

Fourth Edition
SOCIOLOGY
Donald Light, Jr. / Suzanne Keller



SOCIOLOGY

FOURTH EDITION

Donald Light, Jr.

Suzanne Keller



ALFRED A. KNOPF / NEW YORK

Fourth Edition

9876543

Copyright © 1975, 1979, 1982, 1985 by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without permission in writing from the publisher. All inquiries should be addressed to Random House, Inc., 201 East 50th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022. Published in the United States by Random House, Inc., and simultaneously in Canada by Random House of Canada Limited, Toronto.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Light, Donald, 1942–
Sociology.

Bibliography: p.
Includes index.

I. Sociology. 2. United States—Social conditions.

I. Keller, Suzanne Infeld, 1927–	II. Title.
[HM51.L52 1984] 301	84-17088
ISBN 0-394-33738-7	

Manufactured in the United States of America

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Chapter opener credits: Chapter 1: Norman Owen Tomalin/Bruce Coleman; Chapter 2: Ron Cooper/EKM-Nepenthe; Chapter 3: J.C. Carton/Bruce Coleman; Chapter 4: Porterfield-Chickering/Photo Researchers; Chapter 5: Ivan Polunin/Bruce Coleman; Chapter 6: Eve Arnold/Magnum; Chapter 7: Michael D. Sullivan; Chapter 8: Mike Mazzaschi/Stock, Boston; Chapter 9: Birgit Pohl; Chapter 10: Richard Davis/Photo Researchers; Chapter 11: Mark Godfrey/Archive Pictures; Chapter 12: Leif Skoogfoors/Woodfin Camp & Associates; Chapter 13: Christopher Springmann; Chapter 14: Ellis Herwig/The Picture Cube; Chapter 15: Craig Aurness/West Light; Chapter 16: David Austen/Stock, Boston; Chapter 17: Steve Weinreb/The Picture Cube; Chapter 18: Michael D. Sullivan; Chapter 19: Bill Pierce/Rainbow.

Cover art: Sculpture by Jean-Claude Hug, Salon de la Jeune Sculpture, Paris.
Photo by Robert Clark/Photo Researchers.

Cover and text design by Leon Bolognese.

PREFACE

Since its first edition in 1975, Light and Keller's approach has been to reflect the best of modern sociology: a lively blend of important theories and new scientific research interwoven with social topics of great current interest. As always, we have tried in this fourth edition to convey the excitement of sociological discovery and our love for the field. Our goal has been to give our readers provocative sociological insights into the world in which they live and into some major issues of their times.

MAJOR CHANGES IN THE FOURTH EDITION

1. We have brought the text into the mid-1980s by linking theoretical principles and concepts with current issues, including the antinuclear and environmental movements, health and welfare concerns, and the impact of the computer on social phenomena.
2. Recent sociological thinking, such as Theda Skocpol's theory of revolution, has been integrated with material from earlier editions.
3. We have developed the functionalist, conflict, and symbolic-interactionist perspectives with greater rigor and precision. Each perspective is now consistently integrated with the major topics of every chapter.
4. Each chapter ends with an epilogue linking it to others in the text. This helps students to see the

way sociological concepts used in the book relate to one another.

5. The number of photographs has been increased by more than 50 percent. Each one has been selected not just to capture student interest, but to illustrate specific sociological points.
6. A program of boxed features introduces students to "The Sociological Eye On . . ." The boxes focus on pertinent sociological issues as well as on careers and the relevance of sociology to the work-a-day-world.

ADDITIONAL CHANGES

In response both to the many sociologists who have used our book before and to the major new developments occurring in the discipline, we have made a number of additional changes in the fourth edition. These can be briefly summarized.

We have turned the sociological eye toward William Foote Whyte's classic study of the "Nortons," looking beyond the individual's personal point of view to consider the broad social patterns and processes not immediately apparent (Chapter 1).

The text uses several key research methods to examine the impact of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant accident on the people who lived nearby. We've also added a unit on historical approaches to the study of special data (Chapter 2).

There is a new major unit on social interaction to

complement the one on social structure. We have also added a section on Erving Goffman's dramaturgical approach as well as a new section on social exchange theory (Chapter 4).

The text expands the treatment of adulthood and aging (Chapter 5).

We have reorganized and tightened the material on gender roles. There is a new focus on the forces bringing about changes in American gender roles, particularly the expansion of the female labor force (Chapter 6).

The conflict approach to deviance has been expanded and strengthened (Chapter 9).

We have enlarged and sharpened the discussion of the conflict and functionalist theories of stratification. There is a new unit on the status attainment process, and an extended discussion of poverty in the United States (Chapter 10).

The problem of illegal immigration to the United States is surveyed. We also examine busing and affirmative action programs as measures to combat institutional discrimination (Chapter 12).

We treat the functionalist, conflict, and symbolic-interactionist approaches to the family. We also expand the cross-cultural treatment of marriage and family patterns as well as the discussion of alternative lifestyles in American life (Chapter 13).

We have added a unit on the New Christian Right (Chapter 15).

The discussion of the Malthus-Marx controversy has been expanded (Chapter 16).

There is a new discussion of social area analysis and a unit on *Gemeinschaft* and *Gesellschaft* types of social organization. We appraise the crisis now being experienced by many large American cities and examine a number of programs aimed at contemporary urban problems (Chapter 17).

A new section examines the impact computers are having on American life and the impact of high technology on American jobs (Chapter 19).

close attention to how information is organized and presented in the fourth edition. All key terms are boldfaced, clearly defined, and carefully illustrated. A convenient glossary is located at the end of each chapter. There, too, we include a chapter summary and epilogue.

To supplement the pedagogical aids in the text, Theodore C. Wagenaar (ASA Teaching Project and Miami University) and Thomas F. Gieryn (Indiana University) have written an excellent review guide entitled *Reading and Review*. This guide contains learning objectives, chapter summaries, a review of key concepts, review questions with answers and explanations, essay questions, and supplementary readings that pertain to the use of sociology in careers and business.

The instructor has not been neglected either. To aid in the difficult task of teaching introductory sociology, a *Professional Resource Guide* accompanies the fourth edition. This is the only instructor's manual available prepared by many experts in each of sociology's subfields.

A *Computerized Test Bank* has questions that are graduated in level of difficulty. The questions can be selected by computer to provide an almost infinite variety of tests. These tests can also be prepared by our customized test service.

Computerized Activities in Sociology provides simulations of social situations in which the student plays an active role and learns how sociology can be used to understand important everyday experiences. Another instructional aid is *Lecture Launchers*, transparency masters and thought-provoking questions that help introduce the major topic areas of sociology.

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

We are fortunate to have worked with a fine team of editors at Alfred A. Knopf. Barry Fetterolf and Suzanne Thibodeau guided the entire project. Mary Shuford coordinated the development of the manuscript, edited the chapters into their final form, and served as the overall project manager. Anna Marie Muskelly supervised the copyediting process and art program and

PEDAGOGICAL AIDS

To help students more easily identify and understand important terms and concepts, we have paid extremely

carried the book through production. We are also grateful to other members of the Knopf staff for their hard work and imagination: Kathy Bendo, photo manager, Sylvia Shepard, assistant editor, and Laura Lamorte, production supervisor. Leon Bolognese is to be credited with the handsome design of the book and cover; Pat Cahalan polished our prose; Cheryl Moch handled the photo research.

We also want to thank those people who helped us

with research and essential clerical chores: Mindy Widman, Carol Stamets, and Lynn Groer.

The academic reviewers who are listed facing the title page were extremely helpful in offering their criticisms and suggestions as we planned this revision. We thank them for their time and their insights. We are especially grateful to Craig Calhoun, who sent us materials and answered a number of questions throughout the revision.

CONTENTS

PART ONE

THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE 1

CHAPTER 1

The Sociological Eye 3

Using the Sociological Perspective 4

Social Facts 6

Being Sick 6

Fear of Crime 7

The Development of Sociology 8

European Pioneers 8

Sociology in America 12

Theoretical Perspectives 14

The Interactionist Perspective 14

The Functionalist Perspective 16

The Conflict Perspective 18

The Value of Using Various Perspectives 19

The Uses of Sociology 19

Making Sense of Common Sense 19

Sociology and Other Disciplines 20

Sociology and Public Policy 22

CHAPTER 2**Methods and Science in Sociology 27****The Scientific Method 27***Steps in the Scientific Method 28**The Science of Sociology 31**The Interplay of Method and Theory in Sociology 32***Research Methods 34***The Experiment 34**The Survey 35**Field Observation 40**Historical Approaches 41**Content Analysis 43***Values and Ethics in Sociological Research 44***Values and Theories 44**The Sociology of Research 45**Research Ethics 48***PART TWO****BECOMING A SOCIAL BEING 53**

CHAPTER 3**Culture 55****Elements of Culture 56***Norms 56**Values 59**Symbols 60**Language 63***Biology and Culture 63***The Sociobiological View 63**The Critics of Biological Determinism 65**A Sociological Theory of Cultural Change 66***Diversity and Integration 66***Cultural Relativity and Ethnocentrism 66**Cultural Integration 67**Subcultures and Countercultures 68**The Case of the Hispanics 69***Culture Against People 71**

CHAPTER 4**Interaction and Social Structure 77****Levels of Sociological Analysis 78***The Microsociological Perspective 78**The Macrosociological Level 79***Social Interaction 80***Symbolic Interaction 81**Dramaturgy 83**Ethnomethodology 86**Social Exchange 86***Social Structure 88***Status 88**Roles 89**Social Groups 92**Institutions 92**Societies 93***CHAPTER 5****Socialization 99****Socialization: Nature or Nurture? 100***Interaction of Heredity and Environment 100**The Effects of Isolation 101***The Dynamics of Socialization 104***Cooley and Mead: Identity Through Symbolic Interaction 104**Conflict Theory and Socialization 106***Agents of Socialization 108***The Family 108**Peer Groups 110**The Media 111**The School 112**The Workplace 113***Stages of Socialization 114***Erikson: Psychosocial Development 117**Jean Piaget: Cognitive Development 119**Lawrence Kohlberg: Moral Development 120***Issues of Adulthood and Aging 122***Early and Middle Adulthood 122**Later Adulthood 123*

CHAPTER 6**Sex Roles 131****How Different Are the Sexes? 131***The Biological Evidence 132**The Cultural Evidence 133**The Historical Evidence 135**The Psychological Evidence 136***Gender Identity and Socialization 139***Gender Training 140***Sex Role Stratification 142***The Legacy of the Traditional Female Role 143**The Legacy of the Traditional Male Role 145**Persistence and Change 149***PART THREE****ORGANIZING SOCIAL LIFE 155**

CHAPTER 7**Social Groups 157****The Nature of Social Groups 157***Characteristics of Social Groups 158**Functions of Groups 158***Types of Groups 159***Primary Groups 159**Secondary Groups 160**In-Groups and Out-Groups 161**Reference Groups 163***Group Dynamics 165***Group Size 165**Social Conformity 168**Leadership 170**Group Decision Making 171*

CHAPTER 8**Organizations and Bureaucracy 177****Organizational Structures 177***The Nature of Formal Organization 178**Types of Formal Organization 178***Bureaucracy 180***Weber's Model 182**Shortcomings and Limitations of Bureaucracy 183**Bureaucracy and Careers 186**Humanizing Bureaucracy 189***Dynamics of Organization 190***The Internal Environment 190**The External Environment 191**Major Sources of Change 193**The Japanese Organization 195***CHAPTER 9****Deviance and Social Control 201****The Nature of Deviance and Social Control 202***Some Myths About Deviance 202**The Role of Power and Social Definitions 204**Social Control 205**Deviance, Control, and the Social Order 208***Explanations of Deviance 209***Biological Explanations 210**Psychological Explanations 211**Structural Stress Theory 211**Cultural Transmission Theory 213**Conflict Theory 214**The Labeling Perspective 215***Crime and Criminal Justice 218***Types of Crimes 218**The Control of Crime 221*

PART FOUR**STRATIFICATION AND INEQUALITY 229**

CHAPTER 10**Class, Status, and Mobility 231****Dimensions of Stratification 232***Wealth and Income* 232*Power* 235*Prestige* 236**Life Chances 237***Life Expectancy* 239*Nutrition* 239*Housing* 239*Mental Health* 240*Criminal Justice* 241**Two Theories of Social Stratification 241***Conflict Theory* 241*Functionalist Theory* 243*Combining the Two Theories* 245**The Land of Opportunity: An Evaluation 245***Open and Closed Systems* 247*Classes in the United States* 247*Horatio Alger: Myth or Reality?* 248*Status Attainment Processes* 250**Reducing Inequality 251***Who Are the Poor?* 252*Income Redistribution Programs* 255**CHAPTER 11****Power, Politics, and Economics 261****The Nature of Power 262***The Social Role of Power* 262*Legitimacy and Authority* 263**Economic Power 265***Economic Ideologies* 265*Modern Capitalism in Action* 269

Political Power 276*Political Ideology and the State 276**Political Power in America 277***How Concentrated and Stable Is Power? 285***The Marxist View 286**The Power Elite View 287**The Pluralist View 288***CHAPTER 12****Racial and Ethnic Relations 295****Minority Groups 296***Race and Ethnicity 296**Prejudice and Discrimination 298***When Different Groups Meet 299***Patterns of Conflict and Domination 299**Patterns of Accommodation 304***A Closer Look at Racial and Ethnic Stratification 307***The Psychological Perspective 307**The Role of Intergroup Conflict 307**The Cultural Factor 309***Contemporary American Race and Ethnic Relations 309***American Minority Groups 311**Minority Responses to Dominance 321**Efforts to Eliminate Institutional Discrimination 323***PART FIVE****SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS 331**

CHAPTER 13**The Family 333****The Nature of Family Life 333***Perspectives on the Family 334**The Wide Variation in Family Form 336**Patterns of Family Organization 338*

Origins of Different Family Forms 339

Marriage 341

Forms of Marriage 342

Choosing a Marriage Partner 342

Structure and Interaction in the American Family 344

Characteristics of the Nuclear Family 344

Variations in Family Patterns 346

Social Class Differences 349

Violence in the Family 352

Divorce 354

The Changing American Family 356

Alternative Life Styles and Family Structures 356

Changing Roles for Husbands and Wives 362

CHAPTER 14

Education 369

Symbolic Interaction Inside Schools 370

Classroom Interaction 370

The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy 370

The Conflicting Functions of Schools 372

The Functional View of Education 372

Conflict Theories of Education 375

Equality of Opportunity and Discrimination 379

Discrimination by IQ 379

The Coleman Report 381

The Rutter Report 382

Discrimination and Busing 384

The Social Structure of Higher Education 385

The Declining Value of College 385

The Personal Impact of College 386

Junior and Community Colleges 387

CHAPTER 15

Religion 391

The Basic Elements of Religion 391

Symbols of Sacredness 392

Beliefs 393

Rituals 394

Religious Community 394

Functions of Religion 394*Promoting Social Solidarity 395**Legitimation 395**Social Adaptation 395**Consecrating Life Events 396***Religion: The Conflict Perspective 397***Sacred Power Versus Secular Order 397**Fighting Oppression 397***Types of Religious Institutions 399***Church and Sect 399**Cults 400***Religion and Social Change 402***Modernization and Religious Choice 402***Varieties of Religious Expression 406***Mainline Churches: Changes and Trends 407**Invisible or Private Religion 409**The Electronic Church 410**The New Christian Right 411**Civil Religion 412*

PART SIX**CHANGING SOCIETY 415**

CHAPTER 16**Population and Health 417****Society and Population 417***Population and Social Values 418**Population and Social Mobility 419**Population and the Economy 419***Studying Populations 420***The U.S. Census 420**Elements of Population Change 421***World Population Growth 426***Malthus Versus Marx 426**The Demographic Transition 427**The Consequences of Rapid Growth 429**Women's Status and Reducing Growth 432*

Population and Health 432*The Role of Medicine in Health 433**The Environment and Health 434**The World Health Situation 435**Poverty and Health 437**Health Care in America 438**New Concepts in Health Care 439***Future Trends in American Health Care 441****CHAPTER 17****Urban Life 445****The Urban Transformation 445***The Evolution of the City 446**World Urbanization 451**Urban Ecology 452***Modern Urban Life 456***Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft 456**Alienation or Community? 457**The Suburbs 460***The Urban Crisis 462***Population and Economic Shifts 462**Declining Older Central Cities 464***The Future of Urban America 465***Revitalizing the Cities: Innovations and Programs 466**Beyond the Megalopolis 468***CHAPTER 18****Collective Behavior and Social Movements 473****Preconditions for Collective Behavior 474***Structural Conduciveness 475**Social Strain 475**Generalized Belief 475**Precipitating Events 476**Mobilization of Participants 477**Social Control 477*

Crowd Behavior 477*Profile of Mob Action 479**Explaining Crowd Behavior 481***Social Movements 483***Types of Social Movements 483**The Causes of Social Movements 484**Profile on Contemporary Social Movements 488***Collective Behavior and the Media 493****CHAPTER 19****Social Change and Technology 499****Social Change and the Computer Revolution 499***Computers and Social Change 500**Social Effects of Computers 502**High Technology and Jobs 504***Macroperspectives on Social Change 509***The Evolutionary Perspective 509**The Cyclical Perspective 510**The Equilibrium Perspective 511**The Conflict Perspective 512***Sources of Change 513***Population Changes 513**Technological Innovation 514**New Ideas 515**Diffusion 516***Modernization and World-Systems 518***Patterns of Modernization 518**World-System Approaches 518*

REFERENCES 525

GLOSSARY 549

NAME INDEX 555

SUBJECT INDEX 567