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# The Sociology of Work: Continuity and Change in Paid and Unpaid Work

*By Stephen Edgell*



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By Stephen Edgell

Fully updated and restructured, the Second Edition of Stephen Edgell's comprehensive title charts the rise of 'work' from the first human societies. Drawing on classic and contemporary theorists, The Sociology of Work explores all aspects of work including paid and unpaid, standard and non-standard and unemployment. New material has been incorporated covering the theories and practices of globalization, capitalist globalization, neo-liberalism, economic crisis, technological and organizational change, and trade unions.



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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

This is a highly readable and approachable account of the sociology of work. With the additional material included in this new edition, Edgell brings the topic squarely into the 21st Century. The book provides excellent coverage of many of the key debates within the field in a lucid, yet succinct manner. All of the principal issues and controversies are placed into historical perspective, with a consistent focus on key developments, transitions, continuities and discontinuities within patterns of work and employment. Edgell demonstrates excellent command of a wide-ranging subject matter, rendering intelligible a broad set of interrelated themes. In short, this is a first-rate introductory text that is sure to become essential reading for students, teachers, and researchers who are interested in this field

***Jason Hughes***

***Senior Lecturer, Brunel University***

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**The Sociology of Work** is an excellent text. Its comparative and historical sweep is particularly welcome and the analysis provided is thoughtful and well grounded. Stephen Edgell is to be congratulated for successfully updating and refreshing the original text and for providing such a valuable and accessible resource

***John Eldridge***

***Emeritus Professor, University of Glasgow***

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The second edition of Steve Edgell's book is an invaluable and up-to-date text for students and researchers. Detailed and wide-ranging in its scope it is an excellent source of materials combined with a thought provoking and challenging set of arguments

***Huw Beynon***

***Professor, Cardiff University***

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#### **About the Author**

Stephen Edgell is a Research Professor of Sociology at the University of Salford, England. He has undertaken qualitative research *Middle Class Couples: A Study of Segregation, Domination and Inequality in Marriage* (Allen & Unwin, 1980), quantitative research *A Measure of Thatcherism: A Sociology of Britain* (Unwin Hyman, 1991, co-author Vic Duke), and archival research *Veblen in Perspective: His Life and Thought* (Taylor & Francis, 2001), and has published numerous articles in a wide-range of British, American and European social science journals. A career-long interest in the sociology of work culminated in the publication of a textbook entitled *The Sociology of Work: Continuity and Change in Paid and Unpaid Work* in 2006 and a revised 2nd edition in 2012. He is the co-editor of *The SAGE Handbook of the Sociology of Work and Employment* (2016), along with Heidi Gottfried and Edward Granter.

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