



# Social Structures

By John Levi Martin



Download



Read Online

**Social Structures** By John Levi Martin

 Get Print Book

*Social Structures* is a book that examines how structural forms spontaneously arise from social relationships. Offering major insights into the building blocks of social life, it identifies which locally emergent structures have the capacity to grow into larger ones and shows how structural tendencies associated with smaller structures shape and constrain patterns of larger structures. The book then investigates the role such structures have played in the emergence of the modern nation-state.

Bringing together the latest findings in sociology, anthropology, political science, and history, John Levi Martin traces how sets of interpersonal relationships become ordered in different ways to form structures. He looks at a range of social structures, from smaller ones like families and street gangs to larger ones such as communes and, ultimately, nation-states. He finds that the relationships best suited to forming larger structures are those that thrive in conditions of inequality; that are incomplete and as sparse as possible, and thereby avoid the problem of completion in which interacting members are required to establish too many relationships; and that abhor transitivity rather than assuming it. *Social Structures* argues that these "patronage" relationships, which often serve as means of loose coordination in the absence of strong states, are nevertheless the scaffolding of the social structures most distinctive to the modern state, namely the command army and the political party.



[Download Social Structures ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Social Structures ...pdf](#)

# Social Structures

*By John Levi Martin*

## Social Structures By John Levi Martin

*Social Structures* is a book that examines how structural forms spontaneously arise from social relationships. Offering major insights into the building blocks of social life, it identifies which locally emergent structures have the capacity to grow into larger ones and shows how structural tendencies associated with smaller structures shape and constrain patterns of larger structures. The book then investigates the role such structures have played in the emergence of the modern nation-state.

Bringing together the latest findings in sociology, anthropology, political science, and history, John Levi Martin traces how sets of interpersonal relationships become ordered in different ways to form structures. He looks at a range of social structures, from smaller ones like families and street gangs to larger ones such as communes and, ultimately, nation-states. He finds that the relationships best suited to forming larger structures are those that thrive in conditions of inequality; that are incomplete and as sparse as possible, and thereby avoid the problem of completion in which interacting members are required to establish too many relationships; and that abhor transitivity rather than assuming it. *Social Structures* argues that these "patronage" relationships, which often serve as means of loose coordination in the absence of strong states, are nevertheless the scaffolding of the social structures most distinctive to the modern state, namely the command army and the political party.

## Social Structures By John Levi Martin Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2527986 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Princeton University Press
- Published on: 2009-08-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.30" h x 6.20" w x 9.20" l, 1.55 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 408 pages

 [Download Social Structures ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Social Structures ...pdf](#)



## Editorial Review

Review

### Winner of the 2010 Theory Prize, American Sociological Association

"While his interest in structures has a venerable lineage, Martin's approach is highly distinctive. . . . The book is without doubt an eclectic, ambitious, provocative, sophisticated, and instructive undertaking. . . . *Social Structures* deserves a wide readership and its ideas a sympathetic hearing."--**Science**

"Martin provides an accessible and workable perspective as he examines the array of social structures, from the smaller, such as cliques or family, to the larger construct of nation. . . . In short, this is an excellent book, substantive in supporting Martin's claims as well as provocative in terms of generating further inquiry. Readers will find Martin's perspective both intriguing and well supported."--**Choice**

"[R]ather than giving the impression of being the beginning of a new, exciting research program, *Social Structures* rather feels like a well-deserving closing chapter for the project of a specifically 'sociological' form of structuralist explanation."--**Omar Lizardo, Sociologica**

"*Social Structures* is illuminating--good to think with and fun to argue with. It belongs on a short shelf of important contributions to structural theories of society."--**Paul DiMaggio, American Journal of Sociology**

From the Inside Flap

"John Levi Martin closely examines social structures from a stunning range of scopes and eras. The art and wonder of this amazing book is the verve and plausibility of his concatenation of themes, which, despite his disclaimers, do embrace large and complex structures: armies, patronage formations, and one-party states are where he digs deepest. Meanings, and so ambiguities, are central to his vision, which opens up the varied heuristics we use in navigating social life and especially social networks."--**Harrison C. White, author of Identity and Control and Markets from Networks**

"One of the most ambitious books I have read in years. Drawing on numerous examples across various domains and from around the world, it showcases the complex manner whereby the formal features of different kinds of relations generate different institutionalized types of social structures. A brilliant mind in action, John Levi Martin takes us one step closer to Simmel's vision of a social geometry."--**Eviatar Zerubavel, Rutgers University, author of Social Mindscales: An Invitation to Cognitive Sociology and Time Maps: Collective Memory and the Social Shape of the Past**

"*Social Structures* does a superlative job at cutting a first path through jungle-like thickets of empirical

detail--there is a phenomenal amount of labor represented here. The path thus cut opens possibilities for significant cross-fertilization across different strands of structural sociology, and valuably extends structural sociology to other major areas. The book makes important sociological contributions. It offers a magnificent foundation on which others may build."--**Scott A. Boorman, Yale University**

"This is a tremendously impressive and deeply intriguing book about localized network configurations, the rules they follow, and the way in which those configurations are caught up in processes of nation-building. The scholarship is expansive yet engagingly idiosyncratic. This is a much-needed book."--**David Gibson, University of Pennsylvania**

"This is an ambitious book that identifies the key structural building blocks of social life. Anyone seriously interested in how social relations structure individual behavior (and vice versa) must be familiar with the theoretical orientation of this book and the general substantive terrain it covers. This is a wonderful book to read, to learn from, and to teach with."--**Katherine Stovel, University of Washington**

From the Back Cover

"John Levi Martin closely examines social structures from a stunning range of scopes and eras. The art and wonder of this amazing book is the verve and plausibility of his concatenation of themes, which, despite his disclaimers, do embrace large and complex structures: armies, patronage formations, and one-party states are where he digs deepest. Meanings, and so ambiguities, are central to his vision, which opens up the varied heuristics we use in navigating social life and especially social networks."--**Harrison C. White, author of *Identity and Control* and *Markets from Networks***

"One of the most ambitious books I have read in years. Drawing on numerous examples across various domains and from around the world, it showcases the complex manner whereby the formal features of different kinds of relations generate different institutionalized types of social structures. A brilliant mind in action, John Levi Martin takes us one step closer to Simmel's vision of a 'social geometry.'"--**Eviatar Zerubavel, Rutgers University, author of *Social Mindscapes: An Invitation to Cognitive Sociology* and *Time Maps: Collective Memory and the Social Shape of the Past***

"*Social Structures* does a superlative job at cutting a first path through jungle-like thickets of empirical detail--there is a phenomenal amount of labor represented here. The path thus cut opens possibilities for significant cross-fertilization across different strands of structural sociology, and valuably extends structural sociology to other major areas. The book makes important sociological contributions. It offers a magnificent foundation on which others may build."--**Scott A. Boorman, Yale University**

"This is a tremendously impressive and deeply intriguing book about localized network configurations, the rules they follow, and the way in which those configurations are caught up in processes of nation-building. The scholarship is expansive yet engagingly idiosyncratic. This is a much-needed book."--**David Gibson, University of Pennsylvania**

"This is an ambitious book that identifies the key structural building blocks of social life. Anyone seriously interested in how social relations structure individual behavior (and vice versa) must be familiar with the theoretical orientation of this book and the general substantive terrain it covers. This is a wonderful book to read, to learn from, and to teach with."--**Katherine Stovel, University of Washington**

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Stephen Rael:**

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite book and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled Social Structures. Try to face the book Social Structures as your friend. It means that it can to get your friend when you sense alone and beside those of course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know almost everything by the book. So , we should make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

#### **Tina Alley:**

In this 21st century, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a guide your ability to survive increase then having chance to stay than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading any book, we give you that Social Structures book as starter and daily reading book. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

#### **Betty Serrano:**

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with training books but if you want sense happy read one having theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The Social Structures is kind of reserve which is giving the reader erratic experience.

#### **Daisy Harris:**

Reading a book make you to get more knowledge from this. You can take knowledge and information from the book. Book is composed or printed or highlighted from each source in which filled update of news. Within this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for a person. From media

social including newspaper, magazines, science publication, encyclopedia, reference book, story and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just trying to find the Social Structures when you essential it?

**Download and Read Online Social Structures By John Levi Martin  
#XVTBWLQCM37**

## **Read Social Structures By John Levi Martin for online ebook**

Social Structures By John Levi Martin Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Social Structures By John Levi Martin books to read online.

### **Online Social Structures By John Levi Martin ebook PDF download**

#### **Social Structures By John Levi Martin Doc**

#### **Social Structures By John Levi Martin Mobipocket**

#### **Social Structures By John Levi Martin EPub**