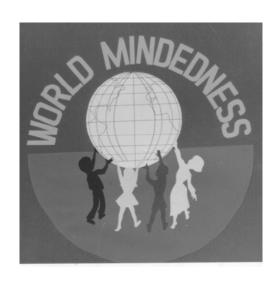
# Sociology for Educators in the Post-9/11 World



## Sociology for Educators in the Post-9/11 World

Edith W. King

with

Jennifer A. Thompson

University of Denver

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#### **Preface**

This Post-9/11 world presents all nations with grave problems and troubling conundrums of global dimensions—social, political, economic, environmental. *Sociology for Educators in the Post-9/11 World* takes up the social dimension of human activities with a focus on the educational enterprise. In the chapters of this book the lens of eminent social thinkers' writings are brought to bear on education. After an introductory chapter, the book is divided into three parts. Part One contains sociological thought from the Pre-9/11 world, the work of 20<sup>th</sup> century sociologists, Robert K. Merton, David Riesman, Erving Goffman, Elise Boulding, and anthropologist, Margaret Mead. Part Two continues with three of the classical social thinkers of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Émile Durkheim, Max Weber, and Karl Marx, applying their theories to the educational enterprise in the Post-9/11 world. The final section, Part Three, "Women and Social Thought for the Post-9/11 World" covers the extensive work and publications of feminist educator, Peggy McIntosh, and her adherents. An epilogue concludes the book emphasizing social thought for contemporary educators.

The major author of the book is Edith W. King, professor of educational sociology at the University of Denver for over four decades. She was responsible for the chapters in Parts One and Two, as well as the Prologue and Epilogue. The author of Part Three, the chapter containing the work of Peggy McIntosh, is Jennifer Thompson, doctoral student, University of Denver, and graduate research assistant to Edith King during 2005–2008. We, the authors, received invaluable suggestions and advice from the social thinkers in this book, including our contemporary, Professor Peggy McIntosh, and in former years, Professor Elise Boulding, as well as the eminent Robert Merton and David Riesman. We were honored that these

outstanding academics offered time and effort to comment on Edith King's and Jennifer Thompson's interpretations of their writings and theoretical positions in the social sciences. Inspiration and material for this book derives from the former editions of a highly regarded text in social theory, published from 1969 to 2002 authored by the late Professor Ray P. Cuzzort of the University of Colorado-Boulder and Edith W. King, University of Denver. The last and 6<sup>th</sup> edition, was titled *Social Thought Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Wadsworth/Thomson, 2002). It is to be noted that the eloquence and the memory of Ray Cuzzort lingers throughout the chapters of *Sociology for Educators*.

The chapters of Parts One, Two and Three initially present the major theories, concepts, and viewpoints of the sociologist featured. Then, pertinent aspects of the sociologist's work are applied to education and schooling using examples, anecdotes, and accounts. Each chapter concludes with numbered items that apply the sociological theories and concepts to schools, classrooms, the community, or to higher education. At the end of each chapter is a listing of the major books of the featured social scientist, other references for the chapter, and useful websites discussing the social theorist's life and works.

### Acknowledgments

Edith King and Jennifer Thompson want to recognize the many colleagues and graduate students who contributed to *Sociology for Educators in the Post-9/11 World*. Special mention goes to doctoral students Laurie Bennett, Shuping Zhang, Jackie Arriaga, Grace Tung, and Timothy Price for the use of their projects from Edith King's Sociology of Education courses. The invaluable advice of Professor Harry Wolcott improved this volume. The photographs of Tu-gang Elementary School, Chengdu, Sichan, China were provided by Professor Liu Ming of Sichuan University upon request by Edith King. The photograph of Karl Marx's grave is from the public domain. All other photos are the property of Edith King.

Edith W. King Jennifer A. Thompson Denver, Colorado, 2007