

# SOCIETY THE BASICS

Seventh Edition



JOHN J. MACIONIS

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## **Preface**

In the same way that an earthquake makes us keenly aware of the earth beneath our feet, so changes in the world make us more aware of the society that surrounds us. The last year or two has been a challenge to us all. It has been just over a year since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, a day that changed everyone's lives. Since then, an increasing number of terrorist acts and other types of violence at home and abroad, a sinking economy, and the threat of war now prompt us to realize we cannot take the world for granted.

More to the point, these events force us to confront the question of what kind of world we live in and what kind of world we want for ourselves and for our children. It is here that readers of this book will discover the importance of the discipline of sociology.

The daily e-mail I receive from students in the United States and around the world stands as testimony to the power of sociology to transform the way they see the world. All instructors know well the deep satisfaction that comes from making a difference in the lives of our students. There is no greater reward for our work, and, in my case, no better reason for striving for ever-better revisions of *Society: The Basics*, which, along with the longer, hardback version, *Sociology*, stands out as the discipline's most popular text.

The new seventh edition of *Society: The Basics* is authoritative, comprehensive, stimulating, and—as students' e-mail messages testify—plain fun to read. This major revision elevates sociology's most popular text to a still higher standard of excellence and offers an unparalleled resource to today's students as they learn about both our diverse society and the changing world.

But the book is just one part of a complete learning package. Found in the back of every new copy of Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, is a CD-ROM, included at no additional cost to the student. This CD-ROM is the best of its kind, a fully interactive window into others' lives—both in the United States and around the world. The CD includes relevant ABC News video clips and a library of sixteen short "author's tip" videos—one for each chapter—that bring to life key themes. All of the maps from the text become interactive on the CD-ROM, and students can review key terms using our new flashcard feature. Simply put, no other CD-ROM offers as much support to make students eager to learn.

In addition, students using Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, can log on to a full-featured Web site at http://www.prenhall.com/macionis, also at no cost to them. From the main page, simply click on the cover of Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, to find chapter

overviews and learning objectives, suggested essay questions and paper topics, multiple-choice and true-false questions that the server will grade, and chapter-relevant Web destinations with learning questions.

Textbook, CD-ROM, and Web site: A three-part, multimedia package that is the foundation for sound learning in this new information age. We invite you to examine all three!

#### Organization of this Text

Society: The Basics carries students through sociology's basic ideas, research, and insights in sixteen logically organized chapters. Chapter 1 ("Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method") explains how the discipline's distinctive point of view illuminates the world in a new and exciting way. In addition, the first chapter introduces major theoretical approaches and explains the key methods sociologists use to test and refine their knowledge.

The next six chapters examine core sociological concepts. Chapter 2 ("Culture") explores the fascinating diversity of human living that marks our world. Chapter 3 ("Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age") investigates how people everywhere develop their humanity as they learn to participate in society. While highlighting the importance of the early years to the socialization process, this chapter describes significant transformations that occur over the entire life course, including old age. Chapter 4 ("Social Interaction in Everyday Life") takes a micro-level look at how people construct the daily realities that we often take for granted. Chapter 5 ("Groups and Organizations") focuses on social groups, within which we have many of our most meaningful experiences. It also highlights the expansion of formal organization and points up some of the problems of living in a bureaucratic age. Chapter 6 ("Deviance") analyzes how the routine operation of society promotes deviance as well as conformity. Chapter 7 ("Sexuality") explains the social foundation of human sexuality. Based on recent research, this chapter surveys sexual patterns in the United States and also explores variations in sexual practices through history and around the world today.

The next four chapters provide more coverage of social inequality than is found in any other brief text. Chapter 8 ("Social Stratification") introduces basic concepts that describe social hierarchy throughout history and around the world. The chapter then highlights dimensions of social difference in the United States today. Chapter 9 ("Global Stratification")

extends this text's commitment to global education by analyzing the social ranking of nations themselves. Why, in other words, do people in some societies have abundant wealth while in others people struggle every day just to survive? *Society: The Basics* also provides full-chapter coverage of two additional dimensions of social difference. Chapter 10 ("Gender Stratification") describes how gender is a central element of social stratification in the United States, as it is worldwide. Chapter 11 ("Race and Ethnicity") explores racial and ethnic diversity in the United States, explaining how societies use physical and cultural traits to construct and rank categories of people in a hierarchy.

Next are three chapters that survey social institutions. Chapter 12 ("Economics and Politics") looks at the political economy of U.S. society in world context. Beginning with how the Industrial Revolution transformed the Western world, this chapter contrasts capitalist and socialist economic models and investigates how economic systems are linked to a society's distribution of power. It also contains coverage of the military, issues of war and peace, and much-expanded discussion of terrorism.

Chapter 13 ("Family and Religion") spotlights two institutions central to the symbolic organization of social life. The chapter begins by focusing on the variety of families in the United States, making frequent comparisons to kinship systems in other parts of the world. Basic elements of religious life follow, with an overview of recent religious trends.

Chapter 14 ("Education and Medicine") examines two institutions with special importance in the modern world. The chapter looks first at the historical expansion of schooling, noting many ways in which the scope and kind of education in any society are linked to other social institutions. Next, we look at medicine, which also has become a central institution during the last century and a half. The chapter concludes by explaining the distinctive strategies various countries—including the United States—employ to promote public health.

The final two chapters of the text focus on dimensions of social change. Chapter 15 ("Population, Urbanization, and Environment") is a synthesis that begins by spotlighting the growth of population in the world. Then, our attention turns to the rise of cities in the United States and to the urban explosion now taking place in poor nations of the world. Finally, the chapter explains how the state of the natural environment reflects social organization. Chapter 16 ("Social Change: Modern and Postmodern Societies")

concludes the text with summaries of major theories of social change, a look at how people forge social movements to encourage or resist change, and analysis of various benefits and liabilities of modern social patterns as well as the emergence of a "postmodern" way of life.

# Continuity: Established Features of Society: The Basics

Society: The Basics is no standard textbook: In sociology, it represents the standard of excellence. How else can one explain the fact that this book is selected by far more faculty than any other? The extraordinary strength of Society: The Basics (and of Sociology, the market leader among comprehensive hardback texts) results from a combination of the following distinctive features.

**The best writing style.** Most important, this text offers a writing style widely praised by students and faculty alike as elegant and inviting. *Society: The Basics* is an enjoyable text that encourages students to read—even beyond their assignments. No one says it better than the students themselves, whose recent e-mail includes testimonials such as these:

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. I just wanted to say it was great.

Thanks for writing such a brilliant book. It has sparked my sociological imagination. This was the first text-book that I have ever read completely and enjoyed. From the moment that I picked the book up I started reading nonstop. I have read four chapters ahead; it's like a good novel I can't put down! I just wanted to say thank you.

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 101 class using your text, a book that I have told my professor 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 Macionis text to go with them.

I am fascinated by the contents of this textbook. In contrast to texts in my other classes, I actually enjoy the reading. Thank you for such a thought-provoking, well-written textbook.

A global perspective. Society: The Basics has taken a leading role in expanding the horizons of our discipline beyond the United States. It was the first brief text to mainstream global content, introduce global maps, and offer comprehensive coverage of global topics such as stratification and the natural environment. No wonder Society: The Basics has been adapted and translated in half a dozen languages for use around the world. Each chapter explores the social diversity of the entire world as well as explaining why social trends in the United States—from musical tastes to the price of wheat, to the growing disparity of income—are influenced by what happens elsewhere. Just as important, students will learn ways in which social patterns and policies in the United States affect poor nations around the world.

A celebration of social diversity. Society: The Basics invites students from all social backgrounds to discover a fresh and exciting way to see themselves within the larger social world. Readers will discover in this text the diversity of U.S. society—people of African, Asian, European, and Latino ancestry, as well as women and men of various class positions and at all points in the life course. Just as important, without flinching from the problems that marginalized people confront, this text does not treat minorities as social problems but notes their achievements. A scholarly comparison of sociology texts published in the American Sociological Association's journal Teaching Sociology evaluated Macionis's Sociology (the hardcover companion to this text) as the best of all the leading texts in terms of integrating racial and ethnic material throughout (Stone, 1996).

**Emphasis on critical thinking.** Critical-thinking skills include the ability to challenge common assumptions by formulating questions, identify and weigh appropriate evidence, and reach reasoned conclusions. This text not only teaches but encourages students to discover on their own.

**Engaging and instructive chapter openings.** One of the most popular features of earlier editions of *Society: The Basics* has been the engaging vignettes that begin each chapter. These openings—for instance, using the tragic sinking of the *Titanic* to illustrate the life and death consequences of social inequality, telling the story of Linda Brown to explore racial inequality

in the United States, or describing how monsoon rains triggered a landslide in a vast garbage dump near Manila, capital of the Philippines, killing hundreds of poor people who lived there to examine the extent of social inequality worldwide—spark the interest of readers as they introduce important themes. While retaining six of the best chapter-opening vignettes from earlier editions, this revision offers ten that are new.

**Inclusive focus on women and men.** Beyond devoting two full chapters to the important concepts of sex and gender, *Society: The Basics* mainstreams gender into *every* chapter, showing how the topic at hand affects women and men differently and explaining how gender operates as a basic dimension of social organization.

Theoretically clear and balanced. This text makes theory easy. The discipline's major theoretical approaches are introduced in Chapter 1 and are carried through later chapters. The text highlights the social-conflict, structural-functional, and symbolic-interaction paradigms, and also incorporates other theoretical approaches including social-exchange analysis, ethnomethodology, cultural ecology, and sociobiology.

Focus on new information technology. One of the strengths of this text is the focus on computers and new information technology in every chapter. In addition, the text offers five cyber.scopes, a series of essays spread throughout the text. Cyber.scope essays start by explaining what the Information Revolution is all about and go on to show how computers and new information technology are changing the shape of people's lives here and around the world. The five cyber.scope essays are titled:

Welcome to the Information Revolution! How New Technology Is Changing Our Way of Life New Information Technology and Social Stratification New Information Technology and Social Institutions New Information Technology and Social Change

These essays, illustrated with photos, figures, and maps, provide an opportunity for instructors to pause at several points during the course to consider new information technology or, alternatively, to assign the essays together as a "chapter" on new technology and society.

Recent research and the latest data. Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, blends classic sociological statements with the latest research as reported in the leading publications in the field. While some texts ignore new work in sociology journals, Society: The Basics reflects recent research in a dozen of the discipline's top publications. More than 1,000 research citations

support this revision, with most published since 1990. We have used the latest sources to ensure that—chapter to chapter—the text's content and statistical data are the most recent available.

Learning aids. This text has many features to help students learn. In each chapter, Key Concepts are identified by boldfaced type, and following each appears a precise, italicized definition. A listing of key concepts with their definitions appears at the end of each chapter, and a complete Glossary is found at the end of the book. Each chapter also contains a numbered Summary and four Critical-Thinking Questions that help students review material and assess their understanding. Following these are a number of Applications and Exercises, which provides students with activities to do on or near the campus. Each chapter ends with an annotated listing of worthwhile Sites to See on the Internet and a suggestion for how to use ContentSelect<sup>TM</sup> to pursue further research.

Outstanding images: Photography and fine art. Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, offers the finest and most extensive program of photography and artwork available in any comparable book. The author searches extensively to obtain the finest images of the human condition and presents them with thoughtful captions, often in the form of questions.

Moreover, both photographs and artwork present people of various social backgrounds and historical periods. For example, alongside art by well-known Europeans such as Vincent Van Gogh and U.S. artists including George Tooker, this edition has paintings by celebrated African American artists Jacob Lawrence and Henry Ossawa Tanner, outstanding Latino artist Diego Rivera, renowned folk artists including Anna Bell Lee Washington, and the engaging Australian painter and feminist Sally Swain.

Thought-provoking theme boxes. Although boxed material is common to introductory texts, *Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition*, provides a wealth of uncommonly good boxes. Each chapter typically contains three boxes, which fall into four types that amplify central themes of the text. Global Sociology boxes provoke readers to think about their own way of life by examining the fascinating social diversity that characterizes our world. Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender boxes, which have been expanded for this revision, focus on multicultural issues and present the voices of women and people of color. Critical Thinking boxes teach students to ask sociological questions about their surroundings and help them evaluate important, controversial issues. Each Critical Thinking

box is followed by three "What do you think?" questions. Controversy & Debate boxes present several points of view on hotly debated issues and conclude with "Continue the debate" questions to stimulate thought and generate spirited class discussion.

Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, contains fortynine boxes in all, including four that are new to this edition. A complete list of this text's boxes appears after the table of contents.

An unparalleled program of forty-eight global and national maps. Another popular feature of *Society: The Basics* is its program of global and national maps. Window on the World global maps—twenty-three in all—are truly sociological maps offering a comparative look at income disparity, favored languages, the extent of prostitution, permitted marriage forms, the degree of political freedom, the incidence of HIV infection, and a host of other issues. The global maps use the non-Eurocentric projection devised by cartographer Arno Peters that accurately portrays the relative size of all the continents.

Seeing Ourselves national maps—twenty-five in all—help to illuminate the social diversity of the United States. Most of these maps offer a close-up look at all 3,154 U.S. counties, highlighting suicide rates, per capita household income, labor force participation, college attendance, racially mixed people, most widespread religious affiliation, and, as measures of popular culture, where people play golf or where households drink wine or beer. Each national map includes an explanatory caption that poses several questions to stimulate students' thinking about social forces. A complete list of the Seeing Ourselves national maps as well as the Window on the World global maps follows the table of contents.

An annotated instructor's edition. This is the only brief text available in an instructor's edition with a full program of annotations—written by the author—on every page. These annotations provide additional data, notable quotations, and comments about maps and end-of-chapter study questions.

## Innovation: Changes in the Seventh Edition

Each new edition of *Society: The Basics* and *Sociology* has broken new ground, one reason that more than 3 million students have learned from these sociological best-sellers. A revision raises high expectations, but after two years of planning and hard work, we are pleased to offer a major revision that sets a new standard for brief texts. Here is a brief overview of the innovations that define *Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition*.

Keeping up with the field. As surprising as it may seem, some textbooks do not reflect new work in the field, making few references to sociology's journals and taking little notice of new books. In preparing this revision, I have reviewed new publications—including American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Rural Sociology, Social Forces, Sociological Focus, Sociological Forum, Society, The Public Interest, Social Problems, Population Bulletin, Teaching Sociology, Contemporary Sociology, and Social Science Quarterly—as well as popular press publications that keep us abreast of current trends and events.

**Improved high-tech.** For this edition, the CD-ROM includes a video library, presenting short clips that illustrate important concepts and ideas. The video material, drawn from the video library of *ABC News*, takes learning to a whole new level. Also, "author's tip" video clips introduce each chapter, building the connection between author and student.

Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, will have an open access Companion Website TM at http://www.prenhall.com/macionis Begin by clicking on the cover of Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition, and follow the easy-to-use menus. At this site, students will find a full range of study materials including computer-graded practice tests.

Faculty will find our new Instructor Resource site very helpful in creating their classroom presentations and preparing other learning materials. Our new Instructor Resource CD-ROM provides a resource bank including PowerPoint slides, charts, and graphs for easy use in presentations. Also, a new online faculty site at http://www.prenhall.com/sociology\_central offers additional resources for instructors at any time. In addition, all users of this book are invited to make use of videos, sociologists' biographies, and dozens of links found at the author's personal Web site at http://www.TheSociologyPage.com or http://www.macionis.com

Linking technology to the text. At four or five points in each chapter, a colorful logo directs students to visit carefully selected, author-chosen Web sites. These sites provide biographical material about sociologists, useful data, or information about an organization that deals with the topic at hand. In addition, many other relevant Web sites are listed at the end of each chapter.

More coverage of rural issues. Although most of the population of the United States live in urban places, most of our country's counties are rural. Therefore, this revision pays special attention not only to urban social patterns but also to rural issues. Examples of this rural focus include a comparative analysis of rural and urban poverty and homelessness in Chapter 8, discussion of women in coal mining in Chapter 10, and a discussion of the "rural rebound" in Chapter 15, as well as more photographs and artwork that reflect rural life. In addition, we have recently added *Rural Sociology* to the list of journals that provide new research reported in this text.

**New maps.** The only way to improve on our colorful maps is be sure they are as up to date as possible. This edition features forty-eight global and national maps, seven of them new.

**New chapter-opening vignettes.** This revision keeps the best of the popular chapter-opening vignettes and adds ten new ones; overall, two-thirds of the openings are new to this edition.

Many new boxes. A total of forty-nine boxes supports four themes of the text: Global Sociology, Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender, Critical Thinking, and, focusing on social policy, Controversy & Debate. Many boxes are revised and updated; four boxes are entirely new to this edition.

The latest statistical data. Instructors count on this text for including the very latest statistical data. The seventh edition comes through again, making use of data from the Internet as well as conventional bound publications of various government agencies and private organizations. The author and Amy Marsh Macionis have worked together to ensure that the newest statistics are used throughout the text—in most cases for 2000, and even for 2001 and 2002. These data include reported results of Census 2000. In addition, readers will find 250 new research citations as well as references to many familiar current events that raise the interest of students.

A greater emphasis on social diversity. A long-time strength of this text is its emphasis on social diversity. In this revision—from chapter to chapter—race, class, and gender (as well as the intersection of these factors) receive even more attention.

**New topics.** The seventh edition of *Society: The Basics* is completely updated with new and expanded discussions in every chapter. Here is a partial listing, by chapter:

 Chapter 1 The Sociological Perspective: A new chapter opening asks how society—rather than just personal choice—guides selection of spouses in the United Sates and elsewhere; a new global map highlights the number of children born to women

- around the world; in addition, several new Web sites are noted throughout the chapter and there are new end-of-chapter learning ideas.
- Chapter 2 Culture: A new chapter opening describes
  the visit of members of the Andean Q'ero society to
  New York City; find a new journal entry on visiting
  Disney World, new links to the author's videos on travel and cultural relativism, and a new Global Sociology
  box comparing the dominant cultures of the United
  States and Canada.
- Chapter 3 Socialization: Find an update on how the violent content in television programming and video games affects young children; a Web link provides a complete online chapter on the sociology of the mass media; a new Diversity box examines how race and ethnicity affect the personal development of high school students.
- Chapter 4 Social Interaction in Everyday Life: A new national map shows the social patterns linked to taste in sports (in this case, where people are and are not likely to be avid golfers); find updates on reality construction and the sociology of humor (including a few new jokes); and there is a major new discussion of the sociology of emotions, including a new Critical Thinking box on how women frame the emotions of an abortion experience.
- Chapter 5 Groups and Organizations: There is an update on McDonaldization as well as new data on the share of incumbents who held their congressional seats in the 2000 elections, discussion of using social networks to find jobs by gender, race, and ethnicity, an update on gender and management positions in the United States, new material on the controversy surrounding computers, large organizations, and personal privacy, and a new global map showing the number of Internet hosts around the world.
- Chapter 6 Deviance: A new national map shows the risk
  of violent crime for all U.S. counties; there are updates on
  U.S. crime rates; and a new chapter opening offers a fresh
  look at the rising debate over capital punishment.
- Chapter 7 Sexuality: A new chapter opening illustrates the problems of acceptance faced by transgendered individuals; there are updates on U.S. attitudes about sexual practices, and a new global map shows the use of contraception around the world.
- Chapter 8 Social Stratification: Find a new discussion of rural homelessness and updated statistics on income, wealth, and poverty.
- Chapter 9 Global Stratification: A new chapter opening focuses on natural disasters that are all too common in low-income nations; find new data showing which countries now fall into high-, middle-, and low-income categories as well as a new figure that charts the world's increasing income inequality.

- Chapter 10 Gender Stratification: The chapter includes a new global map showing the practice of female genital mutilation in global perspective; there are updates on the share of women in various jobs categories, including new data on the number of women in top corporate positions; new statistics show the latest gaps in earnings between women and men in various racial and ethnic categories; new Web links take readers to recent government reports concerning gender.
- Chapter 11 Race and Ethnicity: Find updated statistics on the social standing of all racial and ethnic categories in the United States; also, there are several new Applications and Exercises as well as new Sites to See.
- Chapter 12 Economics and Politics: A new chapter opener illustrates the power of technology to change the character of work; the chapter offers some surprising new data on the share of the labor force around the world involved in each of the three economic sectors; new data on the U.S. labor force highlight the increasing share of minorities. The politics discussion offers updates on the 2000 elections; there is extensive coverage of terrorism and the events of September 11, including a new analysis of terrorism as a new form of "asymmetrical" warfare.
- Chapter 13 Family and Religion: A new opening profiles the "plural marriage" of Tom Green and his conviction for bigamy; updates are provided on all family trends, including singlehood, divorce, single parenting, and cohabitation; family data from Census 2000 are cited; a new national map shows the distribution of racially mixed people across the country. The religion discussion points out that the number of Muslims in the United States now exceeds the number of Episcopalians, Presbyterians, or Jews; there is an update on the ordination of women; a new section explores the search for spirituality in postdenominational U.S. society; and an updated national map shows the distribution of religious denominations across the United States in 2000.
- Chapter 14 Education and Medicine: A new chapter opening highlights the superior performance on proficiency tests by children living in high-income communities compared with those from low-income areas; find updates on all the educational statistics as well as a new discussion of the U.S. teacher shortage. The health and medicine discussion offers an update on the share of minority physicians in the United States as well as a new statistical profile of the health of the U.S. population; there is also expanded discussion of medical care policy in Canada.
- Chapter 15 Population, Urbanization, and Environment: Find a new chapter opening on the "rural rebound," as well as a new section describing this trend; a new Diversity box uses Census 2000 to highlight the minority majority in half the nation's largest 100 cities; there are updates on all U.S. demographic data and more discussion of "critical demography."

• Chapter 16 Social Change: Modern and Postmodern Societies: A new chapter opening highlights the lives of people living in the same New York apartment a century apart; a new table provides a snapshot of change in the United States across the twentieth century; a new journal entry describes the appearance of mass society, and an updated figure shows support for science for selected nations around the world.

#### A Word about Language

This text's commitment to representing the social diversity of the United States and the world carries with it the responsibility to use language thoughtfully. In most cases, we prefer the terms *African American* and *person of color* to the word *black*. We use the terms *Hispanic* and *Latino* 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 term "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 (for example, Cherokee, Hopi, or Zuni). The term "American Indian" designates only those Native Americans who live in the continental United States, not including Native peoples living in Alaska or Hawaii.

Learning to think globally also leads us to use language carefully. 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 "U.S. economy" is more correct 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.

#### A Word about Web Sites

Because of the increasing importance of the Internet, each chapter of this new edition of *Society: The Basics* links discussion to Web sites and ends with a listing of additional Sites to See. The goal is to provide sites that are current, informative, and, above all, relevant to the topic at hand.

However, students should be mindful of several potential problems. First, Web sites change all the time. Prior to publication, we make every effort to ensure that the sites listed meet our high standards. But readers may find that sites have changed substantially and some may have gone away entirely. Obviously, this problem is beyond our control.

Second, sites have been selected in order to provide different perspectives on various issues. The listing of a site does not imply that the author or publisher agrees with everything—or even anything—on the site. Indeed, we urge students to examine all sites critically.

Third, many of the Web sites listed in this text are popular. Because many people visit them, the sites may be slow in responding. Please be patient or, if a site is too busy, simply move on.

#### Supplements

Society: The Basics 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 updated, improved, and expanded. Also, many of them are now available for easy download at http://www.prenhall.com/sociology\_central Contact your Prentice Hall Representative for USER ID and Passcode.

#### FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

Annotated Instructor's Edition (0-13-111168-X). The AIE is a complete student text annotated by the author on every page. Annotations, which have been thoroughly revised for this edition, have won praise from instructors for enriching class presentations. Margin notes include summaries of research findings, statistics from the United States or other nations, insightful quotations, information highlighting patterns of social diversity in the United States, and high-quality survey data from the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) General Social Surveys as well as World Values Survey data from the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (CPSR).

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#### In Appreciation

The conventional practice of designating a single author obscures the efforts of dozens of women and men that have resulted in Society: The Basics, Seventh Edition. I would like to express my thanks to the Prentice Hall editorial team, including Yolanda de Rooy, division president, Nancy Roberts, publisher, Chris DeJohn, senior acquisitions editor in sociology, and Veronica D'Amico, editorial assistant, for their steady enthusiasm, and for pursuing both innovation and excellence. Day-to-day work on the book is shared by the author and the production team. Susanna Lesan, developmental editor, worked with the author to select the best possible photographs and fine art; Barbara Salz did research on all these images. Barbara Reilly, production editor at Prentice Hall, is a key member of the team who is responsible for the attractive page layout of the book; indeed, if anyone "sweats the details" more than the author, it is Barbara! Amy Marsh Macionis, the text's "in house" editor, checks virtually everything, untangling awkward phrases and eliminating errors and inconsistencies in all the statistical data. Amy is a most talented editor who is relentless in her pursuit of quality. My debt to her is great, indeed.

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Jan J. Macionis

## **Brief Contents**

1	Sociology:	Perspective.	Theory,	and Method	1
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	-	
	Anna	-
100	-	

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Welcome to the Information Revolution! 28

- Culture 32
- Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age 60
- Social Interaction in Everyday Life 84
- Groups and Organizations 106
- Deviance 132
- Sexuality 160



cyber.scope

How New Technology Is Changing Our Way of Life 184

- Social Stratification 186
- Global Stratification 220
- Gender Stratification 244 10
- Race and Ethnicity 270



cyber.scope

New Information Technology and Social Stratification 298

- 12 Economics and Politics 300
- Family and Religion 334 13
- Education and Medicine 368



cyber.scope

New Information Technology and Social Institutions 402

- 15 Population, Urbanization, and Environment 404
- Social Change: Modern and Postmodern Societies 436 16



cyber.scope

New Information Technology and Social Change 462

## Contents



Preface xviii

### 1 Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method 1

The Sociological Perspective 1

Seeing the General in the Particular 1
Seeing the Strange in the Familiar 2
Seeing Individuality in Social Context 2
Benefits of the Sociological Perspective 4
Applied Sociology 5
The Importance of a Global Perspective 5

The Origins of Sociology 8

Social Change and Sociology 8 Science and Sociology 9 Marginal Voices 10

Sociological Theory 10

The Structural-Functional Paradigm 11 The Social-Conflict Paradigm 12 The Symbolic-Interaction Paradigm 13

Scientific Sociology 14

Concepts, Variables, and Measurement 15
Correlation and Cause 15
The Ideal of Objectivity 18
A Second Framework: Interpretive Sociology 18
A Third Framework: Critical Sociology 19
Gender and Research 20
Research Ethics 20

Research Methods 21

Testing a Hypothesis: The Experiment 21 Asking Questions: The Survey 21 In the Field: Participant Observation 22 The Second Time Around: Existing Sources 23
Putting It All Together: Ten Steps in
Sociological Research 23

Summary 25 Key Concepts 26 Critical-Thinking Questions 26 Applications and Exercises 27 Sites to See 27 Investigate with ContentSelect 27



**cyber.scope** Welcome to the Information Revolution! 28

#### 2 Culture 32

What Is Culture? 35
Culture and Human Intelligence 35
The Components of Culture 37
Symbols 37
Language 38 Values and Beliefs 38
Norms 41
"Ideal" and "Real" Culture 41
Technology and Culture 41
Hunting and Gathering 42
Horticulture and Pastoralism 42
Agriculture 42 Industry 44
Postindustrial Information Technology 44
Cultural Diversity 44
High Culture and Popular Culture 46
Subculture 46 Multiculturalism 48
Counterculture 49
Cultural Change 49
Ethnocentrism and Cultural Relativism 50 A Global Culture? 53
Theoretical Analysis of Culture 53
Structural-Functional Analysis 53
Social-Conflict Analysis 54
Sociobiology 55
Culture and Human Freedom 57
Summary 57 Key Concepts 58 Critical-
Thinking Questions 58 Applications

and Exercises 59 Sites to See 59 Investigate with ContentSelect 59

# 3 Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age 60

Social Experience: The Key to Our Humanity 61

Human Development: Nature and Nurture 61 Social Isolation 62

Understanding Socialization 64

Sigmund Freud: The Elements
of Personality 64

Jean Piaget: Cognitive Development 64

Lawrence Kohlberg: Moral Development 65

Carol Gilligan: The Gender Factor 66

George Herbert Mead: The Social Self 66

Erik H. Erikson: Eight Stages
of Development 68

Agents of Socialization 69

The Family 69 The School 69 The Peer Group 70 The Mass Media 71

Socialization and the Life Course 73

Childhood 74
Adolescence 74
Adulthood 74
Old Age 76
Death and Dying 78
The Life Course: An Overview 78

Resocialization: Total Institutions 80

Summary 81 Key Concepts 82 Critical— Thinking Questions 82 Applications and Exercises 83 Sites to See 83 Investigate with ContentSelect 83

# 4 Social Interaction in Everyday Life 84

Social Structure: A Guide to Everyday Living 85

Status 86

Ascribed and Achieved Status 86 Master Status 87

Role 87

Role Conflict and Role Strain 87 Role Exit 89

The Social Construction of Reality 89

"Street Smarts" 89
The Thomas Theorem 90
Ethnomethodology 91
Reality Building: Class and Culture 91

Dramaturgical Analysis:
"The Presentation of Self" 92

Performances 92 Nonverbal Communication 93 Gender and Performances 94 Idealization 95 Embarrassment and Tact 95

Interaction in Everyday Life: Three Applications 96

Emotions: The Social Construction of Feeling 96 Language: The Gender Issue 98 Humor: Playing with Reality 99

Summary 103 Key Concepts 104 Critical-Thinking Questions 104 Applications and Exercises 105 Sites to See 105 Investigate with ContentSelect 105

# **5** Groups and Organizations 106

Social Groups 107

Primary and Secondary Groups 108
Group Leadership 109
Group Conformity 110
Reference Groups 111
Ingroups and Outgroups 112
Group Size 112
Social Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender 113
Networks 114

Formal Organizations 115



Types of Formal Organizations 115 Origins of Bureaucracy 117 Characteristics of Bureaucracy 117 Organizational Environment 118 The Informal Side of Bureaucracy 119 Problems of Bureaucracy 119

The Evolution of Formal Organizations 121

Scientific Management 121
The First Challenge: Race and Gender 121
The Second Challenge: The Japanese
Organization 122
The Third Challenge: The Changing Nature
of Work 123
The "McDonaldization" of Society 125

The Future of Organizations: Opposing Trends 127

Summary 128 Key Concepts 130 Critical-Thinking Questions 130 Applications and Exercises 131 Sites to See 131 Investigate with ContentSelect 131

#### 6 Deviance 132

What Is Deviance? 133

The Biological Context 134
Personality Factors 135
The Social Foundations of Deviance 135

The Functions of Deviance: Structural-Functional Analysis 136

Durkheim's Basic Insight 136 Merton's Strain Theory 136 Deviant Subcultures 137

Labeling Deviance: Symbolic-Interaction Analysis 139

Labeling Theory 139
Primary and Secondary Deviance 139
Stigma 139
Labeling Difference as Deviance 139
The Medicalization of Deviance 141
Sutherland's Differential Association
Theory 141
Hirschi's Control Theory 141

Deviance and Inequality: Social-Conflict Analysis 142

Deviance and Power 143
Deviance and Capitalism 143
White-Collar Crime 143
Corporate Crime 144
Organized Crime 145

Deviance and Social Diversity 145

Hate Crimes 145 Deviance and Gender 146

Crime 146

Types of Crime 146 Criminal Statistics 147 The Street Criminal: A Profile 148 Crime in Global Perspective 150

The Criminal Justice System 151

Police 153 Courts 153 Punishment 154

Summary 157 Key Concepts 158 Critical— Thinking Questions 158 Applications and Exercises 159 Sites to See 159 Investigate with ContentSelect 159

### 7 Sexuality 160

Understanding Sexuality 161

Sex: A Biological Issue 162 Sex and the Body 163 Sex: A Cultural Issue 163 The Incest Taboo 163

#### viii Contents