

# Preface

Our purpose in writing this text is to convey both the excitement of sociology and its relevance to our lives. The excitement of sociology comes from what it studies: social life and social organization. Sociology encompasses all aspects of society: family life, community change, individual development, group differences, and gender inequality, to name a few. It involves a unique way of looking at the world in which we live, forcing us to question the obvious and understand how society and behavior are patterned and organized. People are discovering that sociology provides them with unique skills and abilities in research methods, in applying social theory in the working world, and in using their understanding of social processes, organization, and change.

## SUPPLEMENTS FOR INSTRUCTORS

1. **Study Guide.** A thorough and practical student study guide that includes learning objectives, chapter outlines, questions, and ideas that help the student review the material presented in this text. Also included are student activities and projects designed to enhance the practical application of sociological concepts.

2. **Instructor's Manual.** A comprehensive manual provides a wealth of teaching suggestions, objectives and resources, outside activities stressing the importance of sociology to personal lives, suggested readings from short stories and novels, a guide to films, and much more.

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4. **Distance Learning Solutions.** BVT Publishing is committed to providing the ability to administer tests and quizzes over the Internet. We have a strong relationship with Respondus, whose Course Management Software allows for the creation of randomly-generated tests and quizzes, which can be downloaded directly into a wide variety of course management environments, such as Blackboard, Web CT, Desire 2 Learn, Angel, E Learning and others.

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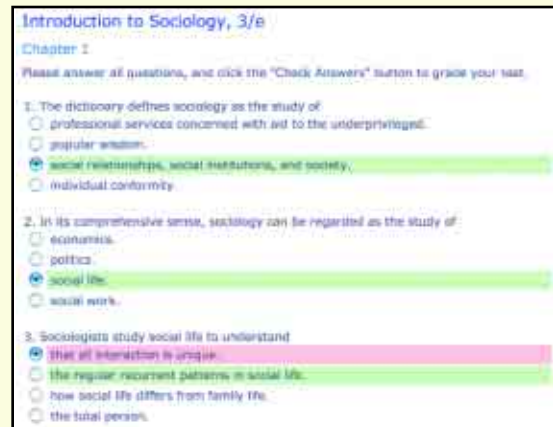
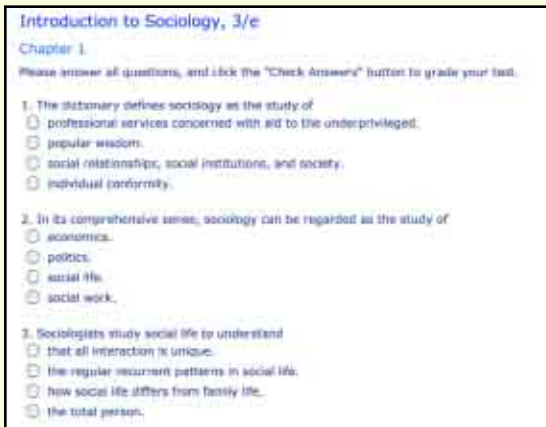
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3. **Self Testing.** Students can test their knowledge of this book's content on our student website. The Self Test questions are designed to help improve students' mastery of the information in the book.



4. **Chapter Outlines.** Chapter outlines are available for students to use either on our website or they can be downloaded directly from our website. They are designed to serve as a helpful outline approach to getting an overview of each chapter's content.

5. **Flash Cards.** We also feature Flash Cards on our student website. The Flash Cards are an easy way for students to spot-check their understanding of common and important Sociology terms, as well as effectively retain the information.



6. **Chapter Summaries.** The Chapter Summaries are another tool designed to give the students an overview of each chapter's content, further aiding the students in content comprehension and retention.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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