



The Sociology Book

Sam Atkinson (Editor)

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The Sociology Book takes on some of humankind's biggest questions: What is society? What makes it tick? Why do we interact in the way that we do with our friends, coworkers, and rivals? *The Sociology Book* profiles the world's most renowned sociologists and more than 100 of their biggest ideas, including issues of equality, diversity, identity, and human rights; the effects of globalization; the role of institutions; and the rise of urban living in modern society

Easy to navigate and chock-full of key concepts, profiles of major sociological thinkers, and conversation starters galore, this is a must-have, in-a-nutshell guide to some of the most fascinating questions on earth.

The Sociology Book is part of the award-winning *Big Ideas Simply Explained* series, designed to distill big ideas and elusive theories into graspable, memorable concepts, using an approachable graphic treatment and creative typography.

The Sociology Book Details

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Author : Sam Atkinson (Editor)

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Download and Read Free Online The Sociology Book Sam Atkinson (Editor)

From Reader Review The Sociology Book for online ebook

Mark Banaszak says

Like so many DK books, this is not really a book you read from front to back, but it is such an enjoyable and important read. Many books like this, I like to have around, but this one I feel like I should have it around because it has such compelling descriptions and explanations of so many of our cultural practices. Loved it.

J Grimsey says

Great book as an introduction to a common reader and a revision for old sociologists

VENKATRAMAN C K says

The big book series is fantastic . They have all the great branches of humanities - philosophy , economics, psychology, sociology and politics .

The Sociology book follows the standard format of other books on the series - traces the historical evolution of the subject through the men and women who have contributed to its advancement .

Sociology book gives the reader both outside in and inside out of society and human behavior in it .

One suddenly gets deep insights of how humans have “manipulated” others through institutions , religion , culture .

All books in the series are a must read.

Nayuna says

the greatest book to have ever existed for me at this time in my life :D

D. Whittaker says

Great overview for those of us who have taken only a few sociology classes. Gave me an appreciation for the scope of the discipline. My take-aways were the concept of Liquid Modernity (constant change) and that Marx still has some relevance, though not as he envisioned. The treatments were cursory by design, it is meant as an introduction. Plenty of resources should you wish to delve deeper. Not highly recommended, but if you know little about sociology this is a good place to start.

M? Hi?n says

Another masterpiece of DK. First pick in my heart. The way DK imparts knowledge on people is so fantastic!

The Time Traveler says

Breakdown of Social Control

Conspiracies of social control are prevalent on the internet with little peer reviewed sources. This Sociology Book breaks down various theories into a scientific explanation as to why societies behave the way they do. Underneath the propagated surface of American Consumerism lies a dirty underbelly of oppressed minority and even to include the vast majority in various degrees. By recognizing these issues the educated population can come to make informed decisions on social change.

Be that as it may depending on social class and ideology your agenda may be opposed by the hierarchy of social and religious ideas. This book is an excellent text that when paired with philosophy, psychology, and economics sheds further light on the rules of the “system” and what power you have to change it.

GilianB says

A perfect introduction to the subject. *The Sociology Book* covers a lot of ground explaining several key concepts like inequality, gender and consumerism through the lens of sociologists throughout history. Starting with a main idea such as "glocalization", by Roland Robertson, and placing it in its appropriate context, the idea is further explained by looking at what impact it has for society (impact on nation-state, ...) and its individuals (how does someone's self-image change by it?).

For me, it was one of the first books I read that was specifically about sociology, and it will surely not be my last. The layout makes the book a fun read, contrary to many dry and dusty textbooks.

After reading it, I have some general remarks on the field of sociology. It is clear how large the influence of Karl Marx has been on the field. Many of the sociologists covered in the book have left-leaning political ideas. This is a common criticism used to downplay the whole field. However, I wonder whether there is an element of truth in this concern. Sometimes, the boundaries between sociology, philosophy and activism seem to dissolve. While I believe there is room for an interpretive approach, it might weaken the scientific validity of the field. What are the effects of (political) ideology on various theories? Are we ignoring any biological explanations and performing an upward reduction where everything is power or a social construct?

Obviously, I haven't examined this issue enough to claim that I'm speaking the Objective Truth here. My comments shouldn't stop anyone from exploring the field of course. I'm merely stating why I'm more fond of the Positivist school of thought right now.

Besides these comments, sociology invites us to look differently at the world. By putting on our sociologist glasses and "seeing the strange in the familiar" and "seeing the general in the particular", we can gain great insights. This book provides a thorough overview of what the field has to offer.

schерzo? says

Hideously ugly layout

Amelia Davis says

Are you interested in a thrilling book with plot twists around every corner? If so, this is not the book for you. *The Sociology Book* is more like a textbook with units and chapters. However, this book isn't all bad. If you are at least a senior in high school, like myself, you might be able to stomach the contents of this book. You may be asking why a high school senior read this book. Well I asked myself that as well. However, this book was fantastic. Even though the material was a bit tough to understand, I feel as though I learned a lot from this book. On the front cover, the author makes the claim that *The Sociology Book* is "big ideas simply explained". These ideas are not so simply explained. For someone who hasn't even graduated high school yet, a few of these big ideas are not so simply explained. *The Sociology Book* does have some important ideas tucked away in the pages. Such as, "the Declaration of Independence bears no relation to half of the human race" or "men's interest in patriarchy is condensed in hegemonic masculinity". These topics and others discuss social inequality, the other units discuss the foundations of sociology, culture identity, and families and intimacies. These and a few other chapters in the book have given me and many others, food for thought. If you are a sociology major or you just happen to be interested in sociology, I would highly recommend this book to you. However, if you are a student that likes a good read, *The Sociology Book* would be great for you as well.

Heydi Smith says

Exactly as promised, Sociology simply explained. So simple that I understood the astounding concepts which have alluded me for years. I love this book and this series of books and look forward to reading them all.

Aleksiel says

Marx, Marx, Marx... I get it, he is one of the forefathers of sociology. Enough, I got sick of reading about him every other page. His ideas are terrible and ruined every society they poisoned, you seem to have missed to mention this.

Other than that, the book is ok, it gives a basic overview of sociology and its leading theories. Mind you, they aren't particularly good, consistent or convincing. I expected more, but nevertheless the book has a good design. May be its sociology itself that leaves a lot to be desired.

Lucie Paris says

Perfect for people who want to learn more about sociology!

I was curious about what I will find: a lot of interesting concepts and ideas clearly explained. Food for thoughts about the foundation of sociology, cultural identity and the family dynamics. It's an interesting read if you are at school or just curious about sociology.

A cool one!

Lucie

<http://newbooksonmyself.blogspot.fr...>

Online Eccentric Librarian says

More reviews (and no fluff) on the blog <http://surrealtalvi.wordpress.com/>

DK is known for their beautifully laid out, highly graphic, yet extremely informative texts for all ages. With *The Sociology Book*, we have a book in an award-winning series (including religions, economics, politics, business, psychology, etc.) that makes a complex and difficult subject not only accessible but easy to understand. The book doesn't pander, lightly touch upon, or gloss over the subject; rather, the subject is broken down by sociologists through the ages and their viewpoints are explained. As such, this is an ideal book for teens and adults to really understand the topic of sociology today, suitable for reading parts or the topic as a whole.

The book breaks down as follows: Introduction, Foundations of Sociology, Social Inequalities, Modern Living, Living in a Global World, Culture and Identity, Work and Consumerism, The Role of Institutions, Families and Intimacies, Directory, Glossary, Index. Within these sections, topics include: Science can be used to build a better world (August Comte), *Gemeinschaft and gessellschaft* (Ferdinand Tommies), The poor are excluded from the ordinary living patterns, customs, and activities of life (Peter Townsend), The freedom to remake our cities and ourselves (Henri Lefebvre), The modern world system (Immanuel Wallenstein), Culture is ordinary (Raymond Williams), The puritan wanted to work in a calling; we are forced to do so (Max Weber), The iron law of oligarchy (Robert Michels), Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature (Karl Marx), The time of the tribes (Michael Mafesoli).

As an example, a section entitled "Science Can Be Used To Build a Better World" by August Comte (1798-1857) will have a graphic image, a call out box with the focus of the statements and key dates, a bio of Comte, another callouts with related topics in the book and the pages on which they are found, a discussion of the theory, key works by the author, flow charts of how the theory evolved, quotes, graphical explanations of the theory, and art related to the era in which the topic was written. There are over 85 such sections in this book.

As can be seen above, this goes far beyond boring textbook with some random images. Readers can glance over topics to get an idea if they want to investigate further and get a sound feel for what is being presented within minutes - and then a thorough understanding for only a few minutes more invested in the words and

graphics. As such, this is a great book both for those who learn from seeing the larger idea and then building upon the details and also those who like to start with small details and then build a larger picture.

The series is honestly phenomenal - all the books make very hard topics very easy to digest, understand, and explore. Very highly recommended as either a reference or great informative reading. Reviewed from an advance reader copy provided by the publisher.

PWRL says

SM
