

Contents

Introduction *p. 1*

Theme 1 Thinking Sociologically *p. 5*

Digital Revolution *p. 5*

Globalization *p. 8*

Modernity *p. 11*

Postcolonialism *p. 15*

Postmodernity *p. 18*

Rationalization *p. 21*

Society *p. 25*

Theme 2 Doing Sociology *p. 29*

Ideal Type *p. 29*

Qualitative/Quantitative Methods *p. 31*

Realism *p. 35*

Reflexivity *p. 38*

Science *p. 41*

Social Constructionism *p. 45*

Structure/Agency *p. 48*

Theme 3 Environment and Urbanism *p. 52*

Alienation *p. 52*

Environment *p. 55*

Industrialization *p. 58*

Migration *p. 61*

Risk *p. 64*

Sustainable Development *p. 68*

Urbanism *p. 71*

Theme 4 Structures of Society p. 75

- Bureaucracy p. 75
- Capitalism p. 78
- Consumerism p. 81
- Division of Labour p. 85
- Education p. 88
- Organization p. 91
- Religion p. 95

Theme 5 Unequal Life Chances p. 99

- Class p. 99
- Gender p. 102
- Intersectionality p. 105
- Patriarchy p. 108
- Poverty p. 111
- Race and Ethnicity p. 115
- Social Mobility p. 118
- Status p. 122

Theme 6 Relationships and the Life Course p. 126

- Community p. 126
- Family p. 129
- Life Course p. 132
- Network p. 135
- Sexuality p. 138
- Socialization p. 141

Theme 7 Interaction and Communication p. 145

- Culture p. 145
- Discourse p. 148
- Identity p. 151
- Ideology p. 154
- Interaction p. 158
- Media p. 161
- Public Sphere p. 164

Theme 8 Health, Illness and the Body p. 168

- Biomedicine p. 168
- Medicalization p. 171
- Sick Role p. 174
- Social Model of Disability p. 177
- Social Self p. 180

Theme 9 Crime and Social Control p. 184

- Anomie p. 184
- Deviance p. 187
- Labelling p. 190
- Moral Panic p. 193
- Social Control p. 196
- Stigma p. 200

Theme 10 Political Sociology p. 203

- Authority p. 203
- Citizenship p. 206
- Civil Society p. 209
- Conflict p. 212
- Democracy p. 215
- Nation State p. 219
- Power p. 222
- Social Movement p. 225

Index p. 229**Concept Development in Sociology**

Some sociological concepts are part of the very tissue of the discipline, having weathered the shifting terrain of society pretty well. Social class, status, capitalism, gender, poverty, family and power remain fundamental to anyone interested in 'doing' sociology. Yet others are more recently developed and are still debated and argued over. Globalization, postmodernity, reflexivity, postcolonialism, environment, and the social model of disability are part of the conceptual lexicon, representing some of the major social changes of recent decades. The book provides a map of sociology's conceptual development and current concerns by introducing the essential concepts, many of which are effective signposts for particular theoretical developments since the late nineteenth century. Familiarising themselves with these concepts, their origins and contemporary usage will help readers to see how the subject matter of sociology has developed over time.

Concept development in sociology is usually linked to theories and empirical studies, both of which often demand new concepts to make sense of their findings. Some concepts, such as status, class and risk, are already in circulation in society, but when lifted out of that context into sociology they are debated and refined, becoming more precise and useful in the process. Others, including