



Sociological Theory and the Environment: Classical Foundations, Contemporary Insights

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Sociological Theory and the Environment is a comprehensive survey and assessment of sociological theories of the relations between societies and their "natural" biophysical environment. This book touches on and addresses virtually all of the major perspectives, focal points, and debates in environmental sociology today?classical and twentieth century social theories, macro-micro linkage issues, globalization and development, reflexive modernization, ecological modernization vs. "limits" viewpoints, modernity and post modernity, risk society, constructionalism-realism, environmental movements/identities, consumption and environment, cultural sociologies of the environment, and so on. At the same time, the book aims to go beyond an inventory of environmental sociological theory. *Sociological Theory and the Environment* stresses how new ground can be broken in the articulation of environmental sociology with major classical and contemporary sociological theories.

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Editorial Review

Review

In the past few years, the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Environmental Sociology has emerged as one of the world's liveliest and most important for the exchange of ideas about the relationships between environment and society. This volume on sociological theory and the environment grows out of a particularly important international workshop on the same topic that was sponsored by that Research Committee, and it summarizes some of the most important thinking that has recently been done in the area. As such, it offers a valuable compilation of some of the most thoughtful work now available on this increasingly significant topic. (William R. Freudenburg, University of Wisconsin)

Anyone with an interest in sociology and how this discipline has met the challenge of addressing the human/environment interaction will find this book rewarding. It provides a rich but critical overview of the contributions of classical sociologists such as Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, and Max Weber; the more recent Niklas Luhman, Theodor Adorno, and Jurgen Habermas; and contemporary writing on modernity and culture by Anthony Giddens and Ulrich Beck. (*Environment*)

A unique book giving clear evidence of the relevance of all major traditional and contemporary social theories for understanding how modern society deals with the contemporary environmental crisis. Remarkably comprehensive and accessible, the book is essential reading for scholars and students in sociology and environmental studies. (Arthur P. J. Mol, Wageningen University, the Netherlands, and Renmin University, China)

About the Author

Riley E. Dunlap is Boeing Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sociology at Washington State University and past president of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Environment and Society.

Frederick H. Buttel is professor of rural sociology and environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He is currently president of the Environment and Society Research Committee of the International Sociological Association.

Peter Dickens is senior research fellow, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK. He is also fellow and director of studies at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. **August Gijswijt** retired as an environmental sociologist from the University of Amsterdam in 1998. In 1990 he and Gyorgy Szell founded the Research Committee on Environment and Science.

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