, courts, and correction system. As always, analysis reflects both sociological theory and various political perspectives. Chapter 7 ("Violence") extends this discussion, explaining how societies define some types of violence as necessary or even honorable while outlawing others. The chapter explores factors linked to criminal and family violence, including the influence of the mass media, poverty, drugs, gangs, and easy availability of guns. Chapter 8 ("Sexuality") explores sexuality as a biological process and as a cultural construction, then tackles political controversies surrounding sexual orientation, pornography, sexual harassment, prostitution, teenage pregnancy, abortion, and sexually transmitted diseases. Chapter 9 ("Alcohol and Other Drugs") begins by defining the concept "drugs," and goes on to examine how and why U.S. society endorses use of some drugs while outlawing the use of others. The chapter surveys the extent of alcohol and other drug use, discusses the link between drug abuse and problems of family life, homelessness, poor health, crime, and poverty, and concludes with theoretical and political analysis of drug abuse and policy responses. Chapter 10 ("Physical and Mental Health") begins with a global survey of human health and health care policies, highlighting how societies define being "healthy." The chapter investigates the U.S. health care system with an eye toward who has access to health care and who does not, surveys the challenges and policies relating to physical disabilities, and explains how U.S. society defines, and deals with, mental illness.

In **Part IV** ("Problems of Social Institutions"), Chapter 11 ("Economy and Politics") leads off investigating the economic and political systems by which U.S. society defines a just distribution of wealth and power. The chapter highlights the operation of corporations and the power of money to direct political life, and offers theoretical and political analysis of the U.S. political economy. Chapter 12 ("Work and the Workplace") explains the effects of the Information Revolution, deindustrialization, and the globalization of the economy on the U.S. labor force. The chapter identifies various workplace hazards, investigates unemployment during the recent economic downturn, and explores the experience of alienation and the rise of low-skill "McJobs" and temporary work. The chapter also discusses workplace barriers faced by women and other minorities and the decline of unions. There is theoretical and political analysis of all the issues. Chapter 13 ("Family Life") begins with a look at the changing definitions of "family," and then highlights current controversies surrounding cohabitation, single-parenting, work and family conflicts, child care, divorce, gay and lesbian families, and new reproductive technology. Chapter 14 ("Education") explains why societies come to define schooling as necessary and surveys educational inequality in the United States. Both theoretical and political analysis highlight issues including the performance of U.S. schools, dropping out, illiteracy, racial segregation, unequal funding, tracking, violence, schooling people with disabilities, and the challenges of schooling an increasingly diverse student population. Chapter 15 ("Urban Life") begins by surveying the changing problems faced by urbanites over the course of U.S. history, then tackles current issues including fiscal problems of today's cities, urban sprawl, urban poverty, urban housing, urban homelessness, and the uneven growth of Snowbelt and Sunbelt cities.

Part V ("Global Problems") begins with Chapter 16 ("Population and Global Inequality"), which charts the planet's population increase as well as trends in fertility and mortality around the world. The chapter also analyzes global poverty and hunger, with special focus on women and children, and discusses the continued existence of slavery. Various theoretical and political perspectives assess the likely future of global inequality. Chapter 17 ("Technology and the Environment") explores the emergence of the natural environment as a social problem. The chapter explains how technological advances, cultural patterns, and levels of consumption set the stage for environmental issues such as

solid waste disposal, availability of fresh water, air pollution, diminishing rain forests, and global warming. Finally, Chapter 18 ("War and Terrorism") presents causes and consequences of war, explores the changing nature of warfare over time, tracks the spread of nuclear weapons, discusses the use of children as soldiers around the world, and explores strategies for peace. The chapter then provides theoretical and political analysis of terrorism as a new form of warfare.

ESTABLISHED FEATURES OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS*

Social Problems has achieved remarkable success based on a combination of features found in no other text:

A writing style students say they love This text excites students, motivating them to *read the book*—even beyond their assignments. The best evidence of this comes from the students themselves. Here are recent e-mail comments from students about the author's texts:

I have just completed a class at [a Georgia college] using the book, *Social Problems*. It is an incredibly well-written book. I enjoyed the various points of view you included within the chapters.

I am using your *Social Problems* textbook for my sociology course. I have never had a better book. It's so easy to follow. The stories and extra highlights are very interesting and I love to read them. It's a great book!

I'm a college student in California and my sociology class used your book. It was by far the best textbook I have ever used. I actually liked to read it for pleasure as well as to study; anyway, just wanted to say it was great.

Thanks for writing such a brilliant book. It has sparked my sociological imagination. This was the first textbook that I have ever read completely and enjoyed. From the moment that I picked the book up I started reading nonstop.

I am a sociology major and my department and I live by your textbook. I just wanted to tell you that writing it was definitely a stroke of genius. You did a great job. I appreciate the time and effort you put into the book and I just wanted to let you know that you have touched a student across the United States.

I have read four chapters ahead; it's like a good novel I can't put down! I just wanted to say thank you.

I have been in college for three years now and I have not found a book as remarkable and thought-provoking as your text.

Your book is extremely well written and very interesting. I find myself reading it for pleasure, something I have never done with college texts. It is going to be the only collegiate textbook that I ever keep simply to read on my own. I am also thinking of picking up sociology as my minor due to the fact that I have enjoyed the class as well as the text so much. Your writing has my highest praise and utmost appreciation.

I am taking a sociology class using your book and I have told my professor it is the best textbook that I have ever seen, bar none. I've told her as well that I will be more than happy to take more sociology classes as long as there is a Maconis text to go with them.

As an instructor, I can report that my students absolutely loved the *Social Problems* text. It is so readable, so clear, so colorful, so inviting. Their feedback made me glad I spent so much time choosing the best book for the course.

Dude, your book *rocks!*

A social-constructionist approach As we have explained, politics is the process by which a society debates and defines social problems and their solutions. This text "puts the politics in" with its social-constructionist approach that explains how societies come to define situations as social problems. Looking more closely, we also see how people's position on the political spectrum leads them to define certain issues as "problems" and certain policies as "solutions."

In every chapter, readers will find a major section titled "Politics: Constructing Problems and Defining Solutions." This discussion applies the political perspectives of conservatives, liberals, and radicals to the topic at hand. Doing this is an experience rather like (and here I am afraid I reveal my age) switching a sound system from "mono" to "stereo," because it adds new breadth as well as depth to political debates. By including multiple political perspectives, we encourage all students to become part of the debate and develop their own positions as they learn from others. Each chapter has a "Left to Right" table that summarizes the way the various political perspectives construct problems and define solutions.

Theoretical analysis in every chapter Just as the world of politics involves different ways of looking at issues and events, so the discipline of sociology makes use of different theoretical approaches. The chapters of *Social Problems, Second Edition*, apply three major theoretical approaches—the structural-functional, symbolic-interaction, and social-conflict approaches. Each approach calls attention to different

facts and provides worthwhile insights into the issues at hand.

Emphasis on critical thinking Presenting students with different ways of thinking about issues is the best way to develop their critical-thinking abilities. In addition to its emphasis on political and theoretical analysis, this text uses a number of features to sharpen critical-thinking skills. These include Critical Evaluation sections following each theoretical discussion that point up the important contributions and limitations of that theoretical approach; Issues and Exercises questions at the end of each of the theme boxes that encourage students to formulate their own opinions about the issue at hand; a series of Thinking Critically: Questions and Issues items at the end of each chapter that prompts students to apply what they have learned; finally, many of the captions that accompany photographs and maps include thought-provoking questions that challenge students to actively engage the issues.

A focus on policy *Social Problems, Second Edition*, is a text that focuses not only on problems but also on solutions. Therefore, a large part of every chapter of the text is devoted to social policy. The politics sections that conclude every chapter critically consider the policy approaches favored by conservatives, liberals, and radicals. In addition, a series of eighteen "Social Policy" boxes spread throughout the book provide multiple perspectives on important issues.

A national and global focus *Social Problems, Second Edition*, takes both a national and a global focus. The two often go together, because looking at issues in international scope can suggest different ways to define problems and solutions. For example, most other high-income countries consider poverty to be a more significant problem than we do here in the United States, and their governments also do more to reduce economic inequality. Such comparisons, clearly, spark questions about *why* and stimulate students to think about how a condition that many people in this country define as "natural" could be defined as a "problem" by most people in another country.

Second, many issues are naturally global in scope. Population increase, hunger, the state of the natural environment, war, and terrorism are issues that must be studied in a global context and that demand global responses.

Readers will find information about not only the United States but also other countries in every chapter of this book. In addition, to help students learn more about the rest of the world, the text contains a

series of ten A Global Perspective theme boxes, eighteen A World of Differences global maps, and numerous Dimensions of Difference comparison figures spread throughout the text.

National and global maps *Social Problems, Second Edition*, includes thirty-four specially constructed sociological maps that engage students as they convey important information.

Seventeen A Nation of Diversity national maps highlight the state-by-state or county-by-county diversity of the United States with regard to such issues as poverty rates, life expectancy, divorce rates, air quality, voter apathy, popularity of cigarette smoking, access to personal computers, school dropout rates, the legality of carrying concealed weapons, the number of death row inmates, the geographical distribution of African American, Asian American, and Hispanic American people, total minority population, and other issues of interest.

In addition, seventeen A World of Differences global maps illustrate the planet's diversity with regard to women's political power, child labor, the size of the elderly population, the death penalty, prostitution, life expectancy, infant mortality, access to physicians, access to personal computers, extent of schooling, energy consumption, current military conflicts, and other issues of interest.

Boxes that highlight themes of the text *Social Problems, Second Edition*, includes three or four boxes per chapter that highlight important themes. These include Critical Thinking boxes, which help students to assess arguments and form their own opinions; Social Policy boxes, which focus on controversial laws and public policies from different points of view; A Global Perspective boxes, which provides international comparisons of important issues; and Personal Stories boxes, in which individuals describe social issues in terms of their own life experiences.

"A Defining Moment" New to this edition are the A Defining Moment box features in each chapter, which highlight a person or event that changed the way U.S. society looked at the particular social issue covered in that chapter.

A celebration of social diversity In its photographs, maps, boxes, and coverage of issues, this text reflects the social diversity of the United States and the larger world. It makes special efforts to include the voices of all people—women and men, old and young, African American, Asian American, and those of Latino and European heritage—just as it presents all political points of view. In addition, while

recognizing that some categories of the U.S. population face many more challenges than others, this text is careful to avoid treating minority populations as “problems” in and of themselves.

Engaging features that enhance learning This text provides a number of features that raise student interest and enhance learning. Getting the Picture is a listing of three or four facts on the opening page of each chapter that spark student interest. A chapter-opening vignette at the beginning of each chapter presents a real-world situation that generates interest and illustrates an important theme. Issues and Exercises questions and activities accompany every box in the text. At the end of each chapter, there are a number of helpful tools: A Chapter Summary highlights key facts and arguments and helps students assess their comprehension; a list of Key Concepts with clear definitions and page numbers helps students review (a full listing of concepts appears in the Glossary at the end of the book); Thinking Critically: Questions and Issues encourages students to form their own opinions and apply the chapter’s lessons to new situations; Getting Involved: Learning Activities includes four suggestions for easy and worthwhile learning projects; Getting Connected: Useful Web Links are selected Internet sites that help students learn more about a topic; Getting Started on Your Own: Research Navigator™ is a new search engine that allows students to search journals, popular publications, and *The New York Times* by topic.

Recent research and the latest data All Macionis texts provide the most up-to-date content possible. Current events are used to illustrate important ideas throughout the book. All the statistical data are the most recent available. And the author reviews dozens of scholarly journals as well as government publications and Web pages to ensure that more than this book stands at the cutting edge of today’s scholarship and political debates.

WHAT’S NEW IN THE SECOND EDITION

The second edition of *Social Problems* represents a major revision of the book, and includes numerous changes and additions. The most significant changes are listed below.

“A Defining Moment” box features “A Defining Moment” refers to a person or event that went a long way to shaping the way we in the United States today

define a social problem. In this revision, each chapter contains an A Defining Moment box feature that points to an important historical change.

- Chapter 1 Ryan White: Changing the Face of AIDS
- Chapter 2 U.S. Society Discovers Poverty
- Chapter 3 Rosa Parks: Saying No to Segregation
- Chapter 4 Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Claiming Women’s Right to Equality
- Chapter 5 Dr. Jack Kevorkian: Changing Our Ideas about Death
- Chapter 6 Ralph Nader: Making Corporations More Accountable
- Chapter 7 U.S. Society Discovers Child Abuse
- Chapter 8 Alfred Kinsey: Talking Openly about Sex
- Chapter 9 Bill Wilson: Alcoholics Can Learn to Be Sober
- Chapter 10 Dorothea Dix: Changing Society’s View of People with Mental Illnesses
- Chapter 11 Doris Haddock: Sparking a Movement for Campaign Finance Reform
- Chapter 12 Eugene Debs: Standing Up for the Union
- Chapter 13 Axel and Eigil Axlil: Changing the Marriage Rules
- Chapter 14 Linda Brown: Fighting to Desegregate the Schools
- Chapter 15 Jacob Riis: Revealing the Horror of the Tenements
- Chapter 16 Thomas Robert Malthus: Claiming Population Is a Problem
- Chapter 17 Rachel Carson: Sounding an Environmental Wake-Up Call
- Chapter 18 Mohandas Gandhi: Spreading a Message of Peace

These A Defining Moment box features not only teach students about important turning points in the way society defines social problems. They also illustrate the power of individuals to make a difference in the United States and the world.

More on claims making Since the first edition of *Social Problems* was published, the concept of claims making has gained importance in the field. This

revision applies this concept, beginning in Chapter 1, expanding and strengthening the social-constructionist approach.

Rewriting for clarity and interest This revision is not simply updated in some places. It has been rewritten throughout in order to make the material as clear as possible and to boost reader interest.

More global material This revision includes an increase in the amount of global material. This increase is reflected in new chapter-opening vignettes, updated A World of Differences global maps, and also the new Dimensions of Difference figures found in most chapters.

The latest research Most instructors simply do not have the time to read all the sociological journals. By using *Social Problems, Second Edition*, students benefit from the latest research and developments in the field. This revision has been thoroughly updated from cover to cover: It contains almost 400 new research citations; a majority of the citations found in the text represent work published since 2000.

Web links The text encourages students to learn on their own through the new series of Web links that point to Internet sites relevant to the text discussion. There are four or five of these links throughout each chapter; in addition, at the end of each chapter is a list of five or six sites, with annotations, under the “Getting Connected: Useful Web Links” heading.

Research Navigator™ *Social Problems, Second Edition*, offers students a powerful new learning tool—Research Navigator™. This set of search engines—available at <http://www.researchnavigator.com>—can be easily accessed with the passcode that is included with every new copy of this textbook. By choosing relevant disciplines and entering keywords, the user can research topics through the ContentSelect™ database (powered by EBSCO), which includes more than 150 scholarly journals. In addition, *The New York Times* and *Financial Times* search engines do topic searches of all their issues published within the last eighteen months.

Updating in every chapter Finally, every chapter has new material. Here is a chapter-by-chapter listing of what’s new in *Social Problems, Second Edition*:

Chapter 1: Studying Social Problems A new chapter-opening vignette describes the extent of obesity in the United States, which results in 300,000

premature deaths each year; there is new discussion of claims-making, part of an expanded focus on the social construction of social problems; a new figure analyzes the interplay of objective facts and subjective perceptions of situations; a new A Defining Moment feature describes the life and death of Ryan White, who helped define AIDS as everyone’s problem; there are updates on all statistics and public-opinion poll data.

Chapter 2: Poverty and Wealth A new chapter-opening vignette describes the struggle facing people living in the poorest county in the United States; a new section discusses intersection theory, illustrating the multiple disadvantages attached to race, ethnicity, and gender; a new A Defining Moment box describes how presidents Roosevelt and Johnson led the country to define poverty as a national problem; there is a new discussion of political alienation among the poor; all data on the social standing of the U.S. population, distribution of income and wealth, and poverty rates are the latest available.

Chapter 3: Racial and Ethnic Inequality An expanded chapter opening describes the practice of racial profiling by police; new research discusses the social construction of race; the chapter contains a new section on multiracial people; a new A Defining Moment feature describes how Rosa Parks sparked a social movement to end desegregation of public transportation; a new discussion of prejudice includes recent data collected from college students in an updated social distance study modeled on classic research by Emory Bogardus; new statistics provide the latest on racial and ethnic inequality as well as the size and social standing of major minority categories.

Chapter 4: Gender Inequality A new A World of Differences global map provides data on the relative power of women and men around the world; a new section explores the status of women in the U.S. military; a new A Global Perspective box describes the practice of female genital mutilation in Africa, the Middle East, and the United States; a new A Defining Moment feature describes the efforts of Elizabeth Cady Stanton to challenge gender stratification; the latest survey research and government statistical data document the social standing of U.S. women, citing gender breakdowns in income and types of employment, and demonstrating the continuing presence of the glass ceiling in the corporate world.

Chapter 5: Aging and Inequality A new chapter-opening vignette highlights the plight of many of today’s older people who lost much of their savings in the recent economic recession; there is an updated A World of Differences global map on child labor; find

an updated A Nation of Diversity map on the elderly population; there is an updated discussion of intersection theory highlighting the combined disadvantages faced by people in minority categories who reach old age; there is more detail about the causes of elder abuse; a new discussion highlights the growing need for elder caregiving; find statistical updates on the social standing of seniors in the United States; a new A Defining Moment feature describes how Dr. Jack Kevorkian pushed the right-to-die movement onto the national stage; there is a new section on the hospice movement including a new Personal Stories box describing the work of one hospice volunteer.

Chapter 6: Crime and Criminal Justice A new chapter-opening vignette explores recent cases of corporate crime, explaining that the costs involved far exceed that of ordinary property crime; a new A Defining Moment feature highlights Ralph Nader's efforts to make corporations more accountable to the public; a new section describes the principle of due process that underlies the criminal justice system; an updated global map shows which nations make use of capital punishment; this chapter now includes completely new sections on community-based corrections, including probation and parole.

Chapter 7: Violence A new chapter-opening vignette relates the story of the 2003 "Beltway snipers," who shot twenty-one people in and around the nation's capital; a new A Defining Moment feature explains how one Colorado doctor helped define child abuse as a social problem; new data identify the most violent television shows and movies; and a new Social Policy box describes education programs to assist adults who have engaged in the sexual abuse of children.

Chapter 8: Sexuality A new chapter-opening vignette describes the 2003 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court striking down a Texas sodomy law, which helped expand tolerance toward homosexuality and offered legal support for gay marriage; a new A Defining Moment feature profiles the work of Alfred Kinsey in establishing sex as a legitimate topic of social research; a new section provides the latest on gay marriage; there is an update on public support for abortion under various circumstances; a new Dimensions of Difference figure shows how race and ethnicity are linked to support for abortion.

Chapter 9: Alcohol and Other Drugs A new chapter-opening vignette highlights the troubling consequences of alcohol use among college students; a reorganization of the chapter provides a more logical flow of topics; there are updates on the use of illegal drugs in the United States; a new section assesses the government's claim that buying illegal

drugs finances terrorism; a new A Defining Moments feature profiles Bill Wilson and the organization he founded—Alcoholics Anonymous; the chapter includes an update on the war on drugs reflecting policy of the Bush administration.

Chapter 10: Physical and Mental Health A new chapter-opening vignette suggests that people with a mental illness may well be the most stigmatized category in the United States; the chapter includes statistical updates on the state of health in the United States as well as how people pay medical costs; find an update on the global and national AIDS epidemic; a new A Defining Moment feature profiles the efforts of Dorothea Dix to change society's view of people with mental illnesses; there is a new discussion of the shortage of nurses in the United States; also included is a new section that points to the rising number of U.S. students with mental health problems.

Chapter 11: Economy and Politics A new chapter-opening vignette examines the problem of voter apathy in the United States; find the latest on campaign finance reform including the 2003 reform law; there are new data showing the extent of voter apathy in the United States; a new A Defining Moment feature describes how one eighty-nine-year-old great-grandmother sparked national interest in campaign finance reform; a new discussion, including a new Social Policy box, explains how people on both the right and left support big government, although for different purposes.

Chapter 12: Work and the Workplace A new chapter-opening vignette describes the movement of white-collar jobs overseas; a new Social Policy box highlights Barbara Ehrenreich's fieldwork doing low-wage jobs; a new A Defining Moment feature describes the work of Eugene Debs to strengthen unions and improve the lives of working people in the United States; the chapter includes updates on all workplace statistics, including unemployment rates.

Chapter 13: Family A new chapter-opening vignette points to the increasing use of genetic screening to create "designer" children; a new figure shows the chances of children in various family arrangements living with both biological parents until age eighteen; a new Personal Stories box highlights the crisis of foster care in the United States; there are statistical updates on family patterns, including divorce, singlehood, and single-parenting.

Chapter 14: Education The chapter provides an update on bilingual education in California in the wake of Proposition 227; discussion now includes recent developments in the school choice debate; a new national map shows average teacher salaries for all the states in 2002–2003; find the latest statistical data