

# Social Problems



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*Most of the readers of this book are among the world's privileged people—those who have enough to eat, a comfortable place to sleep, and the special opportunity to study the human condition. I offer this book in the hope that it will stimulate thinking about those who are in need and the state of our planet, and spark action toward making our world a better place.*

*John J. Macionis*

# Social Problems

**NINTH EDITION**

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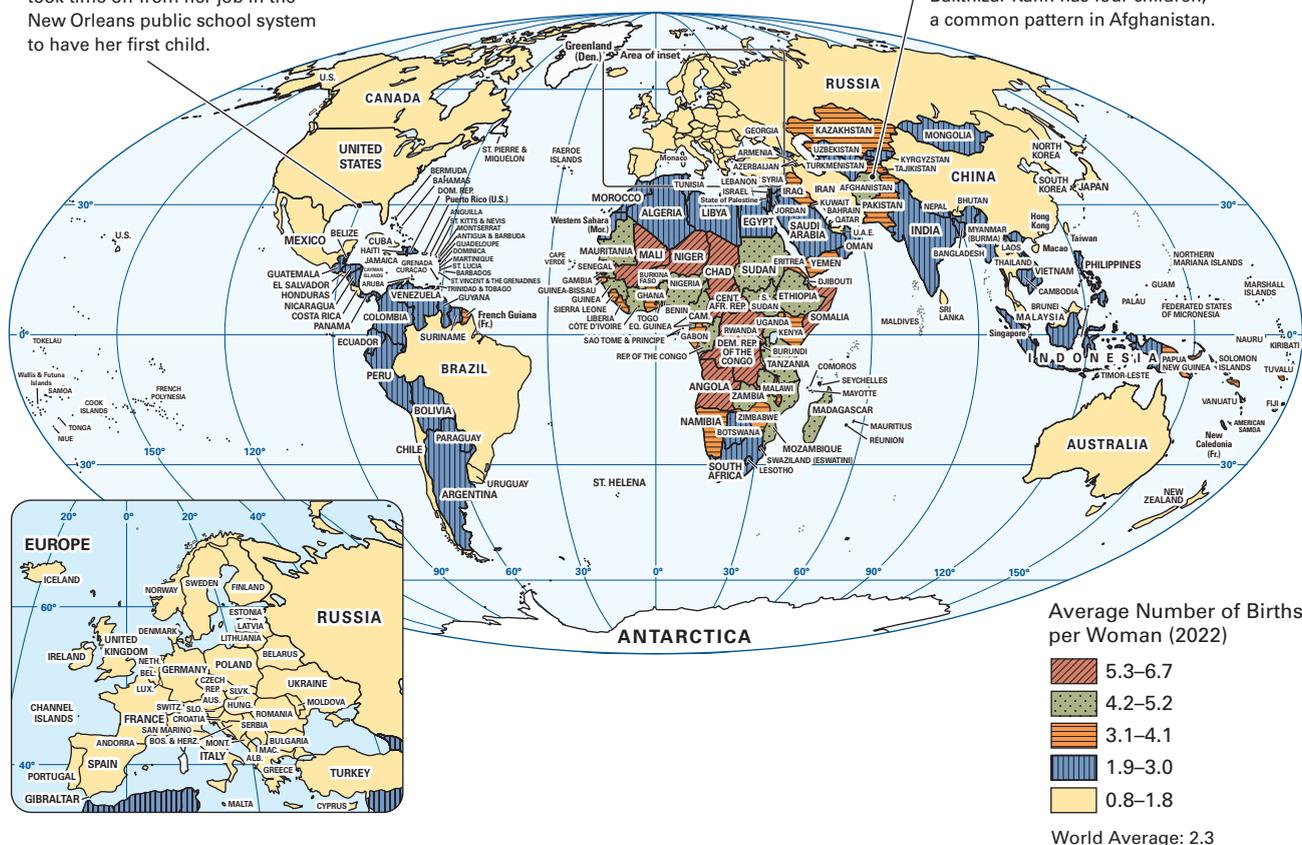
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○ Cindy Rucker, 29 years old, recently took time off from her job in the New Orleans public school system to have her first child.

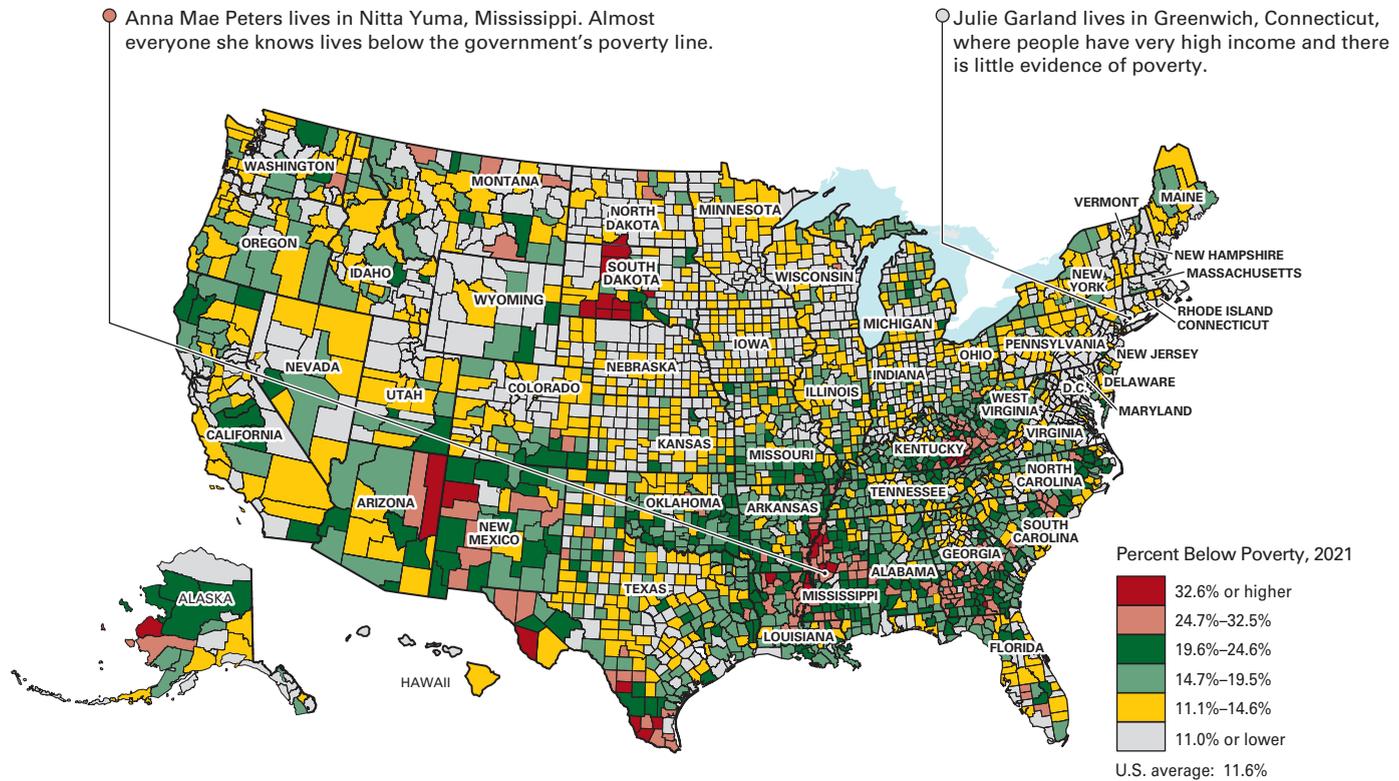
○ Although she is only 28 years old, Baktizar Kahn has four children, a common pattern in Afghanistan.



SOURCE: Data from United Nations Development Programme (2023).

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SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau (2023).

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# Preface

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Our nation's Pledge of Allegiance ends with the words "... with liberty and justice for all." This phrase reflects an ideal; it may be our collective hope, but does it describe our reality? Certainly, some categories of the population (people who are White, affluent, male, and heterosexual) have greater freedom than others (people of color, those who experience poverty, females, and people who are homosexual, bisexual, and transgender).

Just as important, a large share of this country's population has serious questions about the extent of social justice. We now live in a time of extreme political division, and frustration is widespread. Surveys tell us that substantial majorities of people—regardless of political party affiliation—say that they are dissatisfied with the way things are going and that the country is "on the wrong track."

Globally, armed conflict and terrorism threaten the planet's peace, and there is increasing concern about the state of the natural environment and the consequences of climate change. Here at home, we continue to grapple with high inflation and increasing economic inequality, rising levels of crime, a steady pattern of deadly gun violence, and more political polarization that we have seen in decades.

Clearly, this is a time when we need to understand more about social problems.

## Facts, Theory, and Politics

Sociology offers a body of research—including data and theoretical analysis—that provides understanding of the social problems we face in today's world. Sociology is also a path to change. Our discipline extends an invitation to action, encouraging us to become involved in the debates and social movements that are reshaping society. As the leading title for this course, *Social Problems, Ninth Edition* offers a broad investigation of social problems, both domestic and global. This title provides all the *facts*, highlighting historical trends and exploring today's controversies. We build this understanding using sociological *theory*, which ties facts together to create meaning and deepen insight.

Just as important, this title stands alone by providing readers with *political analysis*. The issues discussed in the chapters of this text are widely debated in the larger society—primarily using the language of *politics*. If we wish for our students to become involved in these debates, we must not only educate them in the concepts and theory of our discipline; we must also link our disciplinary work with the political narratives that students encounter every day. Becoming a good citizen requires learning the facts about controversial issues, developing the skills of sociological thinking, and also gaining fluency in the language of politics.

Another reason to merge sociological understanding with political analysis is that political position also guides the process by which people decide what issues become defined as

social problems. In the same way, political position shapes the process by which people decide what policies are advanced as solutions.

*Social Problems, Ninth Edition* explains what politics is all about. From the first chapter to the last, this title explains the values and beliefs that animate thinking and action for people at various points on the political spectrum. This title then applies these points of view to dozens of issues—from economic inequality to war and terrorism—so that students understand today's debates, grasping not only *what* an argument is but *why* it takes a particular form. Careful attention to the content of this text will ensure that students are able to understand the political rhetoric and analysis from both the left and right sides of the political spectrum.

A guiding principle of this title is that politics involves competing narratives based on different points of view. *Social Problems, Ninth Edition* presents a rich diversity of political arguments for four reasons. First, all points of view are part of the political debate that goes on throughout the United States. Second, no one can hold political beliefs with any conviction without understanding the arguments of those who disagree. In other words, to be, say, a good liberal, one needs to understand not just progressive politics but conservative, far-right, and far-left positions as well. Such broad understanding fuels a process by which a person declares what is worth believing and what is not worth believing. Third, especially in this era of intense political polarization, it is important to recognize that, although we will favor one political position over others, we can usually find at least some element of truth in any political argument. In the political arena, as in the classroom, reasonable people can and do disagree. Understanding all positions is a major step toward addressing our nation's angry political divide and, in its place, promoting civil and respectful discourse with those with whom we disagree. Fourth, and finally, by being politically inclusive, *Social Problems* invites *all* students, whatever their backgrounds and life experiences, to share their ideas, which encourages inclusion and lively class discussion.

## The Social Constructionist Approach

The most compelling reason to include political analysis in a social problems course is that politics guides the process of defining and responding to social problems. *Social Problems, Ninth Edition* differs from all other texts in that it does not adopt one (implicit or explicit) political point of view by presenting a series of "problems" and identifying a sequence of "solutions" as if everyone agreed about what these are. Rather, all chapters present facts and also highlight the importance of political attitudes in the selection of some issues and not others as problems as well as in the selection of some policies as solutions. With this

fact in mind, we can readily see why our leaders (and, often, our friends and family members) disagree about what the problems and their solutions are. Indeed, as we shall see time and again, one person's problem may well be another's solution.

With this insight, true conversation can begin. And what is *true conversation*? I suggest that this is more than talking *at* one another; conversation requires speaking *with* each other. Not only speaking, but also listening to what the other has to say. Also required is an openness to changing our views and beliefs, if only a little. The Latin root of the word "conversation" is *vers*, meaning "turned." Therefore, we engage in good-faith conversation to the extent that we are willing to be altered by hearing another's good argument.

Another benefit of using the social constructionist approach is recognizing how and why our society came to recognize a certain problem at a certain point in our history. For example, behaviors we now call child abuse, environmental racism, sexual harassment, and transphobia may have always been with us, but our society did not always define them as problems. On the contrary, problems came into being only after courageous individuals sparked the development of successful social movements that brought about change in our hearts and in our laws.

## Your Fully Involved Author

In recent years, publishers have outsourced the creation of much text content. Rest assured, John Macionis is involved in every element of *Social Problems*. In addition to making this title "best in class" in terms of currency, with recent events and examples and the latest data, he selects all the photos, writes all the captions, creates the figures and tables, develops all the testing material, and creates all the interactive content in Revel. John corresponds regularly with instructors and students, incorporating many suggestions by others into each new edition, which makes *Social Problems* an always-evolving project. For the latest information about Macionis titles, see the author's website: [TheSociologyPage.com](http://TheSociologyPage.com) or [macionis.com](http://macionis.com). A full suite of instructor resources is available from Pearson at [pearsonhighered.com](http://pearsonhighered.com).

## What's New in the Ninth Edition

The new ninth edition of *Social Problems* represents a major revision that reflects the events, trends, and policy changes that are transforming today's society.

**NEW! The ninth edition provides full analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic, including all the latest health statistics and, just as important, newly published research analyzing the many ways in which the pandemic transformed our way of life. Particular attention is given to identifying many changes that appear to have become the new normal as our society moves forward.**

**NEW! Full coverage of the transgender revolution, which is changing the way people think about sex and gender, is included in this edition.** Chapter 5 ("Sexuality and Inequality") has been reorganized and heavily revised to include the latest

data and policy developments. A new, comprehensive map program dealing with transgender issues has been added. A new National Map (5-1) identifies the states that do, and do not, recognize nonbinary identity on legal documents. Another new National Map (5-2) presents the LGBT share of the population for each state. A third new National Map (5-3) identifies the states that have, and have not, enacted bans on transgender women participating in women's athletics. In each case, students using Revel will find a companion map that shows how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election, inviting them to compare the two maps and discover how politics drives policy.

**NEW! The revision includes an expanded program of seventeen completely updated global ("Window on the World") maps and twenty-six national ("Seeing Ourselves") maps with county- or state-level data.** With Revel, each map includes a companion map that provides the opportunity for interactive "discovery" learning. By comparing two maps, students not only discover how variables such as income, gender equality, gun laws, and legal same-sex marriage vary from place to place; they also gain insight as to *why*. For example, the new National Map 4-3 assesses people's access to legal abortion in all fifty states, and this map is accompanied by a companion map showing how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election. Comparing the two maps, students discover that twelve of the fourteen states that have banned or severely restricted access to legal abortion voted Republican in 2020; fifteen of the sixteen states that provide access to legal abortion voted Democratic. In short, students discover how variables are linked and recognize how politics drives policy.

Global maps in Revel provide the same discovery learning. For example, Global Map 7-1 shows nations that do, and do not, make use of the death penalty. Revel's companion map identifies nations' level of economic development. Students easily discover the link between these two variables; in addition, they see that the United States stands out as an exception to the global pattern.

Revel global and national maps each have assignable journal exercises that invite students to engage in sociological analysis and submit their conclusions to the instructor.

**NEW! The ninth edition presents the latest data and analysis of patterns of economic inequality, racial and ethnic inequality, gender inequality, and inequality linked to age.** A full chapter is devoted to each of these key dimensions of social stratification.

**NEW! This revision includes a heavily updated, full chapter on social media.** *Social Problems* has a full chapter (Chapter 10) providing data and analysis of social media. The chapter focuses on the effects of social media on individuals, on social relationships, and on society as a whole. Social media is a powerful and rapidly developing force in our society; as you might expect, therefore, **80 percent of the chapter references are new to the ninth edition.**

**NEW!** Eight hundred new research citations support this revision—typically fifty per chapter—to ensure that you have best-in-class currency. On average, **80 percent of all citations in a chapter of this revision are publications from 2020 to 2023.**

**NEW! The latest data are included for all of the more than 2,000 individual statistics** in the ninth edition of *Social Problems*.

**Best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion.** This revision has been written, carefully reviewed, and revised to reflect the diverse population of the United States. Analysis takes account of race, ethnicity, age, class, and gender. The photography program also reflects the nation's social diversity. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that diverse perspectives are represented, encouraging students to develop critical-thinking skills.

## What's New in the Ninth Edition, Chapter by Chapter

### Chapter 1 Sociology: Studying Social Problems

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** This revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** An "Understanding the Other" interactive learning exercise lets students using Revel experience the power of class position to shape the first day on a college campus. Global Map 1–1 shows the average number of children born to women in nations around the world; Revel provides an interactive, companion map showing nations' level of economic development, inviting students to compare the two maps and discover the link between these two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include assignable writing responses.

**New Material:** The chapter includes new discussion of the Supreme Court decision *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* overturning *Roe v. Wade*; new discussion of critical race theory, critical assessment of Philip Zimbardo's prison research, new discussion of guaranteed minimum income programs operating in U.S. cities, new discussion of the 2020 national elections and public assessment of the Biden administration's performance between 2020 and 2023, and new and expanded discussion of political polarization in the United States.

**Updates:** This chapter includes 2023 data showing 69 percent of U.S. adults think the country is on the "wrong track," the latest assessment of the ten most serious social problems in the United States, a 2023 update on the increasing number of states banning cell phone use by drivers, new coverage of debate over emissions by gas stoves, the latest data on the extent of gun violence including recent instances of school shootings, and the latest data showing the distribution of U.S. adults on the political spectrum, and also results of the 2022 national elections. The country's most politically liberal and conservative states are identified.

**New Research:** The revised chapter reflects 32 new research references; 80 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*"Social media has become a powerful tool in the process of claims making ... greatly accelerating the speed at which some issues become defined as serious social problems."*

*"The advantages enjoyed by some and the disadvantages endured by others is not a matter of attitudes held by people who are intolerant of social diversity. In the same way, the solution to this problem is not for people to become 'color-blind.' On the contrary, critical race theory claims, the misguided goal of individual color blindness only serves to mask the fact that inequality is built into the operation of society's legal system, economy, and other institutions. Put in a different way, our society would remain systemically racist even if most of the people were not."*

### Chapter 2 Economic Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Discussion of income, wealth, and poverty includes analysis by age, race, and gender. New data document the feminization of poverty. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Revel's updated National Map 2–1 allows students to zoom in on their local community to see the median poverty rate and median income and to identify regional patterns in economic inequality. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise.

**New Material:** There is a major new discussion of guaranteed minimum income in fifty cities. There is expanded discussion of race-conflict theory. The latest data document the extent of economic inequality in the United States, including analysis of the distributions of income and wealth. New analysis explores how perceptions of economic inequality differ among people who identify with the Democratic and Republican parties. New discussion highlights recent changes in criminal justice to address the overcriminalization of people with low incomes. There is new discussion on the effects of mail-in ballots on the rate of voting by people with low incomes. New discussion points out the increasing gap in life expectancy paralleling the trend of increasing economic inequality.

**Updates:** The latest data track how the public assesses economic opportunity in the United States. Numerous new measures confirm the increasing extent of economic inequality in U.S. society. New data identify changes in the median income for families in five quintiles from 1980 to 2021. New data reveal the share of income earned by the richest 1 percent, which is more than twice as large as the share in 1975. The richest individuals in the United States are identified with estimates of their wealth. The latest data support analysis of poverty in the United States. The latest data on health by income level are now included.

**New Research:** The revised chapter benefits from 59 new research references; 82 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*"Palo Alto has a median income of about \$195,000, making it one of the richest cities in the United States. Many of the local people drive BMWs, Audis, or Teslas. The average home sells for more than \$2.5 million. This affluence is rooted in the computer revolution, a*

global business that transformed the whole Silicon Valley region into an economic growth machine. The region has a gross domestic product (GDP) of some \$400 billion annually, which equals the GDP of Austria or the United Arab Emirates. This remarkable affluence is not equally shared, however. Far from it: More than 90 percent of this region's wealth is owned by just 25 percent of its people."

"The super-rich, in the top 1 percent, control about 35 percent of all privately held assets. This 1 percent of families owns as much wealth as the country's entire middle class."

"An estimate for 2022 placed the wealth of the ten richest individuals in the United States at more than \$1.1 trillion, which is as much as the wealth of 10 million average people at \$100,000 each. Put another way, the nation's ten richest people have more assets than the combined wealth of all the people living in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Connecticut."

"Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that, between 2019 and 2021, life expectancy decreased for the U.S. population as a whole, but the decrease was twice as large (about five years) for more socially vulnerable categories of the population, including the Native American, Black, and Hispanic populations, than among the more affluent non-Hispanic White and Asian American populations (two years). Analysts suggest this widening gap in life expectancy results not from individual choices, but from the increasing level of economic inequality in the United States."

## Chapter 3 Racial and Ethnic Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** This revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The entire chapter advances the importance of race and ethnicity to our understanding of U.S. society. Analysis of institutional prejudice and institutional discrimination explores the systemic character of bias in U.S. society. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Revel's interactive National Map 3-1 shows the share of the population that speaks a language other than English at home for all counties across the country, inviting students to zoom in to explore their local community. A Revel companion map shows the share of the population of each county that is Hispanic/Latino, inviting students to compare the patterns and appreciate the size of the Hispanic population of the United States. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise. New National Map 3-2 is a mosaic of five maps that show the distribution of Hispanic, Black, Asian, Native American, and Arab people throughout the United States. Revel provides an interactive "Understanding the Other" learning exercise explaining how race can shape the experience of a traffic stop by the police.

**New Material:** There is a new analysis of the concept of equality as it was understood by the nation's founders. New discussion analyzes the systemic character of bias in U.S. society. A new discussion presents critical race theory. There is new and expanded discussion of U.S. immigration and immigration policy, as well as expanded discussion of the increasing share of people in the U.S. population who are multiracial. There is new and expanded discussion of White privilege and racism.

A new Diversity box explores the death of Tyre Nichols at the hands of police officers in Memphis in 2023 to illustrate the importance of institutional discrimination.

**Updates:** New data confirm the link between race and ethnicity and type of work. The population size of all racial and ethnic categories is provided using the latest available data.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is based on 57 new research references; 71 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

## Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

"Most people know that the United States is a nation of immigrants. In fact, of all the world's countries, the United States has the largest number of foreign-born people—more than 45 million, or about 85 million if we add in their children who were born in this country. But most people do not have a good grasp of the relative size of the immigrant population. For example, when researchers ask what share of the U.S. population was born in another country, the typical person responds with a figure almost twice the correct share, which is actually 13.6 percent."

"The fact that race is a socially constructed category means that members of a society may attach importance to any distinctive physical trait to assign people (including themselves) to a racial category. In the early decades of the twentieth century, public opinion in the United States turned against European immigrants as their numbers grew. For a time, many southern Europeans—such as Italians—were "racialized" and defined as people of color, a view that changed over several generations."

"Robin DiAngelo believes that U.S. society tends to define racism in personal terms—the attitudes and actions of individuals—and this understanding draws attention away from the many ways in which racial bias runs deep in the operation of society itself. The title of her book, *White Fragility*, refers to the tendency of White people—especially those who are more politically liberal—to feel defensive and angry at the idea that they benefit from a system that they are trying hard to change. She suggests that, for many White people, holding beliefs that oppose racism is a conscious or unconscious strategy to avoid actually dealing with the problem of racism at a deeper level."

## Chapter 4 Gender Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The effects of gender are presented with attention to age, race, and ethnicity. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Revel's Global Map 4-1 shows the relative social standing of women and men for all countries in the world. The Revel companion map presents nations' level of economic development, inviting students to assess the link between these two variables. Revel's interactive National Map 4-1 shows the share of state legislators who are women. The companion map shows which party carried the state in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to assess the link between these two variables. National Map 4-2 shows the gender pay gap for all the states, inviting students to recognize and explain the pattern. Revel's interactive Global Map 4-2 assesses the extent of

the practice of female genital mutilation in countries around the world; a Revel companion map invites students to assess the link between this practice and nations' level of economic development. Finally, National Map 4–3 is new, showing the level of access to legal abortion for all states in 2023; Revel's companion map invites students to assess the link between this access and states' political leanings. All Revel interactive maps now include assignable writing exercises.

**New Material:** There is a major, new discussion titled “Reproduction and Abortion,” providing analysis of the 2022 *Dobbs* decision. A new National Map shows the extent of access to legal abortion by state. There is new discussion on the extent of sexual assault in the U.S. military. A newly expanded discussion explains the various waves of feminism in U.S. history.

**Updates:** The latest data inform discussions of women in national politics, the presentation of men and women in film, public attitudes concerning gender inequality, the gender pay gap in the United States and other nations, the educational and occupational achievement of women and men, the gender composition of Congress in 2023, the labor force participation rates of women and men over time, gender segregation in the labor force, and rates of physical and sexual assault in the United States and also on college campuses.

**New Research:** The revised chapter has 66 new research references; 84 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“Analysts who have applied the Bechdel test report that, fifty years ago, half of all new feature films failed this test. Since then, the trend is for a larger share of new films to pass—almost 70 percent of films released in 2022 passed the test. Even so, a considerable number of recent popular movies—from Avatar and The Revenant to American Sniper and all of The Lord of the Rings films, to 1917, The Irishman, A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore, Elvis, and Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe—fail this simple test.”*

*“The gender pay gap is considerably larger (women earning about 75 percent as much as men) among women with children compared to women without children (close to 90 percent).”*

*“The 2022 Dobbs decision has resulted in a nation divided in terms of reproductive rights. In 2023, sixteen states (green in the new national map) were protective of abortion access. Twenty states (yellow) placed some restriction on access to legal abortion. Fourteen states (red) banned abortion in most cases or highly restricted access. Of these fourteen states, twelve supported the Republican candidate in the 2020 presidential election. Of the sixteen states shown in green, all but Alaska supported the Democratic candidate.”*

### Chapter 5 Sexuality and Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** This revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Special attention is directed toward giving this rapidly changing area of social life cutting-edge currency. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** A new National Map 5–1 identifies states that do, and do not, recognize nonbinary gender on official documents. The Revel companion map shows how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to discover the political basis for this variation in policy. A new National Map 5–2 shows the share of the population of each state identifying as LGBT. The Revel companion map shows how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to analyze the interaction between politics and policy. A new National Map 5–3 identifies states that have, and have not, enacted bans on the participation of transgender women in women's sports. Once again, the Revel companion map shows the state-by-state results of the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to link policy and politics. Finally, National Map 5–4 presents teenage pregnancy rates for all the states. Revel's companion map shows the states' poverty rates, inviting students to assess the link between these two variables. Global Map 5–1 shows the HIV infection rate for nations around the world. The Revel companion map shows nations' level of economic development, again inviting students to assess the link between these two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include assignable writing exercises. Finally, an “Understanding the Other” interactive learning exercise helps students using Revel to experience the sense of marginalization that is familiar to transgender people.

**New Material:** Full coverage is given to the 2022 *Dobbs* decision by the Supreme Court ending the national guarantee of access to legal abortion. Discussion of state actions since then is included. There are three new national maps dealing with transgender issues. The chapter has been reorganized, moving transgender to the beginning, and this chapter's content has been extensively rewritten to reflect the most recent research and policy. A new national map shows acceptance of transgender identity policy for all states; the companion map shows how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to discover the political basis for this variation in policy. There is a new discussion of the size and character of the LGBTQ+ community. There is new discussion of pansexuality. The latest research linking sexual orientation and the human genome is included. There is entirely new coverage of the controversy surrounding transgender athletics.

**Updates:** The most recent data have been used to inform discussion of the size of various categories of people with regard to sexual identity and behavior, with current estimates of transgender people. New research explains the effects on individuals caused by heavy use of pornography. The latest on a few states that have adopted a Sweden-like approach to prostitution is discussed. The most recent data inform discussion of teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

**New Research:** The revised chapter has 50 new research references; 68 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“Overall, a larger share of LGBT people were assigned a female identity at birth (58 percent) than a male identity (42 percent). LGBT people, on average, are younger (37.3 years old) compared to straight*

and cisgender people (47.9 years old). About 29 percent of LGBT people report that they are raising children; 71 percent report not raising children. LGBT people represent major racial and ethnic categories at about that category's share of the U.S. population."

"At the same time, this population, as a whole, is vulnerable. They are almost twice as likely as non-LGBT people to be unemployed (9 percent versus 5 percent) and food insecure (27 percent versus 15 percent) and more likely to have an annual income below \$24,000 (25 percent versus 18 percent) (Williams, 2019)."

## Chapter 6 Aging and Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The entire chapter has been carefully reviewed and edited to address all categories of people and all points of view respectfully. Discussions of topics such as life expectancy include analysis by gender, race, and ethnicity. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** National Map 6–1 shows the share of elder adults for all counties across the United States; Revel's interactive companion map shows the share of people living in the same house since 1989, inviting students to assess the link between these two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise.

**New Material:** New discussion highlights the reversal, over the last three years, of an historic trend toward greater life expectancy. Find new discussion of the disproportionate effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on older adults. There is newly expanded discussion of global patterns and policy involving euthanasia. New discussion reports policy toward older adults enacted by the Biden administration.

**Updates:** The latest data are provided in discussions of the share of people over the age of sixty-five in the U.S. population, patterns of retirement, the poverty rate among older adults, life expectancy, the extent of social isolation, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on retirement, elder abuse, the 2021 Elder Protection Act, poverty among older people, housing for older people, median income and poverty rate presented by age category, euthanasia and other social patterns involving death.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is based on 43 new research references; 90 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotation from the Revised Chapter:

"Among older people, about half of single people and 20 percent of married couples rely on Social Security to provide 90 percent or more of their income. Yet the rapid increase in the elderly population of the United States, as well as the long-term trend toward living longer, are placing ever-greater demands on Social Security. In 1950, there were six workers for every retired person. By 2050, projections indicate that there will be just two workers for every retiree, and most analysts believe that the current system will be able to pay only 80 percent of scheduled benefits a decade from now. The strength of Social Security is especially important to Black and Hispanic/Latino people, who depend on the system for a larger share of their income in old age than non-Hispanic White people."

## Chapter 7 Crime, Violence, and Criminal Justice

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** This revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Rates of crime and victimization are analyzed by age, gender, class, and race. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** National Map 7–1 shows "concealed carry" laws for all fifty states; Revel's companion map shows state voting results in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. Global Map 7–1 presents the status of the death penalty for all the world's countries; Revel's interactive companion map invites students to discover how these two variables are related. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise. Finally, an "Understanding the Other" interactive learning exercise allows students using Revel to better understand how race shapes interactions that unfold on the street.

**New Material:** New discussion of deadly gun violence in Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, is included. The recent surge in murder and aggravated assault, which was documented in every state, is discussed with data and analysis. There is new discussion of mass incarceration—how race figures into rates of incarceration for serious crime. Examples and illustrations of all issues discussed in the chapter have been updated to be within the last year and a half.

**Updates:** The latest available data are provided for death toll and rates of gun violence, number of mass shootings, rates of incarceration for various categories of the U.S. population, the number of hate crimes, membership in criminal youth gangs, new gun laws in the United States and Canada, rates of incarceration for selected countries around the world, and the status of the death penalty in all nations. The number of reported crimes and crime rates for all major property and person crimes over a sixty-year period are presented. There is updated discussion of the link between drugs and violence and also guns and violence.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is built upon 62 new research references; 70 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

"By the end of 2020, the U.S. murder rate had increased by 30 percent, which is the largest increase on record in more than a century. Preliminary data suggest that the murder rate continued to increase in 2021, but at a slower rate than in 2020, and the rate leveled off in 2022."

"Men make up about half of the general population, but in 2021, they accounted for 70 percent of arrests for property crimes. For violent crimes, this gender pattern is even more pronounced: Men represent 81 percent of all arrests, almost five times the women's share."

"With regard to property crime, White people represent 64 percent of all arrests, and Black people account for 30 percent. In the case of violent crime, White people represent 61 percent of arrests and Black people represent 33 percent."

*“In 2016, there were 383 mass shootings in the United States (gun violence that may or may not have been deadly). In 2017, the number was 348; in 2018, it was 336; in 2019, it was 417; in 2020, it was 610; in 2021, 690; in 2022, 647; and, in the first three months of 2023, there were 130 more.”*

*“A recent national survey found that 72 percent of U.S. adults consider gun violence to be ‘a very big problem’ (48 percent) or ‘a moderately big problem’ (24 percent). The population is divided politically on the need for stricter gun control laws, a position supported by 81 percent of Democrats but only 20 percent of Republicans (Schaeffer, 2021).”*

## Chapter 8 Alcohol and Other Drugs

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. There is analysis of how race and ethnicity are linked to patterns of drug use and public perceptions of drug use. Political analysis from various points of view ensures a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** National Map 8–1 shows the status of marijuana laws for all the states. Revel’s interactive companion map shows how states voted in the last presidential election, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables and appreciate how politics drives policy. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing response.

**New Material:** Considerable new material and data have been added addressing the increase in overdose deaths from opioids and the different policy approaches favored by Democrats and Republicans. There is newly expanded discussion of the movement in the United States toward decriminalizing marijuana.

**Updates:** The chapter provides the latest data on the status of legal marijuana for medical and recreational purposes across the United States; public opinion on legal marijuana; the loss of life due to drug poisoning; the extent of use for all categories of drugs, smoking cigarettes, and other tobacco products; and the number of people incarcerated after conviction on drug-related charges. There is newly updated discussion of the pandemic and drug use. The chapter now provides summaries of illegal drug control policies for the last ten presidential administrations.

**New Research:** The revised chapter reflects 57 new research references; 73 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“How people view any particular drug is a matter of culture, which means typical attitudes vary from one society to the next. Europeans, for example, have enjoyed drinking alcohol for thousands of years. But Native Americans, whose first experience with wine or hard liquor came five centuries ago with the arrival of European colonists, had no customs to guide the consumption of alcohol. As a result, many Native Americans began to overuse these drugs. For this reason, tribal community leaders soon defined alcohol as a serious problem. On the other hand, for centuries many Native Americans have used peyote in their religious rituals. Europeans learned about peyote from them, and some Europeans began to use this drug. But having no*

*experience with it, many became terrified by the hallucinations peyote produces and soon declared peyote to be a dangerous drug.”*

*“Race and ethnicity also shaped the public’s opinion of other drugs. In other parts of the country, as ever-increasing numbers of immigrants came to the United States, they brought with them their culture from the past, their dreams for the future, and also current preferences involving drugs. Since the 1850s, for example, many Chinese immigrants in California smoked opium (a practice they learned back in China from British colonists). Prejudice against Chinese people prompted public officials in eleven western states to ban opium. At the same time, in the East, where there were few Chinese people, no state enacted such a law. There, getting your hands on opium was as easy as going to the corner store or picking up a mail-order catalogue from Sears, Roebuck and Company (the Amazon of its day) and having the drug delivered by the post office right to your door.”*

*“After the onset of the pandemic, about 13 percent of U.S. adults claim to have made greater use of some drug as a means of coping with anxiety, depression, and loneliness. During the first twelve months of the pandemic, overdose deaths increased by 30 percent (to 100,000) compared to the previous twelve months (77,000). . . . There is also evidence that greater use of drugs increased people’s risk of becoming infected with the coronavirus. Drug use raised the odds of experiencing severe symptoms that required hospitalization.”*

## Chapter 9 Physical and Mental Health

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Patterns of physical and mental health are analyzed with regard to race, ethnicity, class, and gender. Political analysis from various points of view ensures a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 9–1 shows the rate of infant mortality for the world’s nations. Revel’s interactive companion map, showing level of economic development, invites students to discover the link between these two variables. Revel’s interactive National Map 9–1 shows the range of life expectancy among people living in counties across the United States, inviting students to explore their local area. Revel’s interactive companion map of median family income invites students to compare the two maps and assess the link between the two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise.

**New Material:** There is new discussion of the relatively low ranking of the United States in terms of population health among all high-income nations; this deficiency is described using the concept of “excess deaths.” There is new discussion of the higher cost of health care in the United States compared to other high-income nations, and also new discussion of the power of labels to define the reality of mental health. Also new is discussion of the mental health of multiracial people. Coverage of mental health on the campus during and after the COVID-19 pandemic is also newly expanded.

**Updates:** The latest data inform the discussion of the alarming rate of obesity in the United States, the recent decline in life expectancy for the U.S. population, global patterns of HIV infection, the distribution of HIV in the United States by race and ethnicity, the share of medical costs paid through the government

in selected nations, the escalating cost of health care in the United States, the ways people in the United States pay the costs of health care and the share of the population without any health care coverage, the nursing shortage, and the extent of mental illness in the United States. The latest categories of mental disorders, as devised by the American Psychiatric Association, are the basis for discussion throughout the second half of this chapter.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is based on 49 new research references; 67 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“An especially high level of obesity and a health care system that leaves tens of millions without insurance helps explain why life expectancy in the United States, while high in global terms, is seven years lower than the overall average for people living in ten other high-income countries.”*

*“One consequence of inequality in health is relatively low life expectancy for the population as a whole. Although well-off people in the United States compare favorably with people in other high-income nations, longevity for the population as a whole lags behind. Global comparisons show that the nation ranks only sixty-first in terms of life expectancy, placing the United States below Canada and almost every country in Western Europe and also behind a number of less-well-off nations, from Costa Rica in Latin America to Singapore in Asia. Despite our country’s unmatched wealth, the United States doesn’t even make the top fifty nations (with a ranking of fifty-third) in terms of low levels of infant mortality.”*

### Chapter 10 Social Media

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Social media use is analyzed in terms of age, race, gender, education, and income. Sexual orientation is also included in the analysis of use of dating sites. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Revel’s interactive Global Map 10–1 shows the share of the population using the internet for nations around the world; the Revel interactive companion map presents nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise. Revel’s interactive National Map 10–1 shows the share of households using the internet for every county in the United States, inviting students to zoom in to explore their local area.

**New Material:** A new discussion addresses the search for “truth” in the media. A major new discussion explores the links between heavy use of social media and anxiety, loneliness, and depression. There is newly expanded discussion of the effects of social media on political polarization and political democracy. The political analysis of social media and its effects has been greatly updated and expanded.

**Updates:** The latest data show gender preferences for various social media apps, the relative popularity of various mass media and social media apps in the United States, the political

bias of numerous popular media outlets, the extent of online bullying, the increasing use of online dating sites, and the increasing consolidation of media outlets.

**New Research:** The revised chapter reflects 68 new research references; 80 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“A remarkable change has taken place in a single generation: The typical person in the United States now spends more time looking at screens than doing anything else, including sleeping.”*

*“What does matter is level of education: 97 percent of college graduates are online, compared to just 65 percent of people without a high school diploma. Income is also important. Among people with annual income of at least \$75,000, 97 percent use the internet; among people with income below \$20,000, the share is just 74 percent. Age matters, too. For the U.S. population as a whole, 100 percent of young adults use the internet, compared with about 75 percent of people who are sixty-five or older.”*

*“The iPhone debuted in 2007. By 2012, a smartphone was owned by a majority of U.S. adults. Since then, our society has seen a dramatic increase in the share of people using social media. Of all age categories, use of social media is greatest among young people. Over the last decade, another trend became evident: Rates of anxiety, loneliness, depression, and self-harm, including suicide, have increased significantly among young adults.”*

*“The new digital economy is still largely owned by the very rich. The five richest people in the United States (Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates, Larry Ellison, and Warren Buffett) all control giant, high-tech corporations.”*

### Chapter 11 Economy and Politics

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Analysis of voting is presented with attention to age, class, race, ethnicity, and gender. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 11–1 presents an assessment of the level of economic freedom in all the world’s nations; a Revel companion map shows nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. National Map 11–1 presents the share of voters for all states who cast a ballot in the 2020 presidential election; the Revel interactive companion map shows how each state voted in 2020, inviting students to discover how these two variables are related. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing exercise.

**New Material:** There is a new coverage of the extent of political polarization in U.S. politics, a new measure of its increasing intensity, and discussion of its causes. A new discussion explains the origin and current patterns of political gerrymandering.

**Updates:** The latest data are provided for discussions of public trust in the federal government, the low productivity of the recent Congress, the relative share of economic production

in the public and private sectors for selected countries, government legal action against Google for alleged monopoly control of the search engine market, the steady increase in campaign spending, the extent of political apathy in recent presidential elections, the strong correlation between income and voting, and the trend toward restoring voting rights to people convicted of a serious crime.

**New Research:** There are 43 new research references in this revised chapter; 84 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“In 2021 and 2022, the 117th Congress passed just 362 laws, well below the number typical during past decades. In 1947 and 1948, President Harry Truman famously expressed frustration at what he called the ‘Do Nothing Congress.’ Back then, the 80th Congress passed 906 laws—two and a half times as many as the 117th Congress managed to do. There are, no doubt, many reasons for this relatively low level of activity. Near the top of the list, certainly, is the fact that our political process has become dangerously polarized so the Democrats and Republicans are unlikely to reach agreement.”*

*“Events such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic can alter the degree to which government regulates the economy. In 2020, after the onset of the pandemic, governments in almost all of the world’s nations mandated that people engage in social distancing, wear masks, and avoid public gatherings. Some nations required people to remain at home. Many businesses were forced to scale back or close down entirely. Such policies were enacted with the intention of reducing COVID transmission, but they had the additional effect of reducing economic output. In the United States, the Biden administration also responded to the economic effects of the pandemic with a policy of pandemic relief to stimulate economic recovery.”*

### Chapter 12 Work and the Workplace

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The effects of race, ethnicity, and gender are considered throughout the chapter, with particular attention to the type of work people perform. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 12–1 shows the share of the labor force in service work in nations around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map shows nations’ level of development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. All Revel interactive maps now include an assignable writing assignment. National Map 12–1 identifies which states have, and have not, enacted “right to work” laws; Revel’s interactive companion map shows state results in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to discover the link between politics and policy. Revel provides an interactive “Understanding the Other” learning exercise that shows how race can affect the outcome of a job search.

**New Material:** There is a new section titled “Factors Affecting Employment Rates.” Newly expanded discussion explores the underrepresentation of women and people of

color in higher-level positions within the labor force. A new, major section on telework highlights the rapid increase of out-of-office work since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Another new section titled “Automation and Artificial Intelligence” examines a number of ways old and new technology has affected workers.

**Updates:** The latest data guide discussions of the U.S. unemployment rate, the underrepresentation of women in the high-tech workforce, economic-sector distribution of the U.S. labor force, average hourly wages for workers in manufacturing in selected nations, the most dangerous sectors for workers in the U.S. economy, and the importance of race and ethnicity to type of jobs people hold.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is built upon 33 new research references; 87 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“Clearly, artificial intelligence in the information economy differs from automation in the industrial economy. Automation involves machines that carry out specific, repetitive tasks. Automation is highly efficient, but everything it is capable of doing is guided by its design at the outset. Artificial intelligence, by contrast, is able to carry out tasks that are far more complex. AI is also capable of work that is creative and is able to learn as it operates. In short, AI behaves less like a machine and more like a person.”*

*“AI may pose an additional, and far greater, threat. The most serious problem arising from the emergence of artificial intelligence might be the human ability to control what we have created. Already AI surpasses human beings in processing speed and in comprehension capacity. As one analyst put it, ‘If we are unable to comprehend the intelligence of . . . AI, we may never be able to control it.’”*

### Chapter 13 Family Life

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The chapter explores family patterns with regard to race, class, and gender. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** National Map 13–1 provides the divorce rate for every state. Global Map 13–1 shows the legal status of same-sex marriage for nations around the world; the Revel interactive companion map provides nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables.

**New Material:** There is new discussion of the declining share of the U.S. population living in families over recent generations.

**Updates:** The latest available data are used to support discussions of changes in all family patterns, including the share of people engaging in cohabitation, the age at first marriage, the share of single parents, patterns of child care, the rate of divorce, trends in child support, the state of gay and lesbian families, and the increasing use of DNA testing to establish family ties.

**New Research:** This revised chapter reflects 26 new research references; 63 percent of all chapter citations are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“Even so, the rate of remarriage has been declining for both women and men, dropping by half in the last thirty years. This change reflects the more general trend of a declining rate of marriage in the United States. Regionally, people in the Midwest and West are more likely to remarry; people in the Northeast are least likely to do so.”*

*“Public opinion has been relatively supportive of same-sex couples raising children. In a 2014 survey just before same-sex marriage became the law of the land, a majority of U.S. adults said they approved of gays and lesbians raising children; just one-third disapproved. Since then, this support has steadily increased as the public has embraced the fact—well supported by research—that children fare just as well in families with same-sex parents as they do in families with other-sex parents.”*

*“More evidence of this trend away from marriage is the fact that, in 2020, just half of U.S. adults between the ages of twenty-five and fifty-four were married—down from two-thirds in 1990. During the same time period, the share of adults who have never married doubled from 17 percent to 33 percent.”*

### Chapter 14 Education

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Race, ethnicity, gender, and class are considered in all discussions of educational achievement. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 14–1 shows the most recent rates of illiteracy for countries around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map shows nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. National Map 14–1 presents average teacher pay in public schools for all the states; the Revel interactive companion map shows how each state voted in the 2020 presidential election, inviting students to discover how politics drives policy.

**New Material:** New discussion explores the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on schooling in the United States. There is new coverage of the challenge of recruiting enough high-quality teachers to fill U.S. classrooms. The analysis of school violence has been updated and substantially expanded. There is new discussion of the issue of student loans.

**Updates:** The latest available data have been applied to discussions of gender disparity on the college campus, the global ranking of the United States in terms of literacy and other measures of schooling, public opinion concerning the performance of public schools, rates of dropping out of school for various categories of the population, the level of racial and ethnic segregation in public schools, school funding policy, and the English immersion versus bilingualism debate.

**New Research:** The revised chapter benefits from 49 new research references; 89 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“In 1947, college was largely for men, with males representing 71 percent of postsecondary enrollment in the United States. But women’s share was on the rise and, in 1979, for the first time in U.S. history, women made up half of all people attending college. During the 1980s and 1990s, that share continued to increase, leveling off in recent years as colleges struggle to maintain a gender balance. In 2022, 59 percent of students enrolled in college were women and 41 percent were men.”*

*“Not surprisingly, students from families with higher incomes end up performing better on achievement tests. On average, high school students from families earning more than \$110,000 per year score about 120 points higher on the combined SAT than those from families with incomes below \$51,000 per year.”*

*“In 2022, a total of 303 shootings took place on school property in the United States, the largest number since tracking this type of violence began in 1970. These criminal acts during 2022 left 332 people killed or injured. The events include mass shootings, gang shootings, and suicides, as well as accidental gunfire. The number of school shootings has increased dramatically since 2010, a year when just 15 such shootings took place. Recently, gun violence at a U.S. school has been almost a weekly event.”*

### Chapter 15 Urban Life

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** National Map 15–1 shows population change (2010–2020) for all counties across the United States; Revel’s interactive map allows students to zoom in on their local areas and offers an assignable writing exercise. Global Map 15–1 shows the level of urbanization for countries around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map presents nations’ level of development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables.

**New Material:** A new chapter-opening story focuses on the current struggles of San Francisco. Examples, illustrations, and images have all been reviewed and revised.

**Updates:** The latest data guide chapter discussion of the share of the U.S. population living in urban areas, ridership on the New York subway, the effects of the pandemic on large cities, the increasing social diversity of U.S. suburbs, homelessness in U.S. cities, and the changing list of the ten largest cities in the country (more are in the Sunbelt) and also the ten largest cities in the world (more are in lower-income nations).

**New Research:** The revised chapter benefits from 30 new research references; 83 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“World population was 8.0 billion in 2022 and is increasing by about 80 million people each year. The urban population of the world is increasing even faster than overall population. This is because, in economically developing regions of the world, including Latin America,*

*Africa, and Asia, people are migrating from rural areas to cities in search of economic opportunity, more schooling, and a better quality of life. As Table 15–2 shows, seven of the ten largest cities in the world are now in economically developing nations. None of these large cities is in the United States.”*

*“You may recognize that *gesellschaft* embodies the spirit of capitalism as described by economist Adam Smith. Also, what sociologist Max Weber described as the rationalization of society is essentially the same process as the transition from *gemeinschaft* to *gesellschaft*.”*

## Chapter 16 Population and Global Inequality

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** This revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 16–1 shows the annual rate of population increase for countries around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map presents nations’ level of development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. Global Map 16–2 shows the level of economic development for countries around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map presents the share of each country’s people who live to the age of sixty-five, inviting students to see for themselves the link between these two variables.

**New Material:** There is new demographic data and analysis in numerous chapter discussions. The discussion of immigration to the United States is now considerably expanded. There is a new listing of the world’s richest people. Many examples and illustrations are new.

**Updates:** The latest data inform all discussions, including global infant mortality, global population increase, rates of fertility and mortality, world hunger, the extent of slavery around the world, and the declining rate of extreme poverty in the world. The increasing prosperity of the world is contrasted to increasing relative economic inequality.

**New Research:** This revised chapter reflects 23 new research references; 70 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“With its far lower rate of natural increase, the population of the United States would take more than a thousand years to double. But another factor plays a far larger part in this country’s rate of population increase—immigration. As explained in Chapter 3 (“Racial and Ethnic Inequality”), more than 1 million people enter the United States each year, including both people who are both documented and undocumented. That means that immigration is currently increasing the U.S. population ten times faster than natural increase. With more than 50 million immigrants, the United States has the highest number of immigrants of any nation. (Countries with the lowest number of immigrants include North Korea, Cuba, Myanmar, Vietnam, and China.)”*

*“Dr. Nafis Sadik, a Pakistani woman who headed the United Nations’ efforts at population control, summed up the approach this way: Women who are expected to center their lives around caring for a*

*husband and children will have many children. However, give women more choices about how to live, and they will have fewer children. Women with access to schooling and jobs will marry and bear children as a matter of choice, not because it is the only option. Under these conditions, evidence shows that fertility declines, slowing population increase.”*

*“Each one of the world’s three richest people—Bernard Arnault (\$211 billion), Elon Musk (\$180 billion), and Jeff Bezos (\$114 billion)—has greater wealth than the combined wealth of all the people living in 108 of the world’s 195 countries.”*

*“In rich countries such as the United States, there are relatively few infant deaths, and people typically live to about the age of seventy-five to eighty. Among people living near absolute poverty, however, death comes early. For example, in the low-income nation of Lesotho, just 36 percent of people can expect to live to the age of sixty-five.”*

## Chapter 17 Technology and the Environment

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Environmental racism theory is included in analysis of environmental issues. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 17–1 presents per capita energy consumption for the nations of the world; Revel’s interactive companion map shows nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between the two variables. National Map 17–1 shows the quality of the air in all of the counties across the United States; Revel’s interactive map invites students to zoom in to explore various regions as well as their local community. All Revel maps include an assignable writing exercise.

**New Material:** The latest survey shows young adults are considerably more concerned about climate change than older adults; still, majorities in all age categories express concern. Discussion includes the latest environmental policies advanced by the Biden administration.

**Updates:** Reflecting the latest data, discussions address global carbon emissions, increasing global population, global consumption of oil (4.2 billion gallons per day), the composition of household trash, the intensifying shortage of fresh water, and declining biodiversity.

**New Research:** The revised chapter presents material from 23 new research references; 92 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“The figure shows the increasing annual output of carbon emissions from 1960 to 2022. As you can see, the output level doubled from 1960 to 2002 and peaked in 2015, followed by a decline due to lower CO2 levels after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019. By 2022, the carbon output had climbed once again.”*

*“The typical adult in the United States uses about four times as much energy as the average person in the world and more than fifty times as much as a person living in a low-income nation such as Eritrea.”*

*“One recent analysis concluded that more than 300 toxic substances can be detected in tap water in the United States, which pose a threat to the health of about one-fifth of the nation’s people.”*

*“Scientists note that the five warmest years on record—that is, years with the highest average temperature—were 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020, and 2022.”*

## Chapter 18 War and Terrorism

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** The revised chapter reflects all best practices for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Political analysis from various points of view ensures that a diversity of perspectives is included.

**Interactives:** Global Map 18–1 shows the level of peacefulness in nations around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map presents nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover the link between these two variables. All Revel “discovery” maps include an assignable writing exercise. Global Map 18–2 shows the status of nuclear weapons in nations around the world; Revel’s interactive companion map presents nations’ level of economic development, inviting students to discover how these two variables are related.

**New Material:** There is new discussion of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, military spending by the Biden administration, the suicide rate among military veterans, and hypersonic missiles. There is a new discussion of the stability–instability paradox involving nuclear weapons and the risk of nuclear and conventional war. There is newly expanded discussion of strategies for dealing with terrorism. New discussion contrasts terrorism, hate crimes, and mass shootings.

**Updates:** The most recent data have been used to update discussions of the “doomsday clock,” ongoing conflicts in the world, the U.S. death toll in military conflicts, the level of military spending for the world as a whole, the most recent convictions for war crimes, the decreasing share of the U.S. population that has served in the military, the number of nuclear weapons in the world, and the extent and location of terrorism in the world.

**New Research:** The revised chapter is built on 30 new research references; 71 percent of all chapter references are dated 2020 to 2023.

### Quotations from the Revised Chapter:

*“But after decades of research on the causes of armed conflict, most social scientists reject the idea that the roots of war lie in our human nature. Rather, the causes of military conflict are found in the operation of society itself. War, like many other social problems, is not just something that happens; it is often an action set in motion intentionally by leaders. At the same time, understanding more about the social causes of war should lead to more effective strategies to promote peace.”*

*“The Russian invasion of Ukraine is, today, an unusual case of militarism. Most commonly, armed conflict has taken the form of civil war within a nation, as in Afghanistan and Syria, although such conflicts typically involve military participation by other nations.”*

*“The U.S. defense budget was about \$780 billion in 2023, which calculates to more than \$2,400 for each citizen. Overall, military spending accounted for about 11 percent of the federal budget. Militarily, the United States is by far the most powerful nation in the world, spending almost three times more on its armed forces than China, which has the next largest military budget. In fact, the United States spends as much on the military as the next ten countries in the ranking combined.”*

### Revel for Social Problems, Ninth Edition

Most of today’s students have lived their entire lives in a digital age, and almost all of what they learn comes to them through screens. Providing educational technology for the way today’s students read, think, and learn, Revel is an interactive learning environment that offers a blend of narrative, media, and assessment. As a digital product, Revel provides the learning environment that they consider to be both natural and engaging. In contrast to the passive and unidirectional flow of print-based content, Revel also provides the opportunity for learning that is interactive. *Social Problems, Ninth Edition* in Revel provides active, interactional learning with an extensive program of global and national maps, “live” figures, and interactional “Understanding the Other” learning exercises. The full list of interactive material in *Social Problems, Ninth Edition* includes the following features:

- Chapter-opening **Trending Now** features provide articles written by the author that add breaking news and current events to the chapter’s material. Examples include the recent Supreme Court decision banning race-based affirmative action, recent mass shootings that fire up the debate over gun control and deadly violence, and recent analysis of the promise and dangers posed by artificial intelligence.
- **Understanding the Other** interactive learning exercises in five chapters offer data-driven snapshots of day-to-day situations from the perspective of marginalized individuals, providing the opportunity for more privileged students to see the world from a new perspective.
- **Interactive Global and National Maps**, built on Social Explorer technology, teach social geography, revealing social patterns around the world or across the United States. Revel maps allow students to gather information about various nations and also to zoom in to their state or local county to explore their own communities. Both Window on the World interactive global maps and Seeing Ourselves interactive national maps have comparison maps. By comparing, say, a U.S. map showing the degree of access to legal abortion for all states with a second map showing how each state voted in the last presidential election, students readily discover how politics drives social policy.
- **Assessment questions**, reflecting content in every major section of a chapter, and also full-chapter exams, allow instructors and students to track progress and provide students with immediate feedback. All assessment material is written by the author, John Macionis.

- **Integrated writing opportunities** help students develop their reasoning and writing skills. The writing prompts ask students to (1) interpret patterns in the global and national maps, including how one variable appears to be linked to another; (2) formulate and report their own opinions on controversial issues; and (3) envision and describe a society that is better than what we have now. These writing assignments allow instructors to assess student learning, and they can become the basis for lively class discussion.
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- The **Pearson Original docuseries**. These videos bring sociological concepts to life and engage students in today's political controversies.
- **Instructor's Manual** This is the instructor's manual that provides rich content useful even to seasoned instructors. Prepared by John Macionis, this IM contains Chapter Updates to highlight what is new to this edition, Author's Note to suggest strategies for effective teaching, a detailed Chapter Outline, chapter Learning Objectives, Detailed Teaching Objectives, John's Chapter Close-Up, John's Personal Video Selection, Research for a Cutting-Edge Classroom, Supplemental Lectures, Teaching Suggestions, Student Exercises and Projects, useful Web Links, Essay Questions, and a Film and Video List. This IM will reduce preparation time and make classes more effective and engaging to students. The IM is available within Revel and on [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com).
- **Test Bank** John Macionis writes all the questions for this outstanding test bank, which includes more than 900 multiple choice and essay questions. Questions are labeled to indicate which section of the chapter they cover, difficulty level, and also cognitive level of reasoning (Factual, Understanding, Application, or Analysis). You can customize the assessment to operate with any major learning management system and to match what is covered in your course. Word, Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle, Desire2Learn versions are available on Pearson's Instructor Resource Center.
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- **POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS** The Lecture PowerPoint slides follow the chapter outline and feature images from the text integrated with chapter content. PowerPoints will help you to present concepts in a clear and engaging way.

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Make more time for your students by using instructor resources, which offer effective assessment of learning and increase student engagement. Pearson's partnership with educators does not end with the delivery of course materials; Pearson is there with you from the first day of class and beyond. A dedicated team of local Pearson representatives will work with you not only to choose course materials but also to integrate them into your class and assess their effectiveness. Our goal is your goal—to provide your students with “best in class” learning.

Pearson is pleased to provide the following suite of resources to qualified adopters of Macionis's *Social Problems, Ninth Edition*. Instructors can instantly download several of these supplements from Revel or [www.pearsonhighered.com](http://www.pearsonhighered.com).

## Dear Colleagues:

I offer this ninth edition of *Social Problems*, which advances the promise of this digital age to elevate teaching and learning to a new level of excellence.

Thank you for considering this title for your course. As always, feel free to contact me by email:

[macionis@kenyon.edu](mailto:macionis@kenyon.edu)

With best wishes,

*John J. Macionis*

# About the Author

**JOHN J. MACIONIS** [pronounced ma-SHOW-nis] has lived “a sociology life,” both as a textbook author and as a classroom teacher, for more than fifty years. This journey began at Cornell University, where John earned a bachelor’s degree, majoring in sociology, and continued as he completed a doctorate in sociology, which was awarded by the University of Pennsylvania.

John’s publications are wide-ranging, focusing on community life in the United States, interpersonal intimacy in families, effective teaching, the anatomy of humor, new information technology, and the importance of global education. In addition to authoring *Social Problems*, Macionis has also written *Society: The Basics*, the most popular introductory title in the field, now available in its sixteenth edition. The full-length Macionis introductory title is *Sociology*, which is now available in its eighteenth edition. These titles are available around the world, in English and translated into more than a dozen other languages. He collaborates on international editions of these titles: *Society: The Basics: Canadian Edition*, *Sociology: Canadian Edition*, and *Sociology: A Global Introduction*. 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*, currently in the eighth edition and in international translations. For the latest on all Macionis learning titles, as well as how sociology encourages social change, visit the author’s personal website: [macionis.com](http://macionis.com) or [TheSociologyPage.com](http://TheSociologyPage.com).

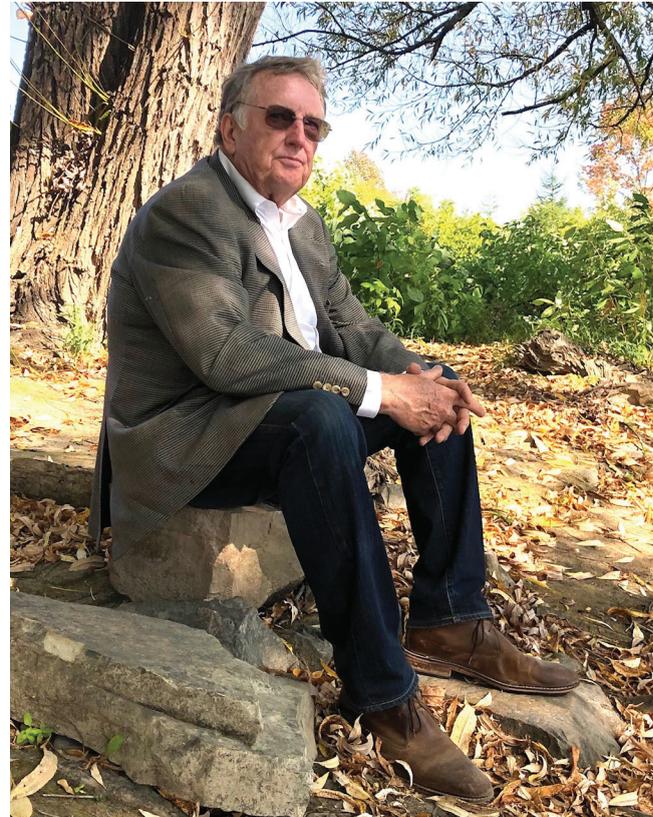
All the titles are offered in the print book rental program, and as low-cost electronic editions, including e-texts and full-featured interactive titles in the Revel program. (Revel users can supplement their digital title with a low-cost, three-hole print version.) John stands apart from other authors by taking personal responsibility for writing all print and electronic content, just as he authors all the assessment and supplemental materials available to instructors. John proudly resists the publishing-world trend toward outsourcing such material to nonsociologists.

Follow John on his Facebook author page, John J. Macionis, where you can find the latest information on all the titles. You can order these titles at Pearson’s site: <https://www.pearson.com/en-us/search.html?q=Macionis>.

The American Sociological Association presented Macionis with its award for Distinguished Contributions in Teaching, citing his innovative use of global material and new teaching technology in his classroom titles.

John Macionis retired from full-time teaching at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where he served as Professor and Distinguished Scholar of Sociology. During his long career at Kenyon, he chaired the sociology department, directed the college’s multidisciplinary program in humane studies, presided over the campus senate, was president of the college’s faculty, and taught sociology to thousands of students. Kenyon recognized his decades of service by conferring on him an honorary doctorate of humane letters.

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Professor Macionis has been active in academic programs in other countries, having traveled to some fifty nations. He writes, “I have always been 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.”

John applies the same passion to ensuring that his Pearson titles have best-in-class content. In his free time, he enjoys tennis, swimming, hiking, and performing oldies rock-and-roll, some of which is available at his website. He is an environmental activist in the Lake George region of New York’s Adirondack Mountains, working with a number of organizations, including the Lake George Land Conservancy, where he served for more than a decade as president of the board of directors. Currently, his nonprofit focus is expanding knowledge and understanding of U.S. history, and he now serves as vice-chair of the board of trustees of Fort Ticonderoga, a national center of teaching and learning that offers a broad range of digital historical material.

Professor Macionis welcomes and responds to comments and suggestions about his texts. His email address is [macionis@kenyon.edu](mailto:macionis@kenyon.edu).