

# *Seeing Ourselves*

Classic, Contemporary, and  
Cross-Cultural Readings in Sociology

*Fifth Edition*



John J. Macionis • Nijole V. Benokraitis

# Seeing Ourselves

*Classic, Contemporary,  
and Cross-Cultural Readings  
in Sociology*

*Fifth Edition*

*Edited by*

**John J. Macionis**

*Kenyon College*

**Nijole V. Benokraitis**

*University of Baltimore*



Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

Seeing ourselves : classic, contemporary, and cross-cultural readings in sociology /  
edited by John J. Macionis, Nijole V. Benokraitis.—5th ed.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-13-081358-3 (alk. paper)

I. Sociology. I. Macionis, John J. II. Benokraitis, Nijole V. (Nijole Vaicaitis)

HM586.S44 2000

301—dc21

00-038561

VP, Editorial director: Laura Pearson  
Publisher: Nancy Roberts  
Acquisitions editor: Christopher DeJohn  
Managing editor: Sharon Chambliss  
Editorial/production supervision and  
interior design: Barbara Reilly  
Editorial assistant: Christina Scalia  
Prepress and manufacturing buyer: Mary Ann Gloriande  
Director of marketing: Gina Sluss  
Cover art director: Jayne Conte  
Cover design: Bruce Kenselaar  
Cover art: Maurice Brazil Prendergast, *American (1859–1924),  
Ramparts, St. Malo*, oil on canvas. David David Gallery,  
Philadelphia/SuperStock.

This book was set in 10/12 Times New Roman by DM Cradle Associates  
and was printed and bound by Hamilton Printing Company.  
The cover was printed by Phoenix Color Corp.



© 2001, 1998, 1995, 1992, 1989 by Prentice-Hall, Inc.  
A Division of Pearson Education  
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be  
reproduced, in any form or by any means,  
without permission in writing from the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

**ISBN: 0-13-081358-3**

Prentice-Hall International (UK) Limited, *London*  
Prentice-Hall of Australia Pty. Limited, *Sydney*  
Prentice-Hall Canada Inc., *Toronto*  
Prentice-Hall Hispanoamericana, S.A., *Mexico*  
Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited, *New Delhi*  
Prentice-Hall of Japan, Inc., *Tokyo*  
Pearson Education Asia Pte. Ltd., *Singapore*  
Editora Prentice-Hall do Brasil, Ltda., *Rio de Janeiro*

# Preface

“Change is one thing,” Bertrand Russell pointed out, “progress is another.” This new edition of *Seeing Ourselves* brings Russell’s words to life. To be sure, the readings in this anthology highlight the many ways our world is changing. But pointing to change is just part of the history. In addition, classroom readings must help students ask questions about the shape of our society: Are social changes—involving technology, the economy, international relations, and social movements at home—improving quality of life? For whom? What should our goals for the future be? Our purpose in revising *Seeing Ourselves* is to present to students the many social changes that are shaping their lives as well as to help them think critically about the kind of world they will build in the twenty-first century.

*Seeing Ourselves* presents the very best of sociological thought, from the work of the discipline’s pioneers to the men and women who are doing today’s cutting-edge research. The selections explore both U.S. society and global trends. This reader provides excellent material for a wide range of courses, including introductory sociology, social problems, cultural anthropology, social

theory, social stratification, American studies, women’s studies, and marriage and the family.

## THE THREE C’S: CLASSIC, CONTEMPORARY, AND CROSS-CULTURAL

Since its introduction a decade ago, *Seeing Ourselves* has been the most popular reader in the discipline. The new, fifth edition offers seventy-seven selections that represent the breadth and depth of sociology. *Seeing Ourselves* is not only the most extensive anthology available, it is the only one that systematically weaves together three kinds of selections. For each general topic typically covered in a sociology course, three types of articles are included: *classic*, *contemporary*, and *cross-cultural*.

*Classic* articles—thirty in all—are sociological statements of recognized importance and lasting significance. Included here are the ideas of sociology’s founders and shakers—including Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, Max Weber, Georg Simmel, Ferdinand Tönnies, as well as Margaret Mead,

W.E.B. Du Bois, Louis Wirth, George Herbert Mead, Thomas Robert Malthus, and Charles Horton Cooley. Also found here are more recent contributions by Alfred Kinsey, Jessie Bernard, Robert Merton, Erving Goffman, Peter Berger, Kingsley Davis and Wilbert Moore, C. Wright Mills, Talcott Parsons, Leslie White, and Jo Freeman.

We recognize that not everyone will agree about precisely which selections warrant the term “classic.” We hope, however, that instructors will be pleased to see the work of so many outstanding men and women—carefully edited with undergraduate students in mind—available in a single, affordable source.

Twenty-four *contemporary* selections focus on current sociological issues, controversies, and applications. These articles show sociologists at work and demonstrate the importance of ongoing research. They make for stimulating reading and offer thought-provoking insights about ourselves and the surrounding world. Among the contemporary selections in *Seeing Ourselves* are Earl Babbie on the importance of sociological research, George Ritzer on McDonaldization and jobs, James Davison Hunter on today’s “culture wars,” Jay Coakley offering a sociological analysis of sport, Dianne Herman pointing out the cultural roots of sexual violence, Deborah Tannen explaining why the two sexes often talk past each other, Robert Michael et al. reporting how many sexual partners U.S. adults really have, George Gerbner on television and violence, Andrew Hacker on the state of black and white America, Patricia Hill Collins analyzing the plight of women of color, Nijole Benokraitis on patterns of subtle discrimination, John Macionis sketching the shape of the coming “cyber-society,” William Julius Wilson describing the rising desperation of some inner-city residents, William O’Hare profiling affluent Latinos, Roseann Giarrusso et al. on the increasing importance of grandparenting, Catharine MacKinnon’s view of pornography as a form of domination, David Popenoe’s contention that fatherhood is in serious decline, Jonathan Kozol’s charges of “savage inequalities” in our schools, Ruth

Zambrana et al. on the health of Latino families, James Jasper and Dorothy Nelkin’s account of the animal rights movement, Lester Brown’s survey of the state of the world’s environment, and Joe Feagin and Robert Parker’s assessment of the role of big business in the life of today’s cities.

The twenty-three *cross-cultural* selections offer sociological insights about the striking cultural diversity of the United States and the larger world. Included are well-known works such as “Body Ritual among the Nacirema” by Horace Miner, “India’s Sacred Cow” by Marvin Harris, “The Amish: A Small Society” by John Hostetler, J.M. Carrier’s “Homosexual Behavior in Cross-Cultural Perspective,” and Elijah Anderson’s “The Code of the Streets.” Other articles explore issues and problems including the state of American Indians, how familiar gestures can offend people in other societies, how Japanese and U.S. business people behave according to different sets of rules, the staggering burden of African poverty, women’s social standing around the world, the rising number of elderly people worldwide, cross-cultural patterns of mate selection, Islam’s view of women, academic achievement among Southeast Asian immigrants, and the rising global population. Cross-cultural selections stimulate critical thinking about social diversity in North America as well as broaden students’ understanding of other cultures.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE READER

This reader parallels the chapter sequence common to textbooks used in introductory sociology. Instructors can easily and effectively use these articles in a host of other courses, just as teachers can assign articles in whatever order they wish. For each of the twenty-three general topics, a cluster of three or four articles is presented, each cluster including at least one classic, one contemporary, and one cross-cultural selection. The expansive coverage of these seventy-seven articles ensures that instructors can choose readings well suited to their own classes.

The first grouping of articles describes the distinctive sociological perspective, brings to life the promise and pitfalls of sociological research, and demonstrates the discipline's applications to a variety of issues. The selections that follow focus on key concepts: culture, society, socialization, social interaction, groups and organizations, deviance, and human sexuality. The focus then turns to various dimensions of social inequality, with attention to class, gender, race and ethnicity, and aging. The major social institutions are covered next, including the economy and work; politics, government, and the military; family; religion; education; and health and medicine. The final sets of articles explore dimensions of global transformation—including population growth, urbanization, the natural environment, social movements, and social change.

## A NOTE ON LANGUAGE

All readings are presented in their original form; the editors have not altered any author's language. Readers should be aware that some of the older selections—especially the classics—use male pronouns rather than more contemporary gender-neutral terminology, and one article employs the term “Negro.” We have not changed the language in any article, wishing not to violate the historical authenticity of any document. That said, we urge faculty and students, with the original articles in hand, to consider the significance of changing language in their analysis of the author's ideas.

## TEACHING FEATURES

This reader has two features that enhance the learning of students. First, a brief introduction, preceding each selection, presents the essential argument and highlights important issues to keep in mind while completing the reading. Second, each article is followed by three or four “Critical-Thinking Questions” that develop the signifi-

cance of the reading, help students evaluate their own learning, and stimulate class discussion.

## INTERNET SITES

Readers are also invited to visit our sociology Web sites. At <http://www.prenhall.com/macionis> students will find online study guides for the Macionis introductory texts (*Sociology* and *Society: The Basics*), including discussion topics, test questions, and Internet links. Another site, <http://www.thesociologypage.com> (or <http://www.macionis.com>), provides information about the field of sociology, biographies of key sociologists, recent news of interest to sociologists, and more than fifty links to worthwhile Internet sites.

Also, <http://www.prenhall.com/benokraitis> offers more than 400 “hot links” to topics such as theory, sociological research, culture, socialization, interaction and communication, sexuality, race and ethnicity, gender roles, aging, work, marriage, health, family violence, and social change.

## INSTRUCTOR'S TEST ITEM FILE

Prentice Hall also supports *Seeing Ourselves* with a Test Item File, prepared by Leda A. Thompson. For each of the seventy-seven selections in this reader, the Test Item File provides instructors with six multiple-choice questions (with answers) and several essay questions for easy test creation. The multiple-choice questions are also available on computer disk for users of IBM and Macintosh personal computers.

## CHANGES TO THE FIFTH EDITION

We are grateful to our colleagues at hundreds of colleges and universities who have made *Seeing Ourselves* a part of their courses. Energized by

this unparalleled reception, the editors have now produced an even stronger edition. Here are the key changes:

**1. Sixteen new articles**, of a total of seventy-seven, appear in the fifth edition. As one might expect, changes to classic selections are limited: in this case, to a new selection from Alfred Kinsey's groundbreaking study of human sexuality. There are eight new contemporary selections, including Jay Coakley, "How Would a Sociologist Look at Sport?"; Earl Babbie, "The Importance of Social Research"; George Ritzer, "McJobs: McDonaldization and the Workplace"; Robert Michael et al., "Sex in America: How Many Partners Do We Have?"; Andrew Hacker, "Who Has How Much and Why?"; Roseann Giarrusso et al., "How the Grandparent Role Is Changing"; Jonathan Kozol, "Savage Inequalities: Children in U.S. Schools"; and James Jasper and Dorothy Nelkin, "The Animal Rights Movement as a Moral Crusade."

In addition, this fifth edition offers seven new cross-cultural selections, enriching the anthology's multicultural and global content. The new selections in this category are Elijah Anderson, "The Code of the Streets"; C. Matthew Snipp, "A Comeback for American Indians"; Naomi Neft and Ann D. Levine, "Women in Today's World"; Frank Hobbs and Bonnie Damon, "Our Aging World"; Adrian Karatnycky, "Freedom in the World: A Global Survey"; J. Kenneth Smail, "Let's Reduce Global Population!"; and Janet Hadley, "Abortion Movements in Poland, Great Britain, and the United States."

**2. A new cluster of articles on human sexuality.** Many sociology courses now include discussion of human sexuality. In this revision, therefore, the editors have added three selections on this topic: Alfred Kinsey's classic study of sexual orientation; Robert Michael, John Gagnon, Edward Laumann, and Gina Kolata's "Sex in America: How Many Partners Do We Have?"; and J. M. Carrier's "Homosexual Behavior in Cross-Cultural Perspective."

**3. A continued emphasis on diversity.** In *Seeing Ourselves*, "diversity" involves three important objectives. First is *global* content. The editors have worked hard to include in this collection the work of sociologists from around the world. Twenty-one of the selections in this edition deal primarily with social patterns beyond the borders of the United States. Second, "diversity" refers to *multicultural* issues. The selections in this edition of *Seeing Ourselves* highlights the lives of African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, and American Indians and other native peoples, as well as women and men from all social class backgrounds. This anthology, in short, brings to the center the lives of people often pushed to the margins of society. Third, "diversity" means presenting to students arguments from *different points of view*. Using this reader, students will grapple with important issues and debates reflecting various positions on the political spectrum.

**4. A small change in topic ordering.** In this edition, we have reversed the order of the cluster dealing with gender and the cluster dealing with race and ethnicity. This small change, reflecting the suggestion of several classroom instructors, gives students more experience discussing social inequality before they focus on race, a topic that some students find difficult to discuss in class.

As in the past, we invite faculty and students to share their thoughts and reactions to this reader. Write to John Macionis at the Department of Anthropology-Sociology, Olof Palme House, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623 or to Nijole Benokraitis at the Department of Sociology, University of Baltimore, 1420 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201-5779. E-mail addresses are [macionis@kenyon.edu](mailto:macionis@kenyon.edu) and [nbenokraitis@ubmail.ubalt.edu](mailto:nbenokraitis@ubmail.ubalt.edu)

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The editors are grateful to a number of colleagues for their help in preparing this reader. First, the

relationship between writers and publishers is a distinctive mix of friendship, creative tension, and a shared commitment to do the best job possible. For her unwavering support from the outset, we wish to express our gratitude to Nancy Roberts, publisher, at Prentice Hall. Sharon Chambliss, managing editor for sociology, coordinated myriad tasks and shepherded this edition's production with her usual calm and good cheer. Special thanks go to Barbara Reilly, production editor, for her commitment to excellence and her meticulous attention to detail.

Nijole Benokraitis is grateful to Linda Fair, secretary of the Division of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Social Policy, at the University of Baltimore and to Taneisha Sanders, graduate research assistant, for their invaluable assistance in preparing many of the articles for publication. Both editors are indebted to Amy Marsh Macionis for her skillful editorial review of the entire manuscript.

A number of other colleagues offered critical comments, which have improved the final book:

Afrola Anwary, Concordia College; Kathleen A. Asburg, Community College of Philadelphia; Frank Barter, Community College of Philadelphia; Scott H. Beck, East Tennessee State University; Marshall A. Botkin, Frederick Community College; Joseph E. Boyle, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Julie V. Brown, University of North Carolina, Greensboro; Meredith A. Myers, University of Georgia; Ron Pagnucco, Mt. St. Mary's College; Barry Perlman, Community College of Philadelphia; Salvador Rivera, State University of New York—Cobleskill; Ron L. Shamuffell, Community College of Philadelphia; and Randall J. Thomson, North Carolina State University.

Finally, recognizing the fact that the academic profession too often undervalues the core role of teaching, John Macionis and Nijole Benokraitis dedicate *Seeing Ourselves* to the men and women who have committed their lives to educating today's undergraduates, helping them to develop the skills and the insights that will play a part in reshaping tomorrow's world.



# Contents

Preface xv

## ***The Sociological Perspective***

### CLASSIC

- 1** “The Promise of Sociology” by C. Wright Mills 1

*Mills describes the importance and power of the sociological perspective.*

### CLASSIC

- 2** “Invitation to Sociology” by Peter L. Berger 6

*If sociology amounts to little more than “common sense,” why does it change our perceptions of the surrounding world and ourselves?*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 3** “How Would a Sociologist Look at Sport?” by Jay J. Coakley 10

*A sociologist applies the sociological perspective to a familiar area of everyday life.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 4** “Body Ritual among the Nacirema” by Horace Miner 14

*Miner describes a society with bizarre customs and rituals. Can you guess which one?*

## ***Sociological Research***

### CLASSIC

- 5** “The Case for Value-Free Sociology” by Max Weber 18

*Weber makes an enduring statement on the goal of objectivity in science and fair-mindedness in teaching.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 6 “The Importance of Social Research” by Earl Babbie 20

*Research—rather than emotions or stereotypes—should guide our approach to social problems such as poverty.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 7 “Sensitivity in Field Research: A Study of Policing in Northern Ireland” by John D. Brewer 23

*Conducting research on controversial topics or in dangerous locations can be physically and emotionally threatening to investigators and subjects alike.*

Culture

CLASSIC

- 8 “Symbol: The Basic Element of Culture” by Leslie A. White 31

*A noted anthropologist explains the symbolic foundation of culture.*

CLASSIC

- 9 “Manifest and Latent Functions” by Robert K. Merton 36

*Cultural patterns have many consequences; some are widely recognized while others are more subtle.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 10 “The Rape Culture” by Dianne F. Herman 38

*By linking sexuality and violence, U.S. culture encourages unhealthy human relationships.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 11 “India’s Sacred Cow” by Marvin Harris 47

*Harris, an anthropologist, views exotic and seemingly inexplicable cultural patterns as sensible strategies for survival in a particular environment.*

Society

CLASSIC

- 12 “Manifesto of the Communist Party” by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels 51

*In their best-known essay, Marx and Engels present an enduring criticism of capitalist society.*

CLASSIC

- 13 “Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft” by Ferdinand Tönnies 59

*Tönnies advanced two models of societal organization that represent lasting conceptual tools for understanding how societies change.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 14 “Welcome to Cyber-Society!” by John J. Macionis 62

*Two centuries ago, the Industrial Revolution rewrote the rules of social life. The Information Revolution is now doing the same thing once again.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 15 “The Amish: A Small Society” by John A. Hostetler 68

*Are the Amish relics of the past, or do they have important lessons to teach the rest of us?*

## Socialization

### CLASSIC

- 16** “The Self” by George Herbert Mead 71  
*Our basic humanity and each individual’s distinctive personality arise only through social experience.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 17** “Socialization and Television Violence” by George Gerbner 79  
*Television does affect our attitudes and behavior—and not always for the better.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 18** “Parents’ Socialization of Children in Global Perspective” by D. Terri Heath 88  
*Across vastly different cultural environments, the closeness of children to parents remains a constant, critical factor in the socialization process.*

## Social Interaction in Everyday Life

### CLASSIC

- 19** “The Dyad and the Triad” by Georg Simmel 93  
*A pioneering sociologist explains why our most meaningful relationships typically involve only one or two other people.*

### CLASSIC

- 20** “The Presentation of Self” by Erving Goffman 95  
*Face-to-face interaction may seem spontaneous, but much human behavior is carefully staged.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 21** “You Just Don’t Understand: Women and Men in Conversation” by Deborah Tannen 101  
*In this selection from her best-selling book, Tannen explores how gender presents a formidable barrier to communication even among married couples.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 22** “The DOs and TABOOs of Body Language around the World” by Roger E. Axtell 107  
*As travelers, we find that it is easy to offend others just by being ourselves.*

## Groups and Organizations

### CLASSIC

- 23** “Primary Groups” by Charles Horton Cooley 113  
*An early U.S. sociologist explains that intimate group life is vital to the social and emotional development of human beings.*

### CLASSIC

- 24** “The Characteristics of Bureaucracy” by Max Weber 117  
*Weber contends that the rational orientation of the modern world is most clearly evident in bureaucratic organizations.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 25** “McJobs: McDonaldization and the Workplace” by George Ritzer 121  
*Organizations that adopt the McDonald’s model are controlling not only their workers but also their customers.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 26** “Japanese Etiquette and Ethics in Business” by *Boye De Mente* 126

*An expanding global economy demands that we learn more about the business practices of other societies.*

## Deviance

### CLASSIC

- 27** “The Functions of Crime” by *Emile Durkheim* 138

*Is crime pathological or a normal element of social organization? Durkheim argues that crime is found everywhere because it makes important contributions to social life.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 28** “On Being Sane in Insane Places” by *David L. Rosenhan* 141

*An experiment in which healthy people request—and receive—treatment at a mental hospital raises serious questions about the professional diagnosis of people’s psychological condition.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 29** “The Code of the Streets” by *Elijah Anderson* 154

*Although most people in our inner cities support conventional values, a “code of the streets” leads some people to engage in crime and violence.*

## Sexuality

### CLASSIC

- 30** “Understanding Sexual Orientation” by *Alfred C. Kinsey, Wardell B. Pomeroy, and Clyde E. Martin* 165

*This first modern study of sexuality changed the way we look at sexual orientation.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 31** “Sex in America: How Many Partners Do We Have?” by *Robert T. Michael, John H. Gagnon, Edward O. Laumann, and Gina Kolata* 168

*Despite the common belief that the United States has become “free and easy” when it comes to sex, the typical individual has fewer sexual partners than most people think.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 32** “Homosexual Behavior in Cross-Cultural Perspective” by *J. M. Carrier* 175

*Sexuality is not simply a matter of biology; it is very much an element of culture. This selection explains how people around the world attach variable meaning to sexual activity.*

## Social Stratification

### CLASSIC

- 33** “Some Principles of Stratification” by *Kingsley Davis and Wilbert Moore* with a response by *Melvin Tumin* 186

*Davis and Moore argue that there are good reasons for the fact that social stratification is found everywhere. Tumin provides a counterpoint.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 34** “Who Has How Much and Why”  
by Andrew Hacker 194

*Andrew Hacker explains how and why the United States has become one of the most stratified societies in the industrialized world.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 35** “Women’s Poverty in Africa”  
by Daphne Topouzis” 201

*In Africa, the poorest continent in the world, the poverty rate is approaching 50 percent in many areas. Women and their children are typically the poorest of the poor.*

**Gender**

## CLASSIC

- 36** “Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies” by Margaret Mead 206

*This influential research laid much of the foundation for later scholarship concerning sex and gender.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 37** “How Subtle Sex Discrimination Works” by Nijole V. Benokraitis 212

*Much sexism is barely noticed because people have come to accept such patterns as normal.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 38** “Women in Today’s World” by Naomi Neft and Ann D. Levine 219

*In recent decades, women in Western societies have greatly expanded their rights and opportunities, but there is much more to be done.*

**Race and Ethnicity**

## CLASSIC

- 39** “The Souls of Black Folk” by W. E. B. Du Bois 226

*How does a racially conscious society force African Americans to develop a “double consciousness,” seeing themselves as Americans but also as a people set apart?*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 40** “Controlling Images and Black Women’s Oppression” by Patricia Hill Collins 231

*Gender and race prejudice interact to generate a significant threat to the self-image of women of color.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 41** “The Rise of Hispanic Affluence”  
by William O’Hare 239

*Many people stereotype minorities as poor. In fact, the number of rich people of all racial and ethnic categories is increasing. Here, we profile affluent Hispanics.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 42** “A Comeback for American Indians”  
by C. Matthew Snipp 243

*Native Americans used to be called the “vanishing Americans.” Since the 1980s, however, their numbers have been increasing. This selection explains why.*

## Aging and the Elderly

### CLASSIC

- 43** “The Tragedy of Old Age in America”  
by Robert N. Butler 247

*The problems of growing old in a “youth culture” end up hurting everyone.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 44** “How the Grandparent Role Is Changing”  
by Roseann Giarrusso, Merril Silverstein,  
and Vern L. Bengston 253

*Increasing life expectancy as well as changes in family structure are making grandparenting more important.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 45** “Our Aging World” by Frank B. Hobbs  
and Bonnie L. Damon 262

*The average age in societies around the globe is rising, raising important questions about meeting people’s needs in an aging world.*

## The Economy and Work

### CLASSIC

- 46** “Alienated Labor” by Karl Marx 266

*Marx maintains that capitalist society contradicts the social nature of work and produces alienated workers.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 47** “When Work Disappears” by William  
Julius Wilson 270

*Why are many inner cities facing catastrophic levels of poverty?*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 48** “Maid in the U.S.A.” by Mary  
Romero 280

*In the United States, domestic work—performed almost entirely by women of color—is both underpaid and undervalued.*

## Politics, Government, and the Military

### CLASSIC

- 49** “The Power Elite” by C. Wright  
Mills 287

*Is the United States a democracy, or is our society ruled by a rich and powerful elite?*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 50** “Pornography: Not a Moral Issue”  
by Catharine A. MacKinnon 294

*Many people see pornography as a moral issue. From a feminist point of view, however, it is a matter of power.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 51** “Freedom in the World: A Global  
Survey” by Adrian Karatnycky 302

*What is the state of freedom in today’s world? This timely report charts important political trends.*

## Family

### CLASSIC

- 52** “‘His’ and ‘Her’ Marriage” by Jessie  
Bernard 315

*Every marriage is really two marriages, and they are not the same.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 53** “The Decline of Marriage and Fatherhood” by David Popenoe 321

*Fathers in the United States are more removed from the family than ever before.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 54** “Mate Selection and Marriage around the World” by Bron B. Ingoldsby 329

*Individual choice—which we consider to be the “normal” way to find a spouse—is not the norm in much of the world.*

## Religion

## CLASSIC

- 55** “The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism” by Max Weber 336

*The power of ideas to change the world is evident in Weber’s analysis of how early Protestantism sparked the development of the capitalist economic system.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 56** “Culture Wars” by James Davison Hunter 342

*Yesterday’s religious conflict has given way to today’s political confrontation, which is often carried on with great religious fervor.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 57** “Women and Islam” by Jane I. Smith 349

*What are the basic principles that underlie Islam, a religion widespread in northern Africa and across Asia? And what does this religion really say about women?*

## Education

## CLASSIC

- 58** “Education and Inequality” by Samuel Bowles and Herbert Gintis 356

*Although we think that schooling promotes individual achievement, it has more to do with maintaining social inequality than many people realize.*

## CONTEMPORARY

- 59** “Savage Inequalities: Children in U.S. Schools” by Jonathan Kozol 363

*Schooling is supposed to be a way for all children to develop their talents and abilities. In practice, our school systems help some at the expense of others.*

## CROSS-CULTURAL

- 60** “Academic Achievement in Southeast Asian Refugee Families” by Nathan Caplan, Marcella H. Choy, and John K. Whitmore 369

*The academic excellence of young Southeast Asian immigrants suggests that socialization has a greater impact on achievement than big budgets for school systems.*

## Health and Medicine

## CLASSIC

- 61** “The Social Structure of Medicine” by Talcott Parsons 376

*Illness is a matter of social definitions negotiated by individuals with family members and physicians.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 62** “The Health of Latino Families”  
by Ruth E. Zambrana, Claudia Dorrington,  
and David Hayes-Bautista 380

*Health is more than a medical issue. In the United States, well-being is closely linked to ethnicity and social class position.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 63** “Female Genital Mutilation” by Efua  
Dorkenoo and Scilla Elworthy 388

*The practice of female genital mutilation reveals the link between gender and medical practices.*

**Population and Urbanization**

CLASSIC

- 64** “The Metropolis and Mental Life”  
by Georg Simmel 396

*Life in the city, claims one of sociology’s pioneers, induces a distinctive pattern of selective perception that both enhances and threatens our humanity.*

CLASSIC

- 65** “Urbanism as a Way of Life” by Louis  
Wirth 403

*Wirth makes an insightful statement on the social patterns that accompany living in cities.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 66** “The Urban Real Estate Game:  
Traditional and Critical Perspectives”  
by Joe R. Feagin and Robert Parker 409

*The major players in today’s cities are the large business interests.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 67** “Let’s Reduce Global Population!”  
by J. Kenneth Smail 423

*Many people agree that we need to limit global population increase. According to one analyst, the planet’s long-term survival may depend on cutting our current population by half.*

**Environment and Society**

CLASSIC

- 68** “Why Humanity Faces Ultimate  
Catastrophe” by Thomas Robert  
Malthus 428

*A dire prediction made two hundred years ago—that we humans threaten ourselves as we overwhelm the earth’s capacity to provide for us—takes on new meaning in today’s environmental debate.*

CONTEMPORARY

- 69** “The State of the World’s Natural  
Environment” by Lester R. Brown 432

*The deterioration of the world’s natural environment results primarily from the ways people choose to live.*

CROSS-CULTURAL

- 70** “Supporting Indigenous Peoples”  
by Alan Thein Durning 438

*The earth is losing not only its biological diversity but its cultural diversity as well.*



## Collective Behavior and Social Movements

### CLASSIC

- 71** “On the Origins of Social Movements”  
by Jo Freeman 446

*Looking at the women’s movement and the civil rights movement, Freeman examines the roots of intentional change.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 72** “The Animal Rights Movement as a Moral Crusade” by James M. Jasper and Dorothy Nelkin 459

*Since the 1980s, the animal rights movement has enjoyed considerable success. This article explains why.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 73** “Abortion Movements in Poland, Great Britain, and the United States” by Janet Hadley 466

*Abortion remains an explosive issue. Janet Hadley presents the controversies and campaigns in three countries.*

## Social Change and Modernity

### CLASSIC

- 74** “Anomy and Modern Life” by Emile Durkheim 476

*Human beings require the moral regulation of society because, unlike members of other species, our aspirations are not limited by nature. Modern societies, Durkheim warns,*

*are losing the capacity to rein in our desires, promoting the normlessness he terms “anomy.”*

### CLASSIC

- 75** “The Disenchantment of Modern Life”  
by Max Weber 481

*Whereas members of traditional societies explain their existence in terms of mystical forces, modern people assume they can rationally comprehend all reality. But science, claims Weber, provides no answer to questions of ultimate meaning.*

### CONTEMPORARY

- 76** “The Search for Meaning in Modern America” by Robert N. Bellah, Richard Madsen, William M. Sullivan, Ann Swidler, and Steven M. Tipton 483

*For many people, modern life is bewildering, providing too many options and too little guidance in making meaningful choices.*

### CROSS-CULTURAL

- 77** “The Price of Modernization: The Case of Brazil’s Kaiapo Indians” by Marlise Simons 496

*For many poor societies, modernization presents a dazzling prospect of affluence. But this promise blinds people to the costs of losing their traditional way of life.*