

GLOBAL
EDITION



Sociology

SIXTEENTH EDITION

John J. Macionis





This book is offered to teachers of sociology in the hope that it will help our students understand their place in today's society and in tomorrow's world.

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Sixteenth Edition

Global Edition

John J. Macionis

Kenyon College



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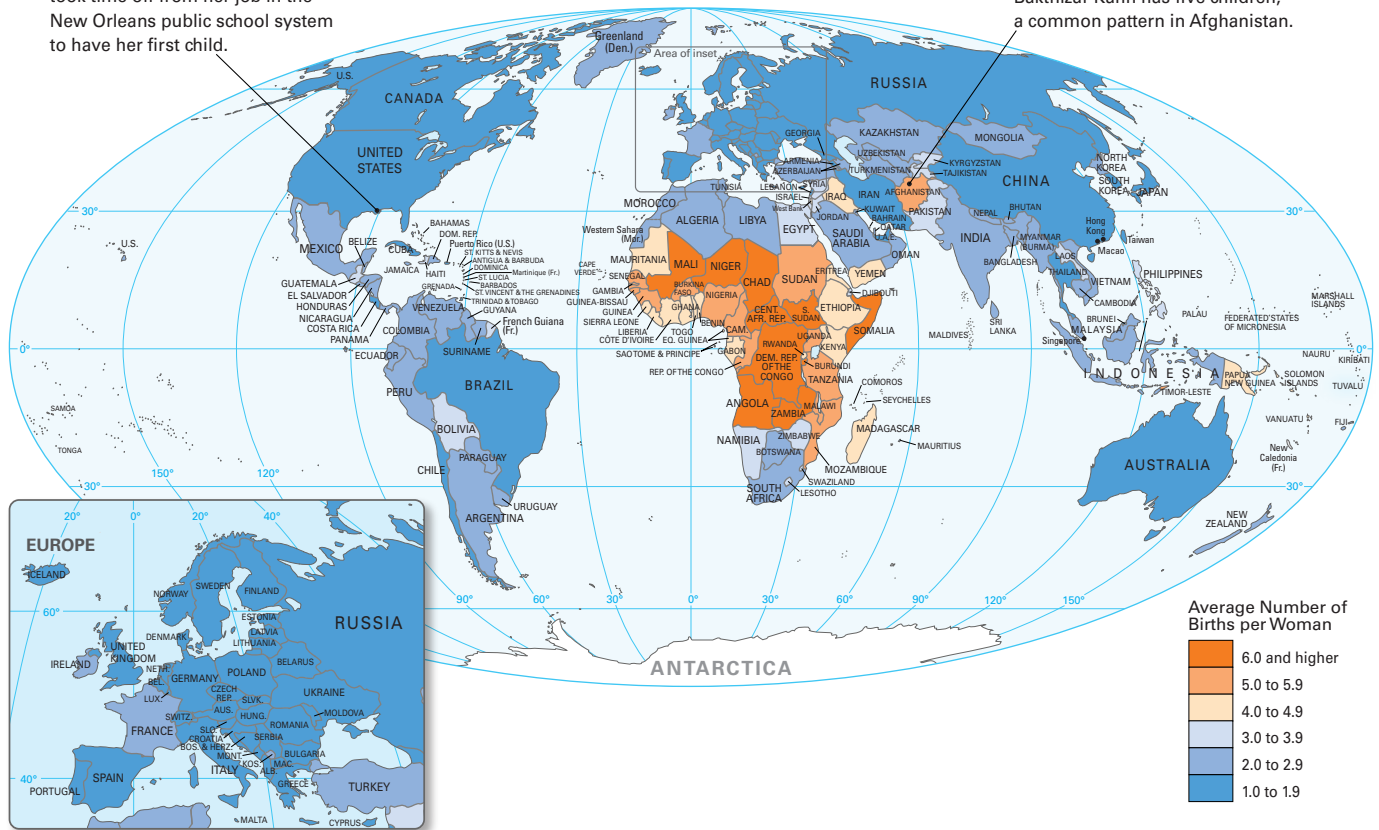
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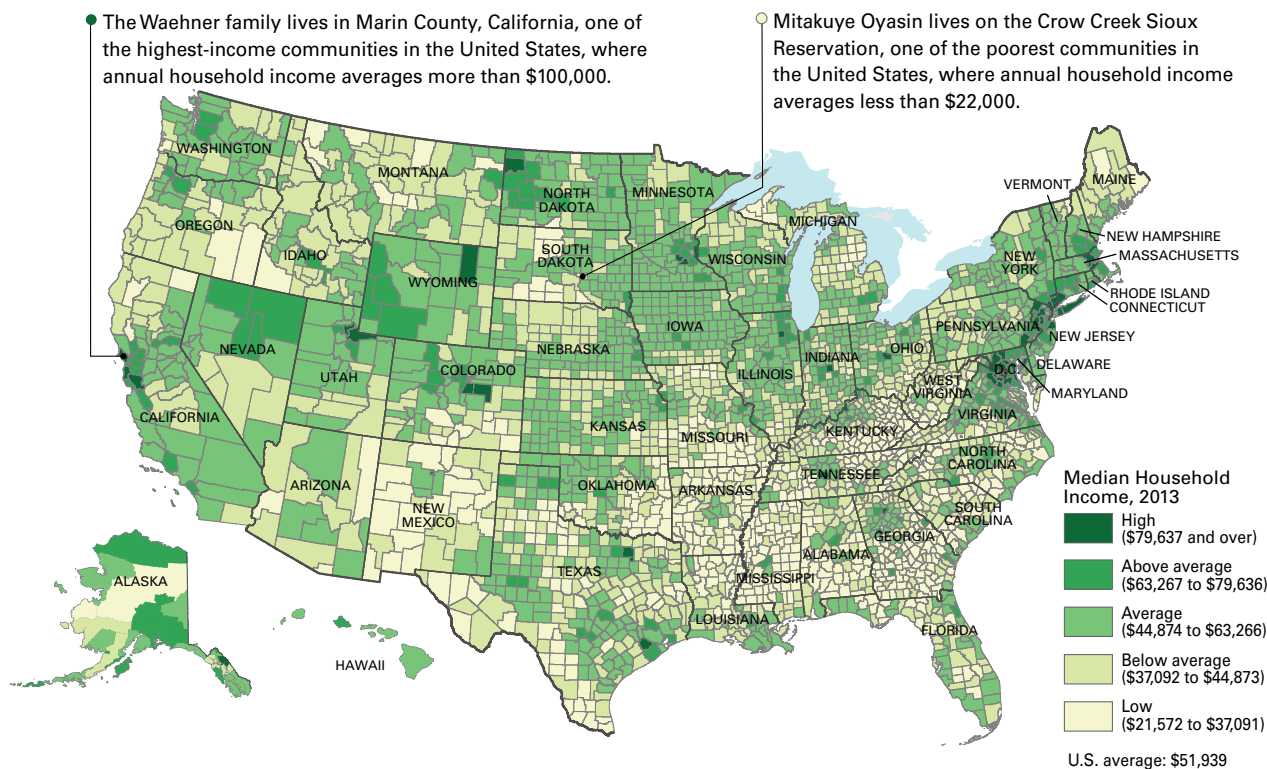
• Cindy Rucker, 29 years old, recently took time off from her job in the New Orleans public school system to have her first child.

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Preface

Our world challenges us like never before. Even as the economy climbs out of recession, unemployment remains high and the economic future is uncertain here in the United States and around the world. For decades, income inequality in our society has steadily increased, just as it is increasing for the world as a whole. There is a lot of anger about how our national leaders in Washington are doing—or not doing—their jobs. Technological disasters of our own making threaten the natural environment, and patterns of extreme weather only add to the mounting evidence of global warming.

Perhaps no one should be surprised to read polls that tell us most people are anxious about their economic future, unhappy with our political system, and worried about the state of the planet. Many of us simply feel overwhelmed, as if we were up against forces we can barely understand—much less control.

That's where sociology comes in. For more than 150 years, sociologists have been working to better understand how society operates. We sociologists may not have all the answers, but we have learned quite a lot that we can share with you. A beginning course in sociology is your introduction to the fascinating and very useful study of the social world. After all, we all have a stake in understanding our world and doing all we can to improve it.

Sociology, Sixteenth Edition, provides you with comprehensive understanding of how this world works. You will find this book to be informative, engaging, and even entertaining. Before you have finished the first chapter, you will discover that sociology is not only useful—it is also a great deal of fun. *Sociology is a field of study that can change the way you see the world and open the door to many new opportunities.* What could be more exciting than that?

What's New in This Edition

Here's a quick summary of the new material found throughout *Sociology, Sixteenth Edition*.

- **Learning Objectives.** Each major section of every chapter begins with a specific Learning Objective. These Learning Objectives have been reorganized and streamlined for this new edition. All Learning Objectives are listed at the beginning of each chapter and they organize the summary at the end of each chapter.
- **Updated Power of Society figures.** If you could teach your students only one thing in the introductory course, what would it be? Probably, most instructors would an-

swer, “to understand the power of society to shape people's lives.” Each chapter begins with a Power of Society figure that does exactly that—forcing students to give up some of their cultural common sense that points to the importance of “personal choice” by showing them evidence of how society shapes our major life decisions.

- A **new design** makes this edition of the text the cleanest and easiest ever to read. Also, the photo and art programs have been thoroughly reviewed and updated.
- Much more on **social media**. More than ever before, social life revolves around computer-based technology that shapes networks and social movements. The discussion of social media has been expanded and updated throughout the text.
- **More scholarship dealing with race, class, and gender.** Just as this revision focuses on patterns that apply to all of U.S. society, it also highlights dimensions of social difference. This diversity focus includes more analysis of race, class, and gender throughout the text, including new scholarship. Other dimensions of difference include transgender as well as disability issues. “Thinking About Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender” boxed features highlight specific diversity issues, and “Seeing Ourselves” national maps show social patterns in terms of geography, highlighting rural-urban and regional differences.
- This revision has all the **most recent data** on income, wealth, poverty, education, employment, and other important issues. Political developments are also up-to-date, including the mid-2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision that extends legal same-sex marriage throughout the country.

Here is a brief summary of some of the material that is new, chapter by chapter:

Chapter 1: Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method

The updated Power of Society figure shows how race, schooling, and age guide people's choice of marriage partners. The revised chapter highlights the latest on same-sex marriage, including the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Find updates on the number of children born to women in nations around the world; the number of high-income, middle-income, and low-income nations; and the changing share of minorities in major sports. As in every chapter, the photography program has been substantially revised and updated, with all captions written by the author.

Chapter 2: Sociological Investigation

The updated Power of Society figure demonstrates how race shapes young men's odds of going to college or ending up in prison. The revised chapter contains new data on economic inequality, extramarital relationships, and the share of the population that claims to be multiracial.

Chapter 3: Culture

The updated Power of Society figure contrasts high- and low-income nations in popular support for access to abortion. The discussion of cultural values has been revised and expanded. The 2015 terrorist violence in Paris is the center of an expanded discussion of dealing with cultural differences. A new global map shows the percentage of foreign-born people in countries around the world, and a new Global Snapshot shows the use of English, Spanish, and Chinese as first and second languages around the world. The revised chapter has updates on the income and wealth of the Asian American, Hispanic American, and African American communities, as well as new data on the number of languages spoken as a measure of this country's cultural diversity, the declining number of languages spoken around the world, the extent of global illiteracy, patterns of immigration, the debate over official English, the life goals for people entering college, the latest symbols used in texting language, and the share of all web pages written in English.

Chapter 4: Society

The updated Power of Society figure shows the expanding use of social networking sites over time throughout the U.S. population. The revised chapter has new facts and updates on social media, the extent of computer use, and various other measures of modernity. An increasing amount of popular culture has been incorporated into the discussions of classical theory.

Chapter 5: Socialization

The updated Power of Society figure shows that class guides use of the mass media, documenting that people without a high school diploma spend much more time watching television than people with a college degree. The revised chapter has new discussion of Osagie Obasogie's research on how blind people perceive race. Find the latest on the share of people who claim to be multiracial, time spent watching television and using smartphones, the link between television and violence, and the share of the world's children who work for income.

Chapter 6: Social Interaction in Everyday Life

The updated Power of Society figure shows how age guides the extent of networking using social media. The

discussion of reality building addresses how films expand people's awareness of the challenges of living with various disabilities. The revised chapter has updates on use of networking sites by age in the United States, the increasing scope of Facebook and Twitter around the world, the consequences of smartphone technology for everyday life, and expanded discussion of the history of humor.

Chapter 7: Groups and Organizations

The updated Power of Society figure shows how class affects organizational affiliations. The revised chapter has updates on the size and global scope of McDonald's, the increasing extent of Internet use around the world, the social effects of the expansion of Facebook as a global network, the number of political incumbents who won reelection in 2014, and the disproportionate share of managerial positions held by white males. There is expanded coverage of the steady loss of privacy in our social world.

Chapter 8: Sexuality and Society

The updated Power of Society figure tracks the trend toward the acceptance of same-sex marriage over time. There is new discussion of epigenetic theory of sexual orientation and also new discussion of the high risk of suicide among transgender people. Find updates on laws regulating marriage between first cousins, the 2015 Supreme Court ruling legalizing same-sex marriage, the latest data on the share of high school students who report having had sexual intercourse, the latest research on sexual attraction and sexual identity, the extent of rape and "acquaintance rape" across the United States, and the size of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community.

Chapter 9: Deviance

The updated Power of Society figure shows how race places some categories of the U.S. population at much higher risk of being incarcerated for a drug offense. Find the latest statistical information on the extent of legal gambling across the United States; the increasing extent of legal "medical marijuana" use; recent research on the cost of incarceration; the share of white-collar criminals who end up in jail; mining deaths as a reflection of corporate crime; and the number of serious crimes recorded for 2013. There is analysis of patterns of arrest for "person crimes" and "property crimes" by age, sex, race, and ethnicity for 2013. Attention is also given to the decreasing gender gap in crime rates. The chapter reports the number of police in the United States and the number of people in prison; it provides a statistically based exploration of the use of the death penalty and highlights recent legal changes to capital punishment laws. Finally, there is greater attention to the increasing number of people who are incarcerated in the United States.

Chapter 10: Social Stratification

The updated Power of Society figure compares two communities in Florida—one affluent and one economically struggling—and finds striking effects of class on life expectancy. The revised chapter has numerous updates on social inequality in Russia, China, and South Africa, and on the extent of economic inequality in selected nations around the world. The Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life photo essay has been refreshed.

Chapter 11: Social Class in the United States

The updated Power of Society figure shows how race and ethnicity set the odds that a child in the United States will live in poverty. The revised chapter has the latest data for all measures of economic inequality in the United States, including income and wealth, the economic assets of the richest U.S. families, and the educational achievement of various categories of the population. The chapter has the most recent trends in pay for Wall Street executives and also new data showing that the recent recession has reduced average family wealth. New data show the racial gap in home ownership, the odds of completing a four-year college degree for people at various class levels, and the extent of poverty in the United States. There is updated discussion of the American dream in an age of economic recession as well as the increasing social segregation experienced by low-income families. There are 2013 data on the extent of poverty, the number of working poor, changes in the minimum wage, the rise in income inequality, and how poverty interacts with age, sex, race, and ethnicity. There are new data on economic mobility as well as the extent of homelessness.

Chapter 12: Global Stratification

The updated Power of Society figure shows how the nation into which a person is born sets the odds of surviving to the age of five. The chapter has updates on declining infant mortality in the world; garment factory work in Bangladesh; the distribution of income and wealth and the number of people in the world who are poor; the average income for the world as a whole; the number and updated social profile of nations at different levels of development; the latest UN data on quality of life in various regions of the world; and the latest data on global debt. Recent data illuminate economic trends in various regions of the world and confirm the increasing economic gap between the highest- and lowest-income nations. There are updates on wealth and well-being in selected nations at each level of economic development. Finally, find updated discussion of the extent of slavery in the world.

Chapter 13: Gender Stratification

The updated Power of Society figure shows how gender shapes people's goals and ambitions. The revised chapter

describes the first woman to pitch a winning game in the Little League World Series. Find updates on life expectancy for U.S. women and men; the share of degrees earned by each sex in various fields of study; the share of U.S. women and men in the labor force, the share working full time, and the share in many sex-typed occupations; the share of large corporations with women in leadership positions; the number of small businesses owned by women; unemployment rates for women and men; and the latest data on income and wealth by gender. Find the latest global rankings of nations in terms of gender equality. There are also new data on the highest-paid women and men in entertainment as well as the share of the richest people in the country who are women. There are the most recent statistics on women in political leadership positions reflecting the 2014 elections, the latest data on women in the military, and updated discussion of violence against women and men. The coverage of intersection theory reflects the most recent income data.

Chapter 14: Race and Ethnicity

The updated Power of Society figure shows how race and ethnicity influence voting preferences and demonstrates that Democratic candidates enjoy strong support among minority communities. The revised chapter adds Osagie Obasogie's recent research on the meaning of race to people who have been blind since birth. Find updates on the share and size of all racial and ethnic categories of the U.S. population; the share of households in which members speak a language other than English at home; the share of U.S. marriages that are interracial; the number of American Indian and Alaskan Native nations and tribal groups; and the income levels and poverty rates, extent of schooling, and average age for all major racial and ethnic categories of the U.S. population. New research using the social distance scale has been included showing a long-term increase in tolerance among college students. The chapter now includes discussion of controversial police violence against African Americans, including the 2014 killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. New discussion highlights trends including the increasing share of American Indians who claim to be of mixed racial background and the increasing share of African Americans who are within the middle class.

Chapter 15: Aging and the Elderly

The revised Power of Society figure shows how gender shapes the process of caregiving for older people in the United States. The chapter has new data on the share of U.S. adults without any retirement savings, the latest on life expectancy and the gradual "graying" of the U.S. population, and the effect of class and race on how elderly people assess their health. Included are the latest figures on the in-

come, wealth, and poverty rates of people in various age categories throughout the life course. There is also updated discussion of who provides care for aging parents, the extent of elder abuse, and the extent of physician-assisted suicide.

Chapter 16: The Economy and Work

The updated Power of Society figure demonstrates how race and ethnicity guide the type of work people do. The revised chapter has updates on the increasing size of Walmart; the share of economic output in the private and public sectors for the United States and for other nations; the share of the U.S. population by race and ethnicity in the labor force; and the latest on the share of public and private sector workers in a union as well as the recent political conflict between several states and public service unions. There is updated discussion of the debate concerning “right-to-work” laws and an updated National Map shows which states have—and have not—enacted such laws. There are new data indicating the share of women and men who are self-employed. The discussion of unemployment now points out the increasing problem of extended unemployment with updated discussion of the “jobless recovery.”

Chapter 17: Politics and Government

The updated Power of Society figure shows the effect of age on voting preferences, revealing that people under the age of thirty were critical to the outcome of the 2012 presidential election. There is updated discussion and analysis of the changing political landscape in the Middle East, including the war in Syria that has resulted in millions of refugees seeking protection in neighboring countries and in Europe. The revised chapter has updates on the number of people employed in government; the cost of operating the government; voter turnout and voter preferences involving race, ethnicity, and gender in the 2012 and 2014 elections; the number of lobbyists and political action committees in the country; the latest on the number of people barred from voting based on a criminal conviction; recent political trends involving college students; new data on the declining level of political freedom in the world; the latest data on the extent of terrorism and casualties resulting from such conflict; the latest nuclear disarmament negotiations, recent changes in nuclear proliferation, and changing support for Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) as a peacekeeping policy; and the latest data on global and U.S. military spending as well as expanding opportunities for women in the U.S. military. There is new discussion of the growing importance of income inequality as an issue in the 2016 presidential campaign, and updated discussion of the importance of “swing states” and how the Electoral College may discourage voter turnout in most states.

Chapter 18: Families

The updated Power of Society figure shows the effect of class on the likelihood that marriage will endure, documenting longer-term marriages among more socially privileged people and shorter-term marriages among disadvantaged people. There is updated discussion of the importance of grandparents in the process of childrearing, the experience of loneliness and families in later life, and the trend of moving in with relatives as a strategy to cut living expenses during the current recession. An updated National Map shows the divorce rate for states across the country. The revised chapter has updates on the number of U.S. households and families; the share of young women in low-income countries who marry before the age of eighteen; the cost of raising a child for parents at various class levels; the share of youngsters in the United States who are “latchkey kids”; the income gap that separates Hispanic and African American families from non-Hispanic white families; the rising average age at first marriage; the incidence of court-ordered child support and the frequency of nonpayment; and the rate of domestic violence against women and also children. Data for 2015 show the number of nations that permit same-sex marriage and recent political change in this country leading up to the 2015 Supreme Court decision guaranteeing the right to same-sex marriage. There are also new data showing the increasing share of U.S. adults living alone, the child care arrangements for working mothers with young children, and the relative frequency of various types of interracial marriage.

Chapter 19: Religion

The updated Power of Society figure shows how religious affiliation—or the lack of it—is linked to traditional or progressive family values. The revised chapter has updates on the populations identifying with all world religions. The latest data show the extent of religious belief in the United States as well as the share of people favoring various denominations. There is updated discussion of a trend away from religious affiliation among young people and more discussion of Islam in the United States. There is expanded discussion of the increasing share of seminary students who are women as well as the secularization debate. There is updated discussion of the use of electronic media to share religious ideas.

Chapter 20: Education

The updated Power of Society figure shows the importance of race and ethnicity in shaping the opportunity to attend college. The revised chapter has new global data showing the relative academic performance of U.S. children, comparing them to children in Japan and other nations. There are updated statistical profiles of schooling in India, Japan, and other countries. New data identify the share of U.S.

adults who have completed high school and college, how income affects access to higher education, and how a college education is linked to earnings later on. There are new statistics on the number of colleges and universities in the United States as well as the financial costs of attending them. The latest data guide discussion of community colleges in the United States and the diverse student body they enroll. The revised chapter includes the latest trends in dropping out of high school, performance on the SAT, high school grade inflation, and the spread of charter and magnet schools. A new report from the National Center for Education Statistics documents modest improvements in U.S. public schools over the last two decades. Find the latest data on the gender imbalance on U.S. college and university campuses.

Chapter 21: Health and Medicine

The updated Power of Society figure documents a key health trend—the increasing rate of obesity among all categories of the U.S. population. The revised chapter has updated discussion of prejudice against people based on body weight. There are updates on global patterns of health including improvements in the well-being of young children, the rate of cigarette smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco, and the frequency of illness resulting from tobacco use. The revised chapter has new discussion of how gender shapes patterns involving eating disorders, the latest patterns involving AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, the link between impoverished living conditions and lack of medical care demonstrated by the recent Ebola crisis, and the ongoing debate involving euthanasia. The revised chapter reports that the government now pays for most health care in the United States and also explains how people pay the rest of their medical bills.

Chapter 22: Population, Urbanization, and Environment

The updated Power of Society figure shows that concern for environmental issues, while typically greater in high-income nations than in low-income nations, remains low in the United States. A new opening describes debate over global warming and changing weather patterns. The chapter has the most recent data on the size of the U.S. population as well as fertility and mortality rates for the United States and for various world regions, new data for infant mortality and life expectancy, new global population projections, and updated coverage of trends in urbanization. Find the latest data on the racial and ethnic populations of the nation's largest cities. A new section gives expanded coverage of social life in rural places. New discussions highlight urbanization in low-income regions of the world, changes in water consumption, and the declining size of the planet's rain forests.

Chapter 23: Collective Behavior and Social Movements

The updated Power of Society figure shows in which nations people are more or less likely to engage in public demonstrations. The revised chapter illustrates important ideas with current debates such as the share of political campaign ads that are deceptive, the ongoing conflict in Syria, and efforts in the United States to remove the Confederate flag from the South Carolina capitol building. The revised chapter highlights recent social movements such as the Black Lives Matter political movement that sprang up in response to police violence against African American men. Find data illustrating the increasing importance of the Internet as a source of information about elections and other political events as well as the latest data on the share of college students who report being politically active.

Chapter 24: Social Change: Traditional, Modern, and Postmodern Societies

The updated Power of Society figure identifies nations in which people look more favorably—and less favorably—on scientific advances. The revised chapter has updates on life expectancy and other demographic changes to U.S. society. The discussion assessing social life in the United States has been reframed by the latest data on the well-being of the U.S. population, identifying trends that are positive and others that are troubling.

Supplements for the Instructor

INSTRUCTOR'S MANUAL WITH TEST BANK This learning program offers an Instructor's Manual that will be of interest even to those who have never chosen to use one before. The manual—now revised by John Macionis—goes well beyond the expected detailed chapter outlines and discussion questions to provide summaries of important current events and trends, recent articles from *Teaching Sociology* that are relevant to classroom discussions, suggestions for classroom activities, and supplemental lecture material for every chapter of the text.

The Test Bank—again, written by the author—reflects the material in the text—both in content and in language—far better than the testing file available with any other introductory sociology textbook. The file contains more than 100 items per chapter—in multiple-choice, true/false, and essay formats. For all of the questions, the correct answer is provided, as well as the Bloom's level of cognitive reasoning the question requires of the student, the learning objective that the question tests, and the difficulty level.

POWERPOINT® LECTURE SLIDES These PowerPoint slides combine graphics and text in a colorful format to help you convey sociological principles in a visual and engaging

way. Each chapter of the textbook has between fifteen and twenty-five slides that effectively communicate the key concepts in that chapter. Also available are PowerPoint slides that contain only the chapter outline, for instructors who wish to build their own unique set of slides, and additionally a set of slides that contains only the art and photos within each chapter.

Recognizing Diversity: A Word about Language

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

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

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

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

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

In Appreciation

The conventional practice of crediting a book to a single author hides the efforts of dozens of women and men who have helped create *Sociology, Sixteenth Edition*. I offer my deep and sincere thanks to the Pearson editorial team, including Dickson Musslewhite, vice-president of product development; and Billy Grieco, senior acquisitions editor in sociology, for their steady enthusiasm in the pursuit of both innovation and excellence.

Day-to-day work on the book is shared by various members of the “author team.” Barbara Reilly, principal of Reilly Editorial Services, Inc., is a key member of this group. Indeed, if anyone “sweats the details” as much as I do, it is Barbara! Kimberlee Klesner works closely with me to ensure that all the data in this revision are the very latest available. Kimberlee brings enthusiasm that matches her considerable talents, and I thank her for both.

I want to thank all the members of the Pearson sales staff, the men and women who have represented this text with such confidence and enthusiasm over the years. My hat goes off especially to Tricia Murphy and Brittany Pogue-Mohammed Acosta, who share responsibility for our marketing campaign.

Thanks, also, to Blair Brown and Maria Lange for managing the design, and to Melissa Sacco of Lumina Datamatics and Marianne Peters-Riordan of Pearson Education for managing the production process. Copyediting of the manuscript was skillfully done by Donna Mulder.

It goes without saying that every colleague knows more about a number of topics covered in this book than the author does. For that reason, I am grateful to the hundreds of faculty and the many students who have written to me to offer comments and suggestions. Thank you, one and all, for making a difference!

Finally, I dedicate this sixteenth edition of *Sociology* to Elyse Alexander, a remarkable woman who has agreed to have me as her husband. Elyse’s sharp mind, contagious creativity, and ability to create beauty in her surroundings bring much joy to my life. She is also my partner in the pursuit of change. For all these gifts, I feel profound love and gratitude.

With best wishes to my colleagues and with love to all,



About the Author

John J. Macionis (pronounced “ma-SHOWnis”) has been in the classroom teaching sociology for more than forty years. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, John earned a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University, majoring in sociology, and then completed a doctorate in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania.

His publications are wide-ranging, focusing on community life in the United States, interpersonal intimacy in families, effective teaching, humor, new information technology, and the importance of global education. In addition to authoring this best-seller, Macionis has also written *Society: The Basics*, the most popular paperback text in the field, now in its fourteenth edition. He collaborates on international editions of the texts: *Sociology: Canadian Edition*; *Society: The Basics, Canadian Edition*; and *Sociology: A Global Introduction*. *Sociology* is also available for high school students and in various foreign-language editions. Unlike other authors, John takes personal responsibility for writing all electronic content, just as he authors all the supplemental material. John proudly resists the trend toward “outsourcing” such material to non-sociologists.

In addition, Macionis edited the best-selling anthology *Seeing Ourselves: Classic, Contemporary, and Cross-Cultural Readings in Sociology*, also available in a Canadian edition. Macionis and Vincent Parrillo have written the leading urban studies text, *Cities and Urban Life*, soon available in a sixth edition. Macionis is also the author of *Social Problems*, now in its sixth edition and the leading book in this field. The latest on all the Macionis textbooks, as well as information and dozens of Internet links of interest to students and faculty in sociology, are found at the author’s personal website: www.macionis.com or www.TheSociologyPage.com. Follow John on this Facebook author page: John J. Macionis. Additional information and instructor resources are found at the Pearson site: www.pearsonglobaleditions.com/macionis

John Macionis recently retired from full-time teaching at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where he was Professor and Distinguished Scholar of Sociology. During that time, he chaired the Sociology Department, directed the college’s multidisciplinary program in humane studies, presided over the campus senate and the college’s faculty, and taught sociology to thousands of students.

In 2002, the American Sociological Association presented Macionis with the Award for Distinguished



Contributions to Teaching, citing his innovative use of global material as well as the introduction of new teaching technology in his textbooks.

Professor Macionis has been active in academic programs in other countries, having traveled to some fifty nations. He writes, “I am an ambitious traveler, eager to learn and, through the texts, to share much of what I discover with students, many of whom know little about the rest of the world. For me, traveling and writing are all dimensions of teaching. First, and foremost, I am a teacher—a passion for teaching animates everything I do.”

At Kenyon, Macionis taught a number of courses, but his favorite classes have been Introduction to Sociology and Social Problems. He continues to enjoy extensive contact with students across the United States and around the world.

John now lives near New York City, and in his free time, he enjoys tennis, swimming, hiking, and playing oldies rock-and-roll. He is an environmental activist in the Lake George region of New York’s Adirondack Mountains, where he works with a number of organizations, including the Lake George Land Conservancy, where he serves as president of the board of trustees.

Professor Macionis welcomes (and responds to) comments and suggestions about this book from faculty and students. Contact him at his Facebook pages or email: macionis@kenyon.edu.

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Chapter 1

The Sociological Perspective



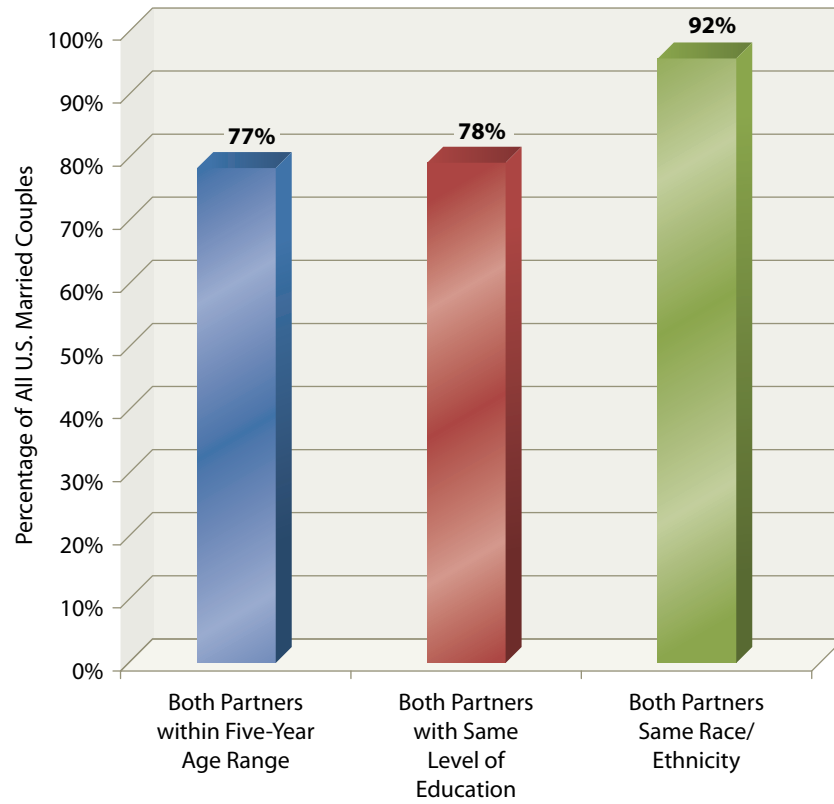
Learning Objectives

- 1.1** Explain how the sociological perspective differs from common sense.
- 1.2** State several reasons that a global perspective is important in today's world.
- 1.3** Identify the advantages of sociological thinking for developing public policy, for encouraging personal growth, and for advancing in a career.
- 1.4** Link the origins of sociology to historical social changes.
- 1.5** Summarize sociology's major theoretical approaches.
- 1.6** Apply sociology's major theoretical approaches to the topic of sports.



The Power of Society

to guide our choices in marriage partners



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau (2014).

Do we simply “pick” our marriage partners? In 77 percent of all married couples in the United States, both partners are within five years of age of each other; in 78 percent, both partners have achieved the same level of schooling; and in 92 percent of married couples, both partners are of the same racial or ethnic category. Although we tend to think of love and marriage as very personal matters, it is clear that society guides the process of selecting a spouse.