

# Rcg class matters



Shadowy Lines that still divide chap 1- Hard to see class through appearance these days

- Rich are isolating themselves
- Class means different things to different people
- Max webber/

karl marx= divided class into 2 categories both men made simple divisions in society

- More likely to end up in the same class u were born in nowShadowy Lines that still divide cont chap 1-Micheal Hout= sociologist @ uc berkly doesnt feel the era of class is over... still here

- " Mobility happens just not as rapidly as one thought"
- If you are born rich in us good poor = good
- Hard to see class through appearance, and religion
- Race and class have started not to correlate
- Class plays a role where americans live
- 1973- highest paid 10th worked fewer hrs than bottom tenth today those at the top work more
- Horatio Algers= rags to richesChapter 2: Life at the top in America isnt just better its longer-Significance of class when it comes to wealth 3 diff ppl had same heart attacks
- Jean G. Miele = 66 yrs old aracterict of upper middle class
- Colleagues called an ambulance in NYC
- Chose Tish hospital
- " Gold Standard" procedure
- Problem fixed immedietly

Hard worker

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- College graduate
- Wife quit job to stay @ homeChapter 2 continuedWill L. Willson-  
53 yr old utility worker middle class

location= brooklyn

- Choice of 2 hospitals serving poorest neighborhoods
- Initial improper treatment, sent to a second hospital
- Five days sent home w expensive drugs
- Couldn't afford college, children by 22 divorced, eats unhealthy food from his mom's cookingChapter 2 contEwa R Gora

- 59 yr old housekeeper of working class
- Resisted hubby because calling ambulance was too expensive
- Taken to poorest hospital

Location: Woodhull

- Waited many hours
- Sent to a diff hospital came down w a fever, left after 2 weeks of infectionMarriage of Unequals chapter 3- Dan Croteau= working class care, quit school at age 16, joined navy, salesman married Cate Wooler- wealthy upper-middle class,  
-Hard to bring up children with two diff classes
- Kids have diff opportunities and luxuries
- Different classes can come togetherChapter 4 Up from the holler, living in 2 worlds, at home in neither- Della Mae= successful justice lawyer, Left her poor home to go to college + travel, when she returns home doesn't feel she belongs in her new middle class family or lower class family
- At age 15 was in foster care- uncle and aunt took care of her
- sent her to college for low income families

- Late she took custody of her nieces and nephews who were in foster care
- Chapter 5: On a Christian Mission to the Top- Eva would preach to the elite
- The evangelical was gaining power
  - Rise in middle and upperclass members within the evangelic faith
  - Primarily done on ivy's religion w ivy's
  - Tim Havens Went to Brown against his mother's wishes (who wanted him to attend a purely christian school)
  - 400 of the student body of 5, 700 participate in evangelical student groups
  - the power and influence of evangelical christians has risen, but not the number of members
  - what has changed is the class status of the members
  - Leaders come out of this group

Carl F. Henry= founded seminary magazine and National Association of Evangelicals

- Faith become compaitable w middle class
- Chapter 6: The college dropout boom- Andy Belvins decided not to go to college and to continue working, when he lost his job he regrted it cuz he relized no one is going to hire someone w out a college degree
- Eventually returned to community college
  - Dropout= 35k, 2 yr= 42 K, 4 yr - 65 k
- 1 in 3 americans in mid 20's drop out of college (2005)
- 1 in 5 americans in mid 20's drop out of college (1960).
  - Gap btween graduation rates between low and high income students has grown
  - there are so many upper class students at the elite colleges that, on

average, the high-income students are receiving more financial aid than the low-income students USED TO be other way around

- President John T. Casteen of UVA is trying to remove artificial barrier of students (If parents make less than a certain amount wont charge w fees)Chapter 7: No Degree and No way Back to the Middle- Jessie Martineli- got fired from his factory and relized w out a college degree he could not do anything
- Mark McLean saying factories care more about a degree than skills and time and effort and his position
- Mark looks middle class but is not
- Both fear about falling out of middle classChapter 8: 15 years on the bottom rung- Most expensive coffee shop in New York" and the people who make the food and coffee behind the scenes are illegal mexican immigrants, who have hit a dead end
- Coffe shop = epitome of america have the owner- middle class immigrant, workers who are mexican immigrants, then everyone who eats there are wealthy ppl
- John Zannikos, was an illiterate Greek immigrant with only 100\$ started out with nothing
- John Mellenkopf of CUNY, believes Mexicans will eventually do as well as European immigrants
- of all US immigrants, mexicans are the poorest, least likely to speak english and least educatedChapter 9: When the Jone's wear jeans- Social class has become harder to identify through appearence and items ppl have
- High end designers are selling to places like target for cheaper prices lower class want to be up to higher class standards so makes nicer clothes more

assesable

- Desire to get new trends--- materialism in America  
Chapter 10: The Five-Bedroom, Six-Figure Rootless Life- Kathy Link= moved 3 times in 10 yrs for husbands career, her job is personal trainer, charities, and drives her children around

- they are executive gypsies called Relos, economically homogenous making about 100k a year while living in nice towns with good schools- separate themselves by economic status

-mexicans or hispanics in general are not rich enough to afford to live in the neighborhood and instead are only able to maintain the appearance of the town by landscaping and cleaning houses.

hard to determine amount of rels

whenever they move, they have to adjust to the culture of the locals

neighborhood mostly white, (6% black, 12% asian)

2% poor or unemployed

the vast majority of the town's city officials cannot afford to live in the town: only 3 members of the police force out of 76 live in town.

key terms: Chapter 11: Old Nantucket Warily Meets the New- Natucket=  
homogenous, place for the " hyper rich"

- hyper rich are content with sticking with their kind, they only hang out with people and around people of their economic status

- High prices on Natucket lower income ppl are forced to leave

- Idea of old money vs new money--- old money= lily pultzer new \$= juicy

- New money: homes boats and memberships represent wealth, Old money: has to do with family and identity

- Ppl like to flaunt money now (new \$)

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- New ppl= new \$ are putting up fences for the gates
- Michael Kitrich started yankee candle went from rags- riches
- Chapter 12: Richest are Leaving Even the Rich Far Behind- the richest americans have even left the people making 100s of thousands of dollars behind because of their outrageous incomes
- . 1% of world have even made the rich look poor
- Bush in 2004 made tax cuts to low/ middle class Americans
- Very rich are making smaller tax cuts for low/ middle class
- Rich are making it harder for poor to pay high taxes
- Tim Kane= economist : lower taxes= more growth
- Meritocracy---- to an aristocracy
- Mobility has decreased in the U. S. Chapter 13: In Fiction, a Long History of Fixation on the Social Gap- class has become something that is never mentioned, but remains incredibly real in american society
- a lot of novels and movies these day suggest that the worst thing that could happen to a person is to fall off the top of the social ladder-- fall into lower/middle class
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- class novels are often written about striving and trying to move up by learning upper class code (still written)
- Ppl want what they don't haveChapter 14: Angela Wickers Climbs- Angela pregnant by 15 living in the projects
- BF who worked at the airport, helped her breath a bit w \$
- Lived in an apt where you would hear gunshots= lots of crime
- Very poor today still...

- worked at a fast food -
- Married vincent allen who cared about her kids
- Car caught on fire so beaten down
- Vincent encouraged her to go into nursing
- Very determined passed her nursing test!
- High stress work-- dream is to be in middle class
- Feels stuck where she wants to live cant afford but where she lives now not great
- Success came too late to benefit them
- One of kids got shot twice... Angela said he needs to deal w this on himself
- Trying to be a good influence on kids-- 1 kid was first to graduate college!
- Family is most important thing in life!
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