



## Discover Sociology

By William J. Chambliss, Daina S. Eglitis



**Discover Sociology** By William J. Chambliss, Daina S. Eglitis

*Sociology is a discipline of curious minds. What key social forces construct and transform our lives as individuals and as members of society? How does our social world shape us? How do we shape our world?*

Join Bill Chambliss and Daina S. Eglitis as they journey beyond the classroom to help students answer these questions with their groundbreaking new text, **Discover Sociology**. Chambliss and Eglitis inspire curiosity about the social world and empower students by providing the theoretical, conceptual, and empirical tools they need to understand, analyze, and even change the world in which they live. Every chapter in the book integrates robust pedagogical features and empirical research that illuminate the social roots of diverse phenomena and institutions, ranging from poverty and deviance to capitalism and the nuclear family. From exploring whether the use of “study drugs” should be considered cheating to an examination of research showing a correlation between rising student debt and declining rates of marriage, the book’s chapter openers engage students in real-life applications of sociology. Going beyond theory and concepts, the authors also help answer the question, “What can I do with a sociology degree?”

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“What I like about this book is the engaging writing style and clear integration of meaningful and lively examples throughout. . . The integration of detailed examples would give students a lot to discuss in class and offers a clear map of how to apply the ideas in the text to the real and complex social worlds that contemporary students inhabit. The overall length is not overwhelming and should permit instructors to cover most chapters.”

(Denise Copelton)

“**Discover Sociology** invites students to do just that in a way that connects academic concepts with students’ real world experiences. Introductory sociology students often have basic questions about society that other textbooks fail to recognize, but the material in **Discover Sociology** addresses these issues in an easy to understand manner. One of this text’s strongest features is that it encourages students to think critically about the social world.”

(S. Michael Gaddis)

“I really like the easy-to-read writing, the current examples, the commitment to helping the reader think sociologically, and the extensive examples.”

(Dionne Mathis Banks)

“. . . I like the idea of “thinking sociologically” . . . the idea that sociology is not merely common sense is illustrated well in this book and is one of its principal strengths, and something that sets it aside from other introductory texts.”

(Klaus Heyer)

“I loved the writing and comprehensive information on each topic. The essays are interesting and relate to current events . . . [T]he global and feminist themes are very important. Most texts don’t use them in the way the authors did (interlocking factors).”

(Kim MacInnis)

#### About the Author

William J. Chambliss, professor of sociology at The George Washington University, was a critical sociological theorist whose research has ranged broadly from studies of law creation and the legal system to participant observation studies of juvenile gangs, organized crime, policing, and the impact of social movements on political and economic change. He served as president of the American Society of Criminology and the Society for the Study of Social Problems. He has received numerous awards for his

research and teaching, including the prestigious Edwin H. Sutherland Award from the American Society of Criminology, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Sociological Association, the Bruce Smith Lifetime Achievement Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the PASS Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Sociology of Law Section of the American Sociological Association. He has authored and edited over 35 books in sociology, criminology and criminal justice and numerous articles in social science journals.

Daina S. Eglitis is an associate professor of sociology and international affairs and director of the undergraduate program in the Department of Sociology at The George Washington University. Her research highlights sociological dimensions of change in the post-communist world, with a particular focus on stratification, poverty, and gender. She has been the recipient of Fulbright, IREX, and Open Society awards and is the author of several articles and a book on post-communist social change. She also writes for and about teaching in the undergraduate classroom and is the author of the article, "The Uses of Global Poverty: How Inequality Benefits the West," and the Teaching Sociology article, "Performing Theory: Dramatic Learning in the Theory Classroom."

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Francisco Gentry:**

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