



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.

John J. Macionis



Sociology

Seventeenth Edition

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Full-Service Project Management/Composition: Integra
Printer/Binder: LSC Communications, Inc.
Cover Printer: Phoenix Color/Hagerstown

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Macionis, John J., author.
Title: Sociology / John J. Macionis, Kenyon College.
Description: Seventeenth Edition. | Hoboken, NJ: Pearson, [2019] | Revised edition of the author's Sociology, 2016.
Identifiers: LCCN 2017039621 | ISBN 9780134642796 | ISBN 0134642791
Subjects: LCSH: Sociology.
Classification: LCC HM586 .M33 2019 | DDC 301-dc23
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2017039621>

Rental Edition:

ISBN 10: 0-134-64279-1
ISBN 13: 978-0-134-64279-6

Books a la Carte:

ISBN 10: 0-134-67485-5
ISBN 13: 978-0-134-67485-8

Revel Access Card:

ISBN 10: 0-134-72294-9
ISBN 13: 978-0-134-72294-8

Instructor's Review Copy:

ISBN 10: 0-134-67474-X
ISBN 13: 978-0-134-67474-2



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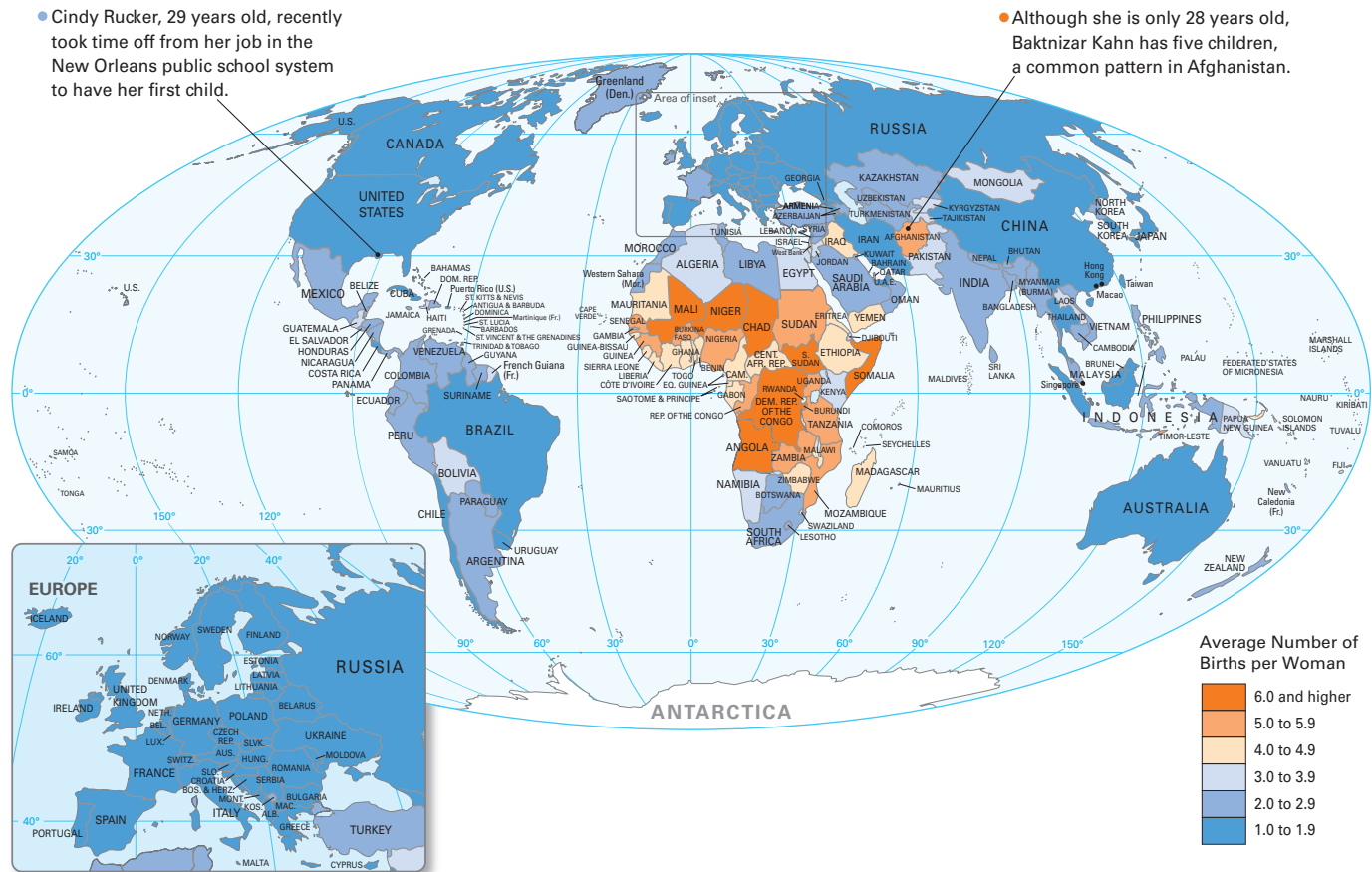
Can Too Many Be Too Old? A Report from Japan

Want Equality and Freedom? Try Denmark

“Soft Authoritarianism” or Planned Prosperity? A Report from Singapore

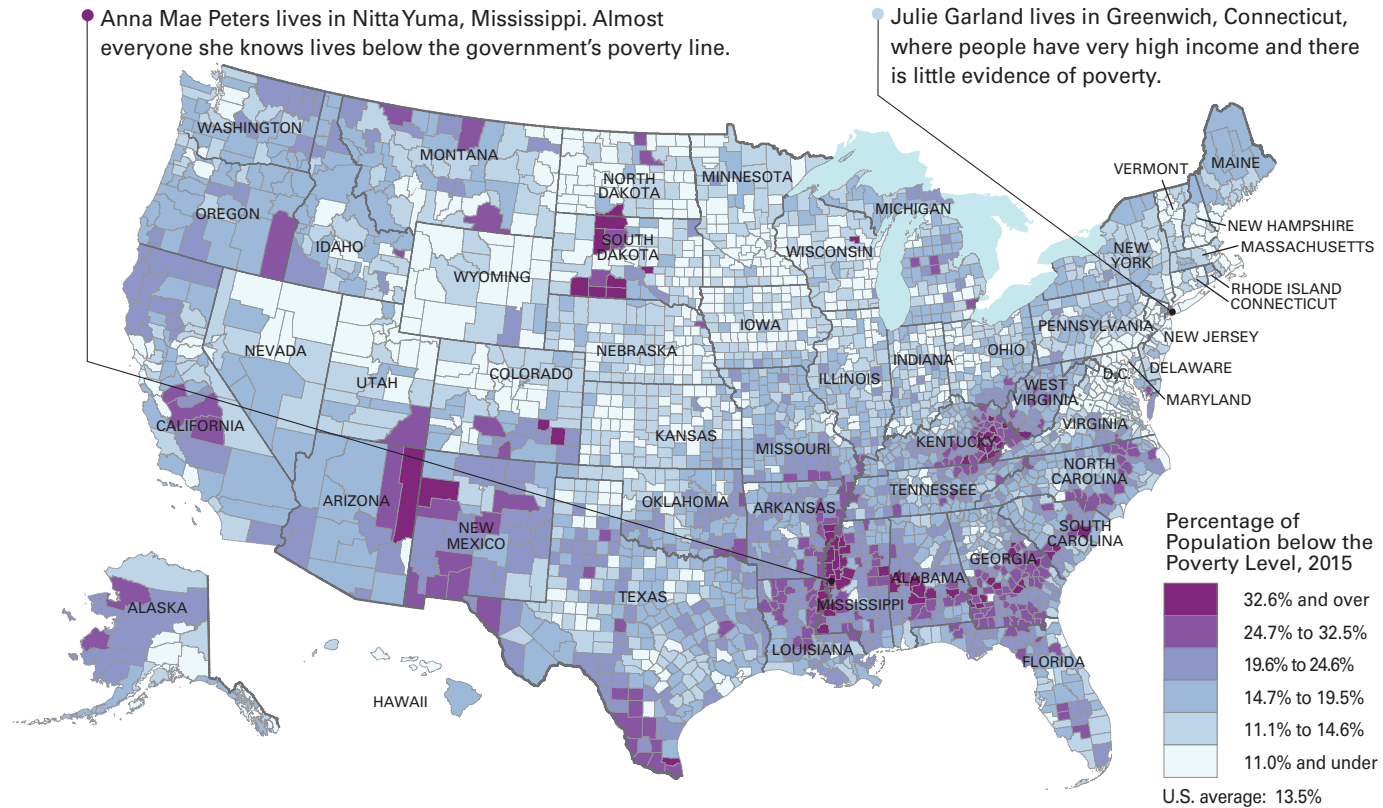
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Preface

Wow, what a difference a couple of years make. Never before in my lifetime (and I have been around the block more times than I care to admit) has there been so much debate and outright disagreement about the state of our society. People are lining up on one side or another regarding immigration, climate change, jobs, the role of government, health care, terrorism, foreign threats to democracy, reproductive rights, and the high cost of higher education.

If consensus seems elusive, keep in mind that even the idea of *truth* is under attack, with people disagreeing not only over the facts but also whether there is such a thing as objective truth and real news. Many of us feel angry, afraid, and overwhelmed.

In such a situation, what are we to do? To answer this question, we might turn for inspiration to the wisdom offered more than sixty years ago by C. Wright Mills. When we feel our lives spinning out of control, when we are caught up in changes and challenges that threaten to overwhelm us, Mills suggested that we recognize that our personal problems are rooted in social forces that are bigger than we are. By turning out attention to larger social patterns—in short, by making use of the sociological imagination—we gain a deeper understanding of what’s really going on and why. Using the sociological perspective, we draw insight and also gain power because we are now confronting the source of our distress. Focusing on how society operates, we are able to join together with others to change society and, in the process, we transform ourselves.

For more than 150 years, sociologists have been working to better understand how society operates. As sociologists, we do not arrogantly imagine that we have *all* the answers, but we are confident that we have learned quite a lot that we can share with others.

To our students, we offer an introduction to the fascinating and very practical study of the social world. Our invitation is to learn what we have learned and consider appropriate paths of action. After all, as we come to know our world we have the responsibility to do all we can to improve it.

Sociology, Seventeenth 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 both enlightening and useful, and 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, Seventeenth Edition*.

- **A new chapter on social media.** Who can doubt that social media has changed our way of life? *Sociology, Seventeenth Edition*, now has the discipline’s first full chapter on the evolution of mass media with major emphasis on the recent development of social media and how social media has reshaped society.
- **Currency!** Examples are new in every chapter, from the 2016 presidential election and its aftermath to terrorism and international conflicts around the world in 2017. In addition, the scholarship is as current as possible—more than 850 new research citations are found in this revised edition! The photo and art programs have also been thoroughly reviewed and updated.
- **Updated Power of Society figures.** If you could teach your students only one thing in the introductory course, what would it be? Most instructors would probably answer, “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. These figures have been updated for this edition, and the Revel electronic content provides additional data and analysis of the issue.
- **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 and 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. *Sociology, Seventeenth Edition*, also explores the 2016 presidential election and how the Trump

administration has reshaped the national agenda on a host of issues, including immigration, climate change, health care, and tax policy.

Finally, *Sociology* includes many rich, interactive features that expand key themes. These interactive elements include the following types:

- **In Greater Depth.** These items accompany the Power of Society figure that begins each chapter. Each item provides deeper analysis using one or more additional variables to deepen students' understanding of an issue.
- **A Global Perspective.** These items provide international contrasts. In some cases, they highlight differences between high- and low-income nations. In other cases, they highlight differences between the United States and other high-income countries.
- **Diversity.** These items expand the focus on race, class, gender, and other dimensions of difference within the U.S. population.
- **Surveys.** These items ask students timely questions about policy and politics. Students are asked what they think, and they are able to assess their own attitudes against those of various populations.
- **Sociology in the Media.** The author suggests short, high-quality videos that are readily available on the Internet and current articles on sociological topics from respected publications.
- **Readings.** Short, primary-source readings by notable sociologists are provided to allow students to engage directly with analysts and researchers.
- **In Review.** Engaging "drag and drop" interactives offer a quick review of the insights gained by applying sociological theories to the issue at hand.

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

Chapter 1: The Sociological Perspective

The updated Power of Society figure shows how race, schooling, and age guide people's choice of marriage partners. The revised chapter contains more on social media and highlights the latest on same-sex marriage, including change following the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Find updates on suicide rates by race and gender; college graduation in global perspective; the link between college and family income; the number of children born to women in nations around the world; the number of high-, middle-, 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. Nineteen new research references inform the revised chapter.

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 the number of multiracial people, how survey format shapes public response about various social problems, economic inequality, and the extent of extramarital relationships. As in every chapter, Revel provides numerous interactive learning items, all written by the author. Seventeen new research references support the revised chapter.

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. There is a new discussion of the diversity of cultural values throughout the U.S. population. The revised chapter has updates on popular culture, the income and wealth of the Asian American, Hispanic American, and African American communities; debate involving terrorism and cultural differences; 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. Thirty-two new research citations support the revision of this chapter.

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, the growing list of rock stars who have taken their own lives, and various other measures of modernity. An increasing amount of popular culture has been incorporated into the discussions of classical theory. Nine new research citations support the revision of this chapter.

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. There is heavily revised and expanded discussion of the issue of television and violence. Find the latest on the share of people who claim to be multiracial, time spent watching television and using smartphones, the share of households with televisions and computers, the television preferences of people voting Democratic and Republican in the 2016 presidential election, the demographic dominance of the millennial generation, and the share of the world's children who work for

income. Twenty new research citations support the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 6: Social Interaction in Everyday Life

The updated Power of Society figure shows how age guides the extent of networking via 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, new statistics on the use of Facebook and Twitter around the world, the consequences of smartphone technology for everyday life, the share of married women in the United States who keep their last name, and some new and timely examples of jokes. Ten new research citations support this revised chapter.

NEW Chapter 7: Mass Media and Social Media

This **completely new chapter** on an important new dimension of social life has been added to *Sociology, Seventeenth Edition*. The Power of Society figure reveals how gender shapes people's choice of social-networking sites. The chapter-opening story explains how social media was instrumental in launching the Black Lives Matter movement. The chapter begins by differentiating mass media and social media and then explores media bias (including the role of media in the 2016 presidential election) and highlights the need for media literacy. The chapter traces the development of mass media, including newspapers, radio, and television, and describes some of the ways television and other mass media changes society. Then the chapter explores the emergence of interactive social media in the computer age and provides analysis of how social media affect individuals, including the development of self-image, our capacity for empathy, our tendency toward conformity, and individual attention span. There are also discussions of cyber-bullying and the risks of social media addiction. The chapter explores the effects of social media on relationships, including parenting and predatory behavior with additional analysis of social media's role in dating and the advantages and dangers of dating sites. Most broadly, social media also shape culture, affect the workplace, and shape politics. Finally, the chapter gains insights by applying sociology's major theoretical approaches to social media. The chapter includes a host of new maps, Revel interactive content, learning assessments, and writing assignments. More than sixty new research references inform this new chapter.

Chapter 8: Groups and Organizations

Following coverage of "leadership," there is a new discussion about "followers." There is a new National Map showing the extent of internet access for county populations across the United States. 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 erosion of personal privacy, some of the fall-out of the 2016 presidential election, the number of political incumbents who won reelection in 2016, the disproportionate share of managerial positions held by white males, and the increasing presence of computers in the U.S. workplace and camera in public places. More than twenty new references support this revised chapter.

Chapter 9: 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 contraceptive use in global perspective, rates of teenage pregnancy across the country, 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 increasing size of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. More than thirty new research citations have guided the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 10: 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 gambling as well as legal marijuana use across the United States; the increasing number of states banning text messaging while driving; 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 2015. There is analysis of patterns of arrest for "person crimes" and "property crimes" by age, sex, race, and ethnicity for 2015. Attention is also given to the decreasing gender gap in crime rates. The chapter updates 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 challenges and changes to capital punishment laws. There is updated discussion of the gun control controversy and expanded discussion of U.S. crime rates in global context. Finally, there is greater attention paid to the increasing number of people who are incarcerated in the United States. Examples used to illustrate concepts have been updated with recent events. More than thirty-five new research references inform this revised chapter.

Chapter 11: 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 photo program has been refreshed. More than twenty new research citations reflect the content found in this revised chapter.

Chapter 12: 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 economic trends since the beginning of the recession in 2008. New data show the differences in life expectancy between the top-earning people in the country and those who make the least, the declining share of young people who grow up to earn more than their parents, the racial gap in home ownership, the odds of completing a four-year college degree for people at various class levels, and the latest in patterns of social mobility over time. 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 2015 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. Forty-five new research citations support the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 13: 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 the extent of global poverty, declining infant mortality in the world, garment factory work in Bangladesh, the distribution of global income and wealth, 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 most recent data on global debt. Current 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 and also on patterns of slavery in the world. Finally, find updated discussion of the extent of slavery in the world. Thirty-eight new research citations support the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 14: Gender Stratification

The updated Power of Society figure shows how gender shapes people's goals and ambitions. The revised chapter includes 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 closing pay gap among well-known entertainers of both sexes; 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 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 2016 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. This revised chapter reflects the content of sixty-three new research sources.

Chapter 15: Race and Ethnicity

The updated Power of Society figure explores the importance of race and ethnicity in the 2016 presidential election. Find updates on the share and size of all racial and ethnic categories of the U.S. population; the increasing number of biracial people in this country; 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. The chapter now includes expanded coverage of immigration plus discussion of controversial police violence against African Americans updated right into 2017. 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. Forty new research studies have guided the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 16: 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 the latest 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 income, 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. Forty-four new research studies were consulted in the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 17: 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 controversy involving 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. The latest on nations of the world that have moved toward socialism is included. There are new data indicating the share of women and men who are self-employed. The most recent data on union membership are included. The discussion of unemployment now points out the increasing problem of extended unemployment with updated discussion of the “jobless recovery.” Seventy-five new research references support the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 18: Politics and Government

The updated Power of Society figure shows the effect of age on voting preferences, revealing that people younger than age thirty were critical to the outcome of recent presidential elections, including the 2016 contest. A new chapter-opening story highlights the lack of public confidence in the political leadership of the United States. There is new coverage of the wealth of President Trump and members of his cabinet. Find updated discussion and analysis of the changing political landscape in regions around the world, 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 2016 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 the 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 expanded and updated discussion of the importance of income inequality as an issue in U.S. politics and updated discussion of the importance of “swing states” and how the Electoral College

may discourage voter turnout in most states. The “Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life” photo essay has been heavily revised. Nearly fifty new research citations have guided the revision of this chapter.

Chapter 19: 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 2017 show the number of nations that permit same-sex marriage and recent political change in the United States leading up to the 2015 Supreme Court decision guaranteeing the right to same-sex marriage. There are also new data showing how income affects marital and family patterns, the increasing share of U.S. adults living alone, the child care arrangements for working mothers with young children, the relative frequency of various types of interracial marriage, and the divorce rate for people at various stages of life. Forty-four new research citations indicate the extent of updating in this revised chapter.

Chapter 20: 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 religiosity in the United States, and specifies 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 and the increasing share of people that claim no religious affiliation. There is updated discussion of a trend away from religious affiliation among young people and also more discussion of Islam in the United States. New discussion focuses on the origins and controversy surrounding the phrase “In God We Trust” on U.S. currency. There